



# South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 2023

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestreamed

## We Gather

**Prelude** *Adoration* Florence Price

**Welcome and Concerns of the Church** Dr. Matthew S. Brown

**Introit** *O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee* Henry Smith

**Call to Worship** Dr. Whitney Bayer

One: Let all creation sing with gladness;

**Many: Make a joyful noise to the Creator!**

One: Come and abide with the One who formed us;

**Many: Make a joyful noise to the Creator!**

One: Give thanks, and praise, and bless God's name;

**All: Make a joyful noise to God!**

**Hymn** *Let Us Build a House* No. 301



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can  
 2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)  
 F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell  
 strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek  
 wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground  
 wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,  
 vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)  
 Gm C7 Bb F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)  
 Gm C F Bb



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we  
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us  
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;  
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:  
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)  
 Am Gm F Gm C7 F Bb F



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

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

Dr. Bayer

**God of Providence, your faithfulness is from everlasting to everlasting, but we fail to trust. You hold all creation in the palm of your hand, but we take our lives into our own hands more often than we would like to admit. When we trust ourselves more than your grace, forgive us. When we get caught up in our own strivings, relieve us. When we**

think the world rests on our shoulders, remind us. Call us back to your way. Teach us to turn our lives over to your gracious care. 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. [Listen to the author read](#) *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* While using a simple metaphor of a bucket and a dipper, author Carol McCloud illustrates that when we choose to be kind, we not only fill the buckets of those around us, but also fill our OWN bucket! Conversely, when we choose to say or do mean things, we are dipping into buckets. All day long, we are either filling up or dipping into each other's buckets by what we say and what we do. In what ways do you fill buckets? How is making someone feel welcome like filling a bucket? Check out <https://bucketfillers101.com/> for more ideas.
2. Hospitality is another word for welcoming people, especially into our homes. How can you make your home more welcoming? In Children's Worship today, we will be creating welcome placemats that we can use when we have a special guest to make them feel welcome, but you could also make a welcome poster for your entryway! There are lots of ways to help people feel welcome.
3. Consider signing up to join the welcome team! It is easy to be a part of the welcoming ministry at SMPC, and all ages are invited to do it. Since this is our church home, it is our responsibility to show hospitality to visitors, and this is one great way to do it! Click [here](#) for the Signup.
4. Journal, considering the following:
  - a. What does it mean to welcome someone?
  - b. What does it feel like to be welcomed?
  - c. What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me"?
  - d. How would we welcome Christ if we knew he was coming?

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.*

## Prayer for Illumination

Dr. Brown

### Reading from the Old Testament

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: "I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Happy are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance; they exult in your name all day long and extol your righteousness. For you are the glory of their strength; by your favor our horn is exalted. For our shield belongs to the Lord, our king to the Holy One of Israel.

### Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 10:40-42

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Welcome

Dr. Brown

**The Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

The Nicene Creed

Dr. Bayer

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of**

**sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Offertory**

*God of Little Things*

Benjamin Brody

*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. Bayer

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

Dr. Brown

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. Bayer

## **We Go Out to Serve**

**Hymn**

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

No. 203

*Refrain*

F C7

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

(D) (D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
F F/A Gm7 C7 F *Fine*

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)  
F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should  
4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
F Dm Gm7 C7 F *to Refrain*

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.  
love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
feet; this is the way we should live like you.

