South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship
20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 23, 2022, 10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestreamed

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *Hymn to Joy* Michael Burkhardt

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

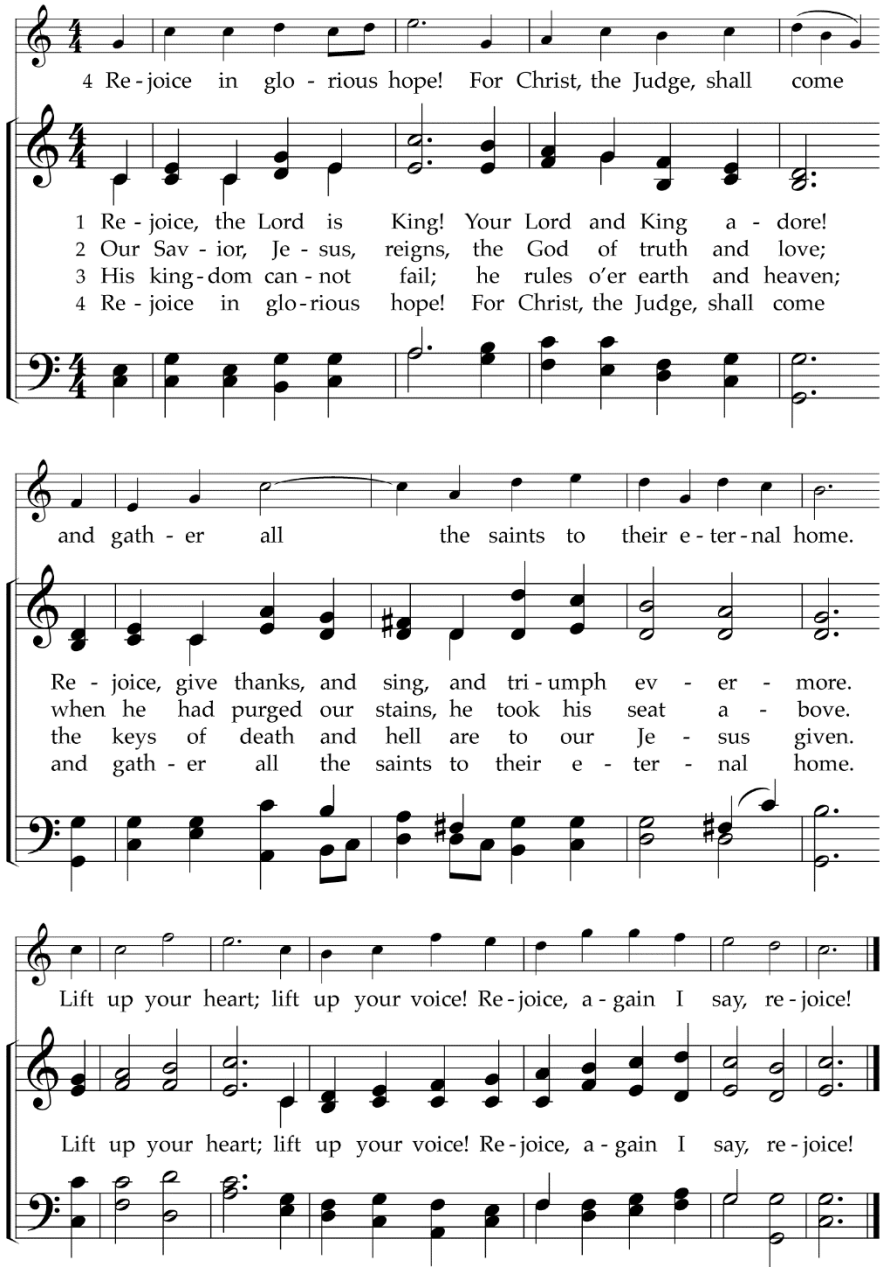
MOMENT FOR MISSION David Wooley

INTROIT *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* James K. Manley

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Oliver Bayer

One: God has set this day before us, a day set apart for rest and for praising and adoring God.
Many: God has set our lives before us…
One: a span of time in which we are called to love, learn, rise, and go out and serve.
Many: You have called us, O God, to…
One: feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and house the homeless.
All: Day by day, we ask that you give us strength and courage to be your people in this time and in this place. Amen.

