



# South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Trinity Sunday

June 4, 2023

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestreamed

## We Gather

**Prelude** *Come, Christians Join to Sing* F. Thomas Simpson  
Youth Ringers

**Welcome and Concerns of the Church** Dr. Whitney Bayer

**Introit** *Lift Up Your Voice* Brian C. Strain  
Children's Choirs; Laura Schelhammer, flute; Ann Carney, piano

**\*Call to Worship** Dr. Bayer

One: God is our refuge and our strength, our present help in  
tribulation.

**Many: Even when the mountains fall and tumble into the sea,**

One: even when the earth shakes, we have to sing!

**All: We all have to sing! Praise be to God!**

**\*Hymn** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* No. 1

4 Ho - - - ly,

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

ho - - - ly,

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

ho - - - ly,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

Dr. Bayer

**Holy One, help us to be still and know that you are God. Too often we move at such a hectic pace that we neglect our relationship with you. Our lives become full of distractions that are nothing but shifting sand. Restore and strengthen us, O God, to rebuild our lives on the foundation of your Word, in Jesus' name. 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. Today's scripture is often called "The Great Commission." A commission is like a job that is given to you. So, Jesus is giving the disciples a job to do. He tells them to go and make disciples all over the world. Today, we are the disciples, so this is a job that Jesus has given to us, too! We make disciples by telling others about the love that Jesus has for them, and even more so by showing them that love. How can you share the stories and show the love of Jesus this week?
2. Play follow the leader or Simon Says. Think about what it means to follow Jesus.
3. Today in worship, we are celebrating God's gift of music. Music is part of so many of our favorite Bible stories. Miriam danced after the Israelites escaped Egypt. God told Job that at creation, the morning stars sang. The angels sang when Jesus was born. The book of Psalms contains a multitude of songs. Wherever you are today, celebrate God's gift of music! Share your favorite hymns with someone else.
4. Journal, considering the following:
  - a. The text says, "When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted." I wonder what we would do if we were in the disciples' shoes – worship him, doubt, or a little of both?
  - b. Jesus gives them and us authority over heaven and earth to spread the Good News. I wonder what that means?
  - c. In what ways has music shaped your faith?

**Children's Liturgy**

Rebecca Guzman

*As the children four years old through third grade gather for Children's Worship, the congregation is invited to sing (hymn no. 19):*

***God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.***

**Congregation: God be with you there.**

Children: God be with you here.

*The children will return to join their families following the sermon.*

**Anthem** *For the Music of Creation* Larry Harris  
Chancel Choir; Kyle Gavagan, trumpet

*For the music of creation, for the song your Spirit sings,  
for your sound's divine expression, burst of joy in living things:  
God, our God, the world's composer, hear us, echoes of your voice.  
Music is your art, your glory, let the human heart rejoice!  
Psalms and symphonies exalt you, drum and trumpet, string and reed,  
simple melodies acclaim you, tunes that rise from deepest need,  
hymns of longing and belonging, carols from a cheerful throat,  
lilt of lullaby and love song catching heaven in a note.  
All the voices of the ages in transcendent chorus meet,  
worship lifting up the senses, hands that praise, and dancing feet;  
over discord and division music speaks your joy and peace,  
harmony of earth and heaven, song of God that cannot cease!*

**Prayer for Illumination** Dr. Matthew S. Brown

**Reading from the Old Testament** Psalm 22:23-31

You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

**Reading from the Gospels** Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "teaching them" Dr. Brown

**\*The Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) The Apostles' Creed  
Dr. Bayer

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Offertory** *Sing Out Your Joy* Victor Johnson  
Youth Choir; Blythe Kinsey, piano

*Cantate Domino!*

*Sing out your joy, sing a joyful, jubilant song!*

*Clap your hands, ye people; shout with a voice of praise! Alleluia!*

*O make a joyful noise all the earth, and let your gladness be known.*

*With grateful praise let your songs of triumph raise;*

*Sing to the heavens, alleluia!*

*Let the rivers clap their hands; let the mountains shout for joy!*

*Sing, sun and moon, and stars of light.*

*Sing, all creation, both day and night!*

*Let the earth be filled with joyful melodies;*

*Awake my soul, awake, my soul, and sing!*

*As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministry of SMPC by giving online at [www.smpchome.org/give](http://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.***