### Charge and Benediction

Dr. Brown

### Choral 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.*

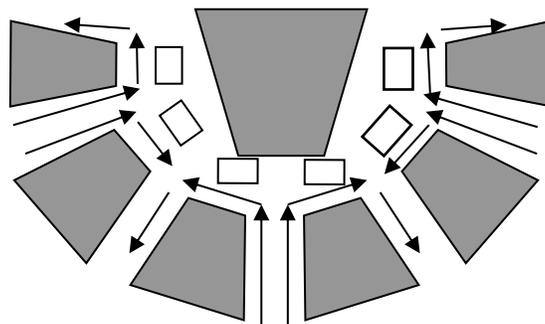
### Postlude

*Tuba Tune*

Carson Cooman

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### Communion Diagram



**Main floor:** Ushers will direct by row; please follow the arrows.

**Balcony:** Ushers will direct worshippers to a communion station.

### 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

Sarah Gentry, summer organ sidekick

**A/V Team:** Kari Case, Xander Case

**Deacon/Elder of the Day:** Kim Overcash

**Ushers:** Andrew Brown, Jon Myers, Craig Parrish, Nancy Parrish, Gwen Volker, David Wooley

**Welcome Team:** Jennifer and Kasia Hurlbert, Chad, Allison and Zac Reeves

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). 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](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org) or 980-265-2839.

**Congregational Notes (as of June 29, 2023)**

### **Remember in Prayer**

- Jimmy and Kathy Galati as Jimmy's mother, Eileen Galati, entered the Church triumphant on Saturday, June 24.
- Melissa White as she recovers from surgery.
- Sara Tezzi, as she recovers from her 3<sup>rd</sup> surgery in less than 3 months to address spinal fusion complications. Pray for strength and healing.
- 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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[smpchome.org](http://smpchome.org)

# SMPC WEEKLY

JULY 2, 2023

## 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.

## PLEASE NOTE

The church office is closed Tuesday, July 4 for the holiday.

Due to inclement weather, the SMPC Golf Tournament was rescheduled for Thursday, August 10 with practice at 12:00 p.m. at Carolina Lakes. If you are now able to join us with the new date, we'd love to have you! Registration is back open on Realm. Contact: Ron Morgan: rbmorgan943@aol.com.

## THIS WEEK'S CLASSES & EVENTS

wednesday  
**JULY 5**  
6:00 p.m. -  
7:00 p.m.

### SMPC Youth Waffle Cone Wednesday Cold Stone Creamery, Blakeney

Join us for ice cream and fellowship. Bring a friend! No registration required. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org

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thursday  
**JULY 6**  
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.

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friday  
**JULY 7**  
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.

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## LOOKING AHEAD

### A Caregiver's Journey

**Tuesday, July 11, 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, July 11, 7:30 p.m., Chapel 206**

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

### Shelter Ministry

**Thursday, July 13, 9:00 a.m., Mecklenburg Hall**

This ministry meets to fill empty medicine bottles with body wash for Roof Above. Empty Rx vials are always needed. Contact Carol Morgan, morganc43@aol.com.

### **Making Space Mom's Group**

**Thursday, July 13, 7:30 p.m., SMPC Fire Pit**

Join us for fellowship and friendship! Contact: Allison Reeves, allison.tarwater@gmail.com.

### **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

## **SUMMER SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

### **The Freedom School Program**

**Various opportunities now through July 26, volunteer times vary, Druid Hills Elementary, 2801 Lucena Street, Charlotte, NC 28206**

The Freedom School program promotes the long-term success of children in grades K-8 with limited means through a six-week summer camp focused on reading skills, character enrichment and community. All ages are welcome - please see SignUpGenius for volunteer age guidelines. Scan QR code to sign up. Contact: Doris Boyd, dorisboydcarolin@bellsouth.net.



Freedom School

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

We are serving breakfast to guests at the Center of Hope on Saturday, July 15, and we are in need of food donations and servers! **Food donations are due on Thursday, July 13.** Scan the QR code to sign up. Contact: Bob Williamson, bobwill31@hotmail.com.



Breakfast

## **FACES OF FAITH**

*This summer we've launched a weekly series called "Faces of Faith" where we spotlight SMPC members and learn about how their faith and involvement in the church have impacted their lives. This week is Kay Dano!*

**Name:** Kay Dano

**Family:** I have one daughter, three sons, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, three stepdaughters and nine step-grandchildren

**Years at SMPC:** I am a charter member - I joined in 1992.

**What do you love most about SMPC?** I have been a member of SMPC almost from the very beginning. I have seen and felt the welcome and love it has always given to all who enter its doors. I always say that I have three families: my "family" family, my friends that are like family and my church family. SMPC is truly family to me! I love everything I have here.