HYMN** ***Rejoice, the Lord Is King! No. 363



PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)* Dr. Whitney Bayer

Gracious God, you are the Good Shepherd, and you promise to lead us into green pastures and beside still waters. We confess that we are like sheep who do not listen or follow where you would have us go. Forgive us. Help us to follow you more closely. *(silence)*

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Dr. Bayer

RESPONSE OF PRAISE** ***Gloria Patri

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.

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

CHURCH FAMILY MOMENT Rebecca Guzman

1. Continuing in our exploration of worship, today we'll talk about the prayer of confession. Notice that every time we are invited to confess our sins, we are first reminded that we will be forgiven. Wow! The words of the prayer are different each week, but they basically mean the same thing—we have done things wrong, and we are sorry. Presbyterians believe in both individual sin (that we do by ourselves) and in corporate sin (think about the way we collectively harm the earth—we can't really stop that system, but we're still part of it), so we also confess our sins together and then silently by ourselves. We finish the time of confession with a reminder that we are forgiven!
2. In our passage from Isaiah, God is teaching us that what we say and do shows us who we really are inside. What we say and sing in worship should match how we act out in the world. Following God on the inside should match what we do on the outside! See if you can match these pictures of the insides and the outsides of vegetables together.
3. Another part of the Isaiah passage is about feeding those who are hungry. Have you already done your shopping for Loaves and Fishes? If not, make sure you pick up a bag today. Thoughtfully consider what you would want to eat. Notice how much it costs. Pray for the people who will be fed by your donations.
4. Journal, considering the following:
   a. What was a new thing you learned about the prayer of confession?
   b. In what ways do your insides match your outsides? Where do they not quite match?
   c. What does the word "fasting" mean to you?
   d. Think about these key words from the passage: water, light, bread, injustice. What might God be telling you about these things?

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

John Berry Heindel and Violet Berry Heindel

Children of Imy Berry and Eric Heindel

Representing the Session: Mary Katheryne Zagora

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.

The children will return to join their families following the Sermon.

ANTHEM *Rise, Shine, You People* arr. Benjamin Culli

Chancel Choir; Festival Brass

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in Him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

See how He sends the powers of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world to go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.

Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.

Tell how the Spirit calls from every nation His new creation.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Dr. Brown

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 58: 3-14

"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 15: 3, 7-9

He answered them, "And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? You hypocrites! Isaiah prophesied rightly about you when he said: 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'"

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

SERMON Sabbath: Rest and Rise Dr. Brown

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Confession of 1967, 9.35-9.37

(unison) Dr. Bayer

Wherever the church exists, its members are both gathered in corporate life and dispersed in society for the sake of mission in the world.

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humankind, to baptize and to join in the Lord 's Supper, to pray for and present the world to God in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to order and organize its own corporate life, to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time.

The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and

theological reflection. Their witness is the church's evangelism. Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world. The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church's fidelity.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Dr. Bayer

. . . *(unison)* **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 *Riposo (Rest, My Soul)* Linda Scholes
Chancel Ringers

As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministry of SMPC by giving online at www.smpchome.org/give or texting SMPC to 73256.