## **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

**Invitation to the Table** Dr. Brown

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer** Dr. Bayer

**One:** The Lord be with you.

**Many:** **And also with you.**

**One:** Lift up your hearts.

**Many:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**One:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise . . .**

**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.**

### **The Words of Institution**

#### **The Bread and the Cup**

*You are invited to come forward (see diagram), take the elements, and return to your seats. If you are not able to come forward, you will be served at your seat.*

### **Communion of the People**

#### **The Prayer after Communion**

Dr. Brown

## **We Go Out to Serve**

### **Recognition of our Graduating High School Seniors**

One: Families of these seniors, at baptism, the Church promised to help you guide and nurture your children by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful disciples as they grow in ministry. We upheld that promise when, at Confirmation, we watched your sons and daughters move beyond the faith you gave them to claim their own faith journey.

One: Seniors, you have grown up here on the stories of God. We have told them to you, sung them to you, acted them out—hoping to teach them to you. With gratitude, we have listened to you tell them to us, sing them, act them out—teaching us in return.

**All: We have prayed for you more than you know, both in frequency and in urgency. Amidst our prayers, we give thanks for you. And today we celebrate your achievement, with pride in what you've done, and in what we see you becoming.**

One: We pray that the stories of God's truth and grace, of God's love, and of the redeeming of all creation will continue to sustain you, encourage you, challenge you, and transform you, wherever you go, whatever you do. These are the stories we pray you will continue to hear, continue to live toward, continue to live into.

**All: Each one of you is a special part of this congregation. We are proud of you, and we love you. We promise to support you with our love, our counsel and prayers, and to continue to walk with you on your journey of faith. Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek God's will in all you do, and God will direct your paths.**

### **Blessing of the Graduates (*unison*)**

Dr. Bayer



**Ushers:** Judy Jones, Donna Podgorny, Brett Thompson, Linda Thompson, Carol Watkins, Bob Williamson

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 worshiping with us and we want to stay connected with you. To receive our emails, sent on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org). Also, find us on Facebook: [@southmecklenburgpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian) and Instagram: [@southmeckpres](https://www.instagram.com/southmeckpres).

**A note to parents:** We are so delighted that you and your children are here! Children are an integral part of our faith community, and we strive to support parents during worship. Here are some helpful things to know:

- Children are welcome in worship. We understand that means wiggles!
- We provide blue worship totes in the Narthex to help children engage in worship. Please return the totes after the service.
- There is a nursery located in the Palmer Building with dedicated staff who are happy to keep your infant - three year old safe.
- Children's Worship is provided for children ages 4 through 3rd grade. The children gather after the Church Family Moment and return after the sermon. During this time, they will explore the story interactively and engage with their peers.
- A glider and changing table are available in Room 302 for mothers who wish to have privacy while nursing.
- During worship, the service is broadcast to the parlor, where there is more space to move around if your little one becomes restless.

### **Congregational Notes (as of May 31, 2023)**

#### **Remember in Prayer**

- Anne and Wayne Harrison and family, as Anne's son, Jeffrey Spencer, entered the Church triumphant on May 26.
- Christy and Rusty Jones and family, as Rusty's father, Fred Jones, entered the Church triumphant on May 28.
- 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](mailto:prayer@SMPChome.org).



**South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church**

8601 Bryant Farms Road, Charlotte, NC 28277, 704-544-0404

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## WELCOME!

After worship, we hope you'll join us for lemonade and cookies outside between the sanctuary and chapel buildings. Come meet friends old and new!

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.

### THIS WEEK'S CLASSES & EVENTS

today

**June 4**

5:30 p.m.  
- 7:30 p.m.

**SMPC Youth Junior and Senior Pool Party  
The Royster's House, 14927 Capricorn Ln**

Help us congratulate our high school seniors and all their accomplishments as we are so proud of them. Dinner will be provided, but please bring a side item or a dessert item. Register on Realm. Contact: Lindsey Odom, [lindsey@smpchome.org](mailto:lindsey@smpchome.org).

tuesday

**JUNE 6**

10:00 a.m.

**Handiworkers Group  
Palmer Building 104**

**LAST WORKDAY UNTIL THE FALL!** All knitters, needlepointers, quilters, cross-stitchers and crocheters (beginners, experts, and anything in between) are invited. Contact: Nancy Metzler, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org).

wednesday

**JUNE 7**

9:30 a.m.

