

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection as we *gather* as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God.

PRELUDE Sonata in e minor, Opus 2, no. 1  
Jean-Marie Leclair (1697-1764)  
*Allegro*  
Amy Orsinger Whitehead, flute

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Dr. Matthew S. Brown

One: The Lord be with you.  
All: **And also with you.**

INTROIT *Give Praise to the Lord* C. Hubert H. Parry

\* CALL TO WORSHIP Rebecca Guzman

One: People of God, who do you come to worship?  
Many: **We come to worship the one true God.**  
One: How will you worship?  
Many: **Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.**  
One: Come, you who belong to God.  
Many: **Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.**  
All: **Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever.**

\* HYMN ***All Creatures of Our God and King*** No. 455  
verses 1-2, 5-6

CALL TO CONFESSION Rebecca Guzman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have said and done hurtful things to our friends. We have forgotten our true identity, wandering into ways that are not yours. We have lost the path of true worship, focusing on form and words rather than deeds. We have forgotten what true discipleship is. And because of this, you have a quarrel with us. Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have created and called us to be: people of justice and love and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness. May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world's scorn and derision.** (silence)

Leader: Trusting your mercy, we lift these prayers to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE ***Gloria Patri*** No. 567  
***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.***

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

We *listen* for the word of God through song, Scripture, and preaching.

ANTHEM *You Are Mine* David Haas/Mark Hayes

*"I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear.  
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice,  
be still and know I am here.  
I am hope for all who are hopeless,  
I am eyes for all who long to see.  
In the shadows of the night I will be your light,  
come and rest in me.  
Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.  
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;  
I love you and you are mine.  
I am strength for all the despairing,  
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,  
and all will know my name.  
I am the Word that leads all to freedom,  
I am the peace the world cannot give.  
I will call your name embracing all your pain.  
Stand up, now walk, and live!"*

Chancel Choir with Amy Orsinger Whitehead, flute

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP Rebecca Guzman

As the children four years old through third grade gather and recess to the Chapel for Children's Worship, the congregation is invited to join in singing:

***What does the Lord require of you?  
What does the Lord require of you?  
To seek justice, and love kindness,  
and walk humbly with your God.***

**Congregation: The peace of Christ be with you.**

Children: And also with you.

***What does the Lord require of you?  
What does the Lord require of you?  
To seek justice, and love kindness,  
and walk humbly with your God.***

The children will return to join their families at the Doxology.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Dr. Brown

READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT  
Micah 1:3-5; 3:2-5a; 6:6-8  
Pew Bible pp. 862-862; p. 863; p. 866

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT  
John 18:36 Pew Bible p. 113

One: This is the Word of the Lord.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON **Judgment, Salvation, Challenge** Dr. Brown

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

We *respond* to the hearing of God's word through affirmation, offering, and prayers.

\* HYMN ***How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*** No. 419

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison) **From The Confession of 1967**  
Dr. Brown

**Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.**

**With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

**"Now to him who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison) Dr. Brown

. . . **"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." Amen.**

OFFERTORY *All Praise to You We Sing*  
Susan K. Fair and A. Steven Taranto

*"O God, the great Creator, create in us, we pray,  
a feeling of thanksgiving, for all that you have made:  
the colors of the rainbow, the splendor of the trees,  
the majesty of mountains and the calmness of the seas.  
God of night and God of sunshine, and God of everything;  
God of life and God of wonder, all praise to you we sing!  
What if all we had were deserts bare, or if all we had were seas?  
And if there were only mountains, where would the richness be?  
So God has filled this awesome world with much variety –  
let us celebrate the beauty of all diversity."*

Kara Cushman, Isabel Duffy, Amanda Gilleland,  
Brooke Hicks, Kasia Hurlburt, Lilly McAnally  
with Amy Orsinger Whitehead, flute

Online giving option: As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support SMPC using your mobile device by texting SMPC to **73256** or give online at [www.SMPChome.org/Giving](http://www.SMPChome.org/Giving)

\* DOXOLOGY No. 592  
***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dr. Brown

**You are the Great Provider, the Giver of all gifts; your love the only true currency. Thank you for putting money into our hands, and so we freely offer it back to you, for use in your service. We do this in the name of Jesus, Amen.** (A Prayer by Carol Penner)

### **BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD**

\* HYMN *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* **No. 369**

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Brown

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. Amen.***

POSTLUDE *Toccata from Symphony No. 5*  
Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

### **The Worship Service Notes**

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor

Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation

Audrey McConnell, Director of Music

We welcome Amy Orsinger Whitehead back to SMPC today! A native of Pennsylvania, she has played flute in the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra since 1997. She also performs in the Rhodora Winds and The Laurel Trio, and coaches the woodwind section of the Charlotte Symphony Junior Youth Orchestra. Amy holds flute performance degrees from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Institute of Chamber Music. She has taught flute at Spelman College, Wingate University and Queen's College, and is currently on the faculty at Davidson College.

The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sue and O.C. Rawls by Mary Lynn and Gary Rawls.

Please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed. To update contact information in our database, contact: [SMPCoffice@SMPChome.org](mailto:SMPCoffice@SMPChome.org)

Note to Parents. We offer childcare for infants through kindergarten during the 10:10 a.m. Worship Service. Questions, contact: Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation, [Rebecca@smpchome.org](mailto:Rebecca@smpchome.org).

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? The Session will welcome new members November 18 at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel. If you have interest in membership, speak to one of the pastors after worship today or contact: Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection, [Nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:Nancy@smpchome.org), 704-544-0404, ext. 103.

### **Worship Teams**

Elders: Richard Engle, Greg Hobby

Ushers: Paul Basquin, Head Usher; Vicki & Ronny Barton, Andy Burke, Judy Jones, Peggy Merritt

A/V: Gary Rawls

### **Hospitality Teams:**

Coffee Grounds Hosts: Julie & Greg Hobby, Ron Morgan

Connection Center Host: Barb Malo

Greeters: Jackie & Jordan Day, Brenda & Manny Villa

### ***Congregational Notes*** (as of November 7, 2018)

#### **Remember in Prayer**

- Judy Lentoski's family as she entered the Church Triumphant on November 6, 2018.
- Greg & Denni Jung's family as Greg's mother entered the Church Triumphant on November 4, 2018.
- Our partners in Ministry in Bayonnais, Haiti.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:  
[prayer@smpchome.org](mailto:prayer@smpchome.org)



# South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## A Service of Worship

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
November 11, 2018

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary



**South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church**  
8601 Bryant Farms Road • Charlotte, North Carolina 28277 • 704.544.0404  
[www.SMPChome.org](http://www.SMPChome.org)

Our Mission . . . to seek God's will for our lives,  
joyfully responding to the Good News of Jesus Christ  
with Love and Grace.