***DOXOLOGY**

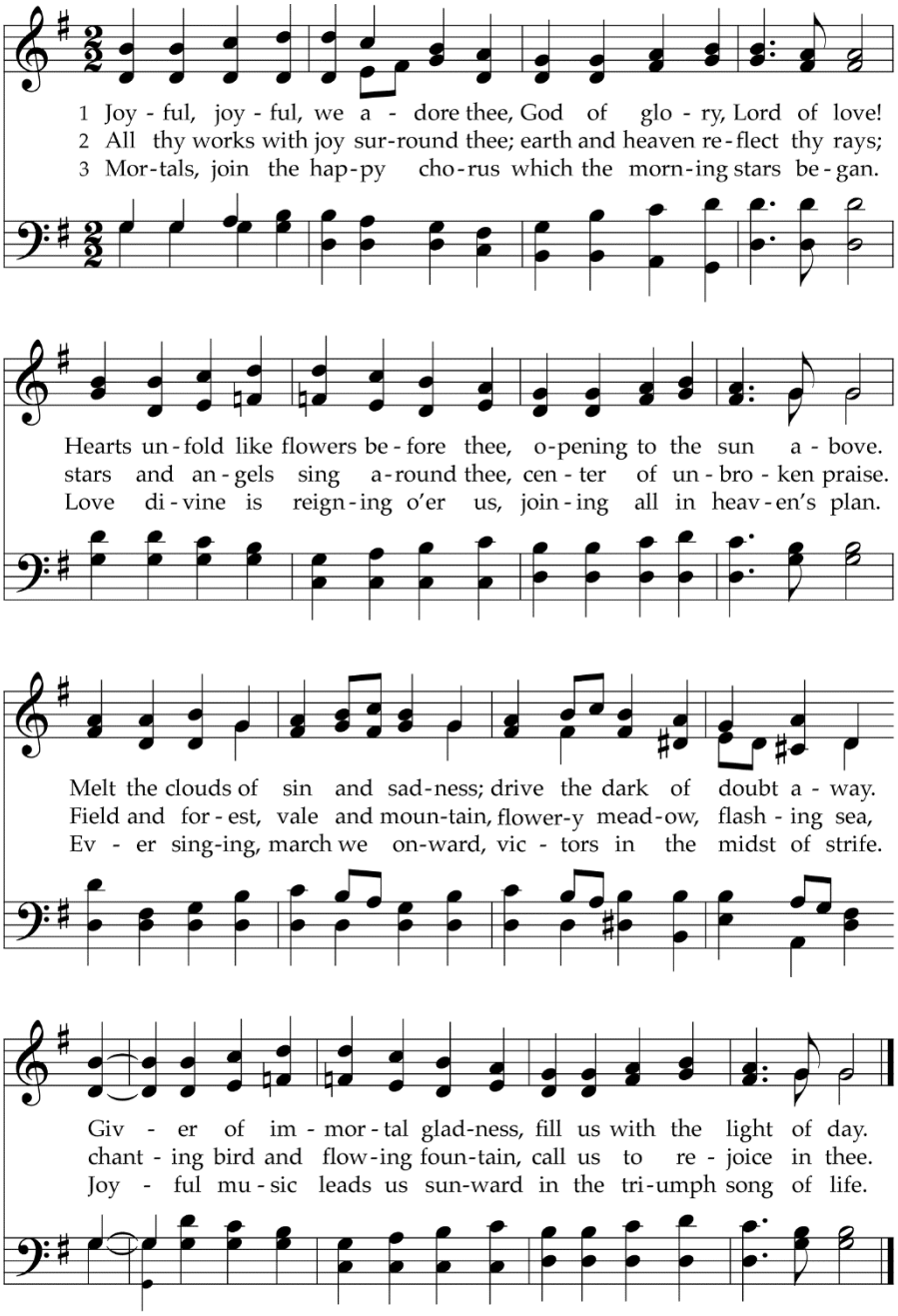
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him,
all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Will Glover

God of wisdom and righteousness, your standards and expectations of us have not changed. You call us to share our tables with the hungry, share our plenty with the poor, and offer the tired and homeless an open door. So, this day, we give these gifts with hope that they will help us embrace the mission of Christ as our own. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN** ***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee No. 611



***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.

POSTLUDE *Symphony No. 5: Toccata* C. M. Widor

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WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor
Dr. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation
Oliver Bayer, liturgist
Will Glover, liturgist
Chancel Choir
Chancel Ringers
Festival Brass: Kyle Gavagan, trumpet I; Blythe Kinsey, trumpet II; Rosy Faires, horn; Justin Austenfeld, trombone; Stephanie Wilson, timpani

Acolyte: Owen Bickett
A/V Team: Chris Wilcox, Joe Wilcox, Sydney Wilcox
Deacon/Elder of the Day: Leisa Lackey
Ushers: Don Ayers, Andy Burke, Bob Cushman, Phil Eatherton, Jenny Gates, Curt Ireland
Welcome Team: Karen Williams, Evan Williams

Welcome to South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church! If you are joining us in person or online, are a first-time visitor, a long-term member, or anything in between, we are glad that you are worshipping with us and we want to stay connected with you. If you don't receive our emails, sent on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org. These emails contain a weekly devotion and information about upcoming worship services and church activities. Also, find us on Facebook: @southmecklenburgpresbyterian and Instagram: @southmeckpres.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Our Session will gather to welcome new members today at 11:30 a.m. To learn more, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org or 980-265-2839.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES (as of October 20, 2022)

Remember in Prayer

- Janet and Jeff Goetz and family as Janet's mother, Hazel Ridenhour Lutz, entered the Church triumphant on October 18.
- All those affected by the conflict in Ukraine.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request: prayer@SMPChome.org.