**Conversations with Dr. Matt Brown  
Zoom or Chapel 206**

Join us as we discuss the scripture for the coming week's sermon. We welcome new participants. Contact for the Zoom ID#: Dr. Matt Brown, [matt@smpchome.org](mailto:matt@smpchome.org).

thursday

**JUNE 8**

9:00 a.m.

**Shelter Ministry  
Mecklenburg Hall**

This group fills empty Rx bottles with body wash for our neighbors in need at Roof Above. Contact: Carol Morgan, [morgancc43@aol.com](mailto:morgancc43@aol.com).

thursday

**JUNE 8**

9:30 a.m.

**Men's Breakfast Group  
Big View Diner, 6637 Lancaster Hwy.**

All are welcome. Contact: Bob Tyler, [Btyler@unitedskates.com](mailto:Btyler@unitedskates.com).

thursday

**JUNE 8**

10:00 a.m.

**Beginning to Ring  
Sanctuary**

Learn how to play the handbells while having tons of fun. Ages high school and up are welcome. Contact Zach Bowyer, [zach@smpchome.org](mailto:zach@smpchome.org).

### Church Service Opportunity

#### Join the Welcome Team!

Be a part of this important ministry that makes all people feel welcome the minute they walk through our doors for Sunday worship! Scan the QR code to sign up. Contact: Karen Williams, [karenwilliams99@gmail.com](mailto:karenwilliams99@gmail.com).



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## Looking Ahead

### **A Caregiver's Journey**

**Tuesday, June 13, 1:00-2:30 p.m., McQueen Room**

Finding meaning and purpose as you care for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Facilitated by Kathy Garner (SMPC Faith Ambassador through the Alzheimer's Association). Contact: Dr. Whitney Bayer, whitney@smpchome.org.

### **Men's Evening Study Group**

**Tuesday, June 13, 7:30 p.m., Home of Michael Choren, 1003 Stanbury Dr, Matthews, NC**

This new group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. We are beginning to study the book *Courage* by Tom Berlin. All are welcome. Contact: Jon Myers, jonmyers2@gmail.com.

### **Food for Thought Book Group**

**Thursday, June 15, 12:30-1:30 p.m., McQueen Room**

We are reading *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. All are welcome! Contact: Kathy Paquette: khesspaquette@aol.com.

### **International Dining Group**

**Thursday, June 15, 6:00 p.m., Portofino's, 9716 Redstone Drive Suite 400 , Indian Land, SC 29707**

Please RSVP to to Alice Tyler at rrt1317@sol.com by Monday, June 12.

### **Friday Morning Men's Group**

**Friday, June 16, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Chapel 206**

We are reading *Searching for Happiness* by Martin Thielen, author and retired methodist minister. Contact: Curt Ireland, irelandcurtis00@gmail.com.

### **Center of Hope Breakfast Servers and Food Donations**

**Saturday, June 18**

Spots are still open! **Food donations are due on Thursday, June 15.** Sign up to donate food or serve breakfast via the QR code. Contact: Bob Williamson, bobwill31@hotmail.com.



Breakfast

### **SMPC Golf Tournament**

**Thursday, June 22, Carolina Lakes Golf Club**

For all levels, men, women and youth! Cost to play: \$50 per person, includes range balls & prizes. Register on Realm or scan QR code. Contact: Ron Morgan, rbmorgan943@aol.com.



Golf

### **Vacation Bible School**

**Monday, July 24 - Thursday, July 27, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Ages 3-Rising 6th grade (Rising 5th and 6th graders participate in a concurrent program, Mission Possible)**

Register on Realm. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

### **Calling all children for the Summer Organ Sidekick (S.O.S.)!**

Children ages rising 2nd grade to rising 6th grade are invited to sit next to Director of Music and Organist Zach Bowyer at the organ during Sunday worship to experience the organ and what it's like to lead congregational song!



SOS

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## Worship

- Worship online via livestream
- Browse the sermon catalog - searchable by pastor, scripture or date

## Connect

- Access Realm & church calendar
- Stay up-to-date with current church news
- Enrich your faith life with spiritual formation resources - COMING SOON!

## Serve

- Sign up to serve within our congregation
- Find ways to make a difference in our community and world



Questions? Contact:  
Cheryl Perry, director of communications, [cheryl@smpchome.org](mailto:cheryl@smpchome.org)