



South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 11, 2023

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestreamed

We Gather

Prelude *Prelude in F (BWV 556a)* J. S. Bach
Alec White, organ

Welcome and Concerns of the Church Dr. Whitney Bayer

Introit *Pleading Savior* American Melody

Call to Worship Emma Jenkins

One: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God's love.

Many: God's love flows through our lives!

One: This is what it means to be the Body of Christ!

Many: This is what it means to be faithful witnesses to God's love.

One: Let us rejoice on this day!

Many: Lord, we thank you for the blessings you pour on us.

All: Let us go forth from this place to share God's transforming love.
Amen.

Hymn *God, You Spin the Whirling Planets* No. 23



1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to

(D) (A) (D) (Bm) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 E^b B^b E^b Cm A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b



spread the plain, mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate-ful wor-ship joined in
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's

(G) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (A)
 A^b E^b B^b E^b A^b E^b B^b



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor-tion.

(D) (Bm)(F#m) (G)(A) (D) (G)
 E^b Cm Gm A^b B^b E^b A^b



would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures

(D) (G) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (D) (A) (D)
 E^b A^b B^b E^b A^b Fm E^b B^b E^b



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Lindsey Odom

Merciful God, we confess that we too sometimes lose patience with people who are in need. Like the disciples, we find ourselves wishing that they would just go away and leave us in peace. In Your mercy, forgive us Lord. Remind us again of the deep love you showed toward us when we were still in need— a love so deep that you sacrificed yourself on the cross on our behalf. Show us how to truly love and serve others as You have loved us. We ask for your grace and forgiveness from our sins, turning us around and placing us on the path of compassion and peace. We ask that you hear our prayers, O God, and make our hearts new. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

Lindsey Odom

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

Lindsey Odom

1. Visualize the encounter between the Canaanite woman and Jesus. This woman was brave for standing up to Jesus as she begged him to heal her daughter. Imagine yourself encountering Jesus. What words would you use if you were talking with Jesus? What would it look like? Write words or draw pictures that tell what your heart would say to Jesus. In your letter or drawing, write or show the love and kindness in your heart for Jesus and how you would express that.
2. In the scripture passage, the woman stands up for her daughter, and eventually, Jesus listens. We are also called to stand up for others. Listen to [a readaloud of the Mo Willem's book, A Big Guy Took My Ball](#). How did Gerald stand up to the big guy? How can you stand up for someone this week?
3. Journal considering the following questions:
 - a. Why did Jesus eventually heal the woman's daughter?
 - b. What does her courage in standing up to Jesus and requesting he heal her daughter, even after Jesus ignores her, teach us about our faith?
 - c. Like the woman's daughter, who do you know and love that might need healing? It can be an individual person or a group of people. Take this moment and pray for that person.
 - d. What are some ways we can be as bold and confident in our faith, like the woman in this story was?
 - e. Think about a moment in your life currently where you have an opportunity to face something with courage.

Children's Liturgy

Lindsey Odom

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.

Prayer for Illumination

Dr. Bayer

Reading from the Old Testament

Psalms 33: 1-12

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright. Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in

faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth. He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle; he put the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 15: 21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Love without Boundary

Dr. Bayer

The Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

from A Brief Statement of Faith

Dr. Bayer

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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

Canzona

Felix Mendelssohn

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

Madi Jenkins

God of abundance and joy, we thank you for the many blessings you provide us. Receive these gifts and offerings in grateful praise for your abundant love for us. Use these gifts for the ministries of hope and justice within our world today. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

Hymn

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

No. 435

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness
 2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures
 of the sea. There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice,
 of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal
 which is more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's
 is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more
 sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
 faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our lives re-
 where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
 flect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.

Charge and Benediction

Dr. Bayer

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

Festival Piece on "Nicaea" Jerry Westenkuehler

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Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
Lindsey Odom, Director of Youth Ministry
Emma Jenkins, Madi Jenkins, liturgists
Daniel Lee, Summer Organ Sidekick

A/V Team: Kari Case, Xander Case

Deacon/Elder of the Day: David Kinsey

Ushers: Don Ayers, Andrew Brown, Dick Engle, Jenny Gates, Charlie Metzler, Craig Parrish

Welcome Team: Jack Hess, Kathy Rasimas

The flowers in worship this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kathy Graham's birthday by Frank, Logan, Sarah, and Parker Graham.

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. These emails contain a weekly devotion and information about upcoming worship services and church activities. 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.
- 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.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Our Session will gather to welcome new members on Sunday, June 25 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 June 8, 2023)

Remember in Prayer

- 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.

Instagram: **[@southmeckpres](https://www.instagram.com/southmeckpres)**.



South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

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PO Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271

smpchome.org

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

monday
JUNE 12
6:15 p.m.

Men's Softball
SMPC Softball Field

The SMPC softball team plays every Monday and Friday night right here at our home field. We are always looking for players. If you are interested, please contact Ron Stephany, 704-579-1606.

tuesday
JUNE 13
9:00 a.m.

A Caregiver's Journey
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.

tuesday
JUNE 13
7:30 p.m.

Men's Evening Study Group
Home of Michael Choren, 1003 Stanbury Dr, Matthews, NC

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

wednesday
June 14
9:00 a.m.
- 5:30 p.m.

Middle and High School Lake Day
The Gaines' Lake House, Lake Tillery

Youth will carpool to Lake Tillery for a day at the Gaines' lake house. Meet at church at 9:00 a.m. and return to church by 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 to cover lunch and snack expenses. Please register on Realm. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

wednesday
JUNE 14
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. The 6:30 p.m. study is taking a break for the summer. Contact for the Zoom ID#: Dr. Matt Brown, matt@smpchome.org.

thursday
JUNE 15
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.

thursday
JUNE 15
12:30 p.m.
- 1:30 p.m.

Food for Thought Book Group
McQueen Room

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



thursday
JUNE 15
6:00 p.m.

International Dining Group
Portofino's, 9716 Redstone Drive Suite 400 , Indian Land, SC 29707

This group loves to eat out! Please RSVP to to Alice Tyler at rrt1317@aol.com by Monday, June 12.

friday
JUNE 16
7:30 a.m.
- 8:30 a.m.

Friday Morning Men's Group
Chapel 206

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

Looking Ahead

Center of Hope Breakfast Food Donations

We are serving breakfast to guests at the Center of Hope on Saturday, June 17, and we are in need of food donations! **Food donations are due on Thursday, June 15.** Scan the QR code to sign up. Contact: Bob Williamson, bobwill31@hotmail.com.



Breakfast

Youth Message and Macarons

Monday, June 19, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Amelie's, 7715 Pineville-Matthews Rd

SMPC middle and high schoolers are invited to join us for a short devotion, sweet treats and fellowship! All are welcome and we encourage you to bring a friend! No signups required. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

Men's Breakfast Group

Thursday, June 22, 9:30 a.m., Big View Diner, 6637 Lancaster Hwy.

This group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month to enjoy breakfast and conversation. All are welcome. Contact: Bob Tyler, Btyler@unitedskates.com.

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. Please register by June 20! Contact: Ron Morgan, rbmorgan943@aol.com.



Golf

Making Space Mom's Group

The Making Space Mom's Group is taking a break in June and will meet again on Thursday, July 13 for conversation and fellowship at the SMPC fire pit. Contact: Allison Reeves, allison.tarwater@gmail.com.

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

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.