SMPC Weekly

October 23, 2022

WELCOME!

After worship, we hope you'll join us for coffee (served inside at Coffee Grounds) and lemonade and cookies (served outside).

Registry pads are located on your pew. Please sign and pass to your neighbor and perhaps speak to someone you haven't met! If you would like more information about SMPC or have prayer concerns, please complete a Welcome Card located in the pew rack.

2023 Operating Fund Campaign

Our 2023 Operating Fund Campaign, Sabbath: Rest. Rise. Serve, is in full swing! Through our ministries and programs, our faith community touches so many in our community and world, but we can't do it without your help. Pledges can be made via your commitment card or online.

2023 Operating Fund Campaign Online Pledge

THIS WEEK'S CLASSES & EVENTS

today OCT. 23

Annual Food Drive for Loaves & Fishes St. Giles Food Pantry

This is the last Sunday to pick up a bag to fill for Loaves & Fishes! Please place your donations of non-perishable food items in these bags and return to the church by October 30th. Financial donations are also accepted. Make checks payable to SMPC and indicate "Loaves & Fishes" in the memo line. Drop it by the church office or in the offering plate. Contact: Jane Royther, jroyther@gmail.com.

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today OCT. 23 & monday OCT. 24

C.A.R.E. (Conversations Around Race Equity)
Sunday, October 23, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Chapel 206,
Monday, October 24, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Zoom

These groups meet once or twice a month and use various books, articles, videos etc., to spark our conversations. Now is a great time to join the conversation. Contact: Whitney Bayer, whitney@smpchome.org.

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monday OCT. 24 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

The Apostles' Creed Study
McQueen Room

This new group will meet on Mondays, October 24 through November 21. The creed's meanings can strengthen our understanding, deepen our devotion and give a vision for Christian living and action in the church and the world. You may join in person or virtually. Register on ChurchLife. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

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thursday OCT. 27 7:30 p.m.

New Group for Moms of All Ages
Chapel 204

We're beginning a new group for moms of all ages! All moms are welcome. We will study, serve and support one another. Regular meeting time will be 7:30 p.m. twice a month on Thursdays. Contact: Allison Reeves, allison.tarwater@gmail.com.

sunday OCT.30 9:00 a.m.

Intergenerational Mission Project
Join us to load our bags for Loaves & Fishes. We will then head to Mecklenburg Hall to make cards for Loaves & Fishes and assemble hygiene kits for students at Smithfield Elementary School. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

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sunday OCT.30 11:10 a.m.

Commitment Sunday Reception
Narthex
Join us for cake after worship as we celebrate our 2023 Operating Fund Campaign, Sabbath: Rest. Rise. Serve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SAVE THE DATES

Thank you to all who participated in this year's CROP Hunger Walk!
You can still donate by scanning the QR code. Thank you for helping us eliminate hunger locally and worldwide. Contact: Bob Cushman, rtcushman@yahoo.com.

SMPC CROP Hunger Walk

SMPC Lunch Bunch - Tuesday, November 8, 11:30 a.m., Trio Restaurant 10709 McMullen Creek Pkwy
We are excited that this group is meeting again after taking a break because of COVID. This group is open to all. Join us for lunch out and fellowship with old and new friends. RSVP by Friday, November 4 to Anita Schult, coachanita2001@yahoo.com. Questions: Ruth Ann Engle, raengle22@gmail.com.

Join the Choir for Festival of Carols
If you would like to join the choir for Festival of Carols on December 11, we would love to have you! Contact: Zach Bowyer, zach@smpchome.org.

Calling all Handiworkers!
Are you a knitter, needlepointer, quilter, cross-stitcher or crocheter? Or, if not, would you like to be? We have a number of talented handiworkers who are interested in gathering at the church periodically to work on their projects (to keep or to donate) and share their skills. If you're interested in joining this group, as a beginner, an expert, or anything in between, we want to hear from you! Contact: Nancy Metzler, nancy@smpchome.org.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

A number of volunteer opportunities are available on Sunday mornings, including: **Acolyte** (1st-5th graders), **Usher Team**, **Welcome Team** (all ages), **Coffee Grounds Host**, **Lemonade Host** (all ages), and **Chancel Choir**.

Name: _____

Volunteer Opportunity Request(s):

_____

Sign up now by placing this in the offering plate, or contact Nancy Metzler, nancy@smpchome.org with any questions or to volunteer.