



South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestream

We Gather

Prelude

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Rev. Lindsey Odom

One: Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is Risen Indeed!

Introit

Here I Am, Lord

Daniel Schutte

***Call to Worship**

Elise Ullman

One: Christ is risen! He greets us with a word of peace.

Many: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!

One: Christ is risen! Locked doors and doubting hearts cannot keep him away.

Many: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!

One: Christ is risen! He comes to bless us with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Many: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!

***Hymn 238**

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Melissa White

Lord God, forgive our doubts and disbelief. You show up in our lives, yet we fail to notice you and demand more proof. We confess our frequent failure to trust you. We expect more when you have already given us more than enough. Forgive our lack of faith. Forgive our lack of gratitude. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for new life in Christ. In the power of the risen Christ, breathe on us, and fill us with the joy and peace of your presence. Through your Holy Spirit, bring us to faithful life and devotion in your service, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


***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

Kathy Graham

1. **Peace Tag:** When Jesus appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, his first words were, "Peace be with you." Even though they were scared and unsure, Jesus came with love and calm. Try playing a game of "Peace Tag" with your family or class. One person is "it" and gently tags someone while saying, "Peace be with you!" That person then becomes "it" and keeps the peace moving. It's a fun and simple way to practice sharing Jesus' peace with others. 
2. **Storytime:** In *The Moonbow of Mr. B. Bones* by J. Patrick Lewis, a boy named Tommy doubts what he cannot see—until a moonbow changes everything. Like Thomas in our gospel story, Tommy needs to see to believe. When he finally does, it transforms him. Thomas also doubts until he sees Jesus with his own eyes, and then joyfully proclaims, "My Lord and my God!" Listen to the story [here on YouTube](#), and read more about the book's connection to scripture at [Storypath](#).
3. **Art Activity:** Use paper, crayons, markers, stickers, or whatever you have at home to create a "Peace Be With You" collage that shows what peace looks like to you. Include the words "Peace be with you" somewhere in your art. Hang it in your home to remind you that Jesus offers peace—even when things feel uncertain or scary.
4. Wondering Together:
 - a. Why do you think Jesus greeted the disciples with peace?
 - b. What would you have done if you were Thomas?
 - c. When is it hard to believe in something you can't see?
 - d. How can you share peace with someone this week?

Children's Liturgy

Kathy Graham

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.

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Odom

First Reading Acts 5:27-32 Rev. Odom
Pew Bible p. 123; Spark Bible p. 1,209

Second Reading John 20:19-31 Rev. Odom
Pew Bible p. 115; Spark Bible p. 1,199
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Beneath, Beyond, and Blooming by... Rev. Odom

***The Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) Confession of 1967, 9.10
Melissa White

The risen Christ is the Savior for all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Melissa White
... (*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 *Here I Am, Lord* arr. David Howard Pettit
Kyle Gavagan, trumpet

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** Emery Hicks
Sovereign God, you have set us as stewards over the works of your hands. May the offerings we bring you this day be signs of our willingness to joyfully share your overflowing love with the world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn 69** *Here I Am, Lord* HERE I AM

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Odom

***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

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Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth and Missions/Outreach
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
Kathy Graham, Children's Spiritual Formation Committee
Melissa White, Director of Hospitality and Connection
Kyle Gavagan, trumpet
Emery Hicks, Elise Ullman, liturgists

A/V Team: Mary Katheryne Zagora, Michael Zagora

Ushers: Bob Cushman, Phil Eatherton, Curtis Guy, Linda Nagle Hanson, Jim Williams, Michael Zagora

Welcome Team: Shelby Ullman

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 Adrienne Jaquith, Office and Database Manager, adrienne@smpchome.org. Also, find us on Instagram: @southmeckpres and Facebook: @southmecklenburgpresbyterian.

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 Melissa White, Director of Hospitality and Connection, melissa@smpchome.org or 704-887-7488

Congregational Notes (as of April 24, 2025)

Remember in Prayer

- All those affected by conflict, displacement, and unrest around the world and at home.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti, as they navigate the chaos and challenges engulfing their country.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:

prayer@SMPChome.org.



South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

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smpchome.org

SMPC WEEKLY

APRIL 27, 2025

WELCOME!

After worship, we hope you'll join us for lemonade and cookies outside. 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!

THIS WEEK'S CLASSES & EVENTS

today
APR. 27
5:00 p.m. -
6:30 p.m. -

SMPC Youth Mini Golf
High Seas Mini Golf, 10001 Charlotte Hwy, Ft. Mill
Middle and High Schoolers
Join us for mini golf fun! Drop off and pick up will be at High Seas. Cost is \$12. Please bring extra money if you would like to get a snow cone at Pelican's SnoBall after golf! Register on Realm. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

tuesday
APR. 29
10:00 a.m.

Handiworkers Group
Palmer Building, Room 104
All levels of knitters, needlepointers, quilters, cross-stitchers and crocheters are invited. This group meets weekly to work on projects. Contact: Judy Jameson, jgjameson@gmail.com.

wednesday
APR. 30
9:30 a.m.

Conversations with Dr. Matt Brown
McQueen Room or Zoom
While Matt is out of the office, Tom Robinson will be leading the discussion on the scripture for the coming week's sermon. All are welcome! Contact Matt Brown, matt@smpchome.org, for Zoom info.

thursday
MAY 1
7:30 p.m.

Making Space Mom's Group
Chapel 206
This group meets on the first and third Thursdays of every month. All moms are welcome! Contact: Allison Reeves, allison.tarwater@gmail.com.

friday
MAY 2
7:30 a.m. -
8:30 a.m.

Friday Morning Men's Group
Chapel 206
This group meets on the first and third Fridays of every month. They are reading *Amazing Grace* by Bruce Hindmarsh. All are welcome. Contact: Curt Ireland, irelandcurtis00@gmail.com.

saturday
MAY 3
8:00 a.m. -
12:30 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive
The Commons
Donations are needed now more than ever! Sign up to donate or volunteer at the drive on our website, smpchome.org > Serve Our Community or via QR code. All donors will receive a \$20 e-gift card to a merchant of their choice from the American Red Cross. More details on their website. Contact: Bill Ramsey, bill.john.ramsey@gmail.com.



saturday
MAY 3
4:00 p.m. -
6:00 p.m.

Hops and Vine Around Town
Open Tap, 5010 Carmel Ctr Drive
Fellowship and fun! All are welcome. Contact: Frank Graham, frank.graham@us.forvismazars.com

sunday
MAY 4
9:00 a.m. -
10:00 a.m.

NEW! Adult Study: The Wired Word,
McQueen Room or Zoom
A three-week series that brings scripture into conversation with today's headlines. Register on Realm. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

sunday
MAY 4
11:30 a.m. -
12:30 p.m.

Third Thirty: A Candid Spiritual Exploration of Realities and Challenges We Face in the Years 60-90 The Commons

This 12-week study meets one Sunday a month over a light lunch after worship. Come to as many sessions as your schedule allows! More information and register on Realm or scan QR code. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.



sunday
MAY 4
5:00 p.m. -
6:30 p.m.

BAM! Bible and Music Meet in Narthex, Children in Kindergarten-5th Grade

During BAM!, children sing, creatively engage with Bible stories, and explore various instruments in peer age groups. Pizza is served. Register on Realm. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

sunday
MAY 4
5:00 p.m. -
6:30 p.m.

May BYG (Big Youth Group) Mecklenburg Hall, Middle and High Schoolers

We are welcoming our fifth graders during May BYG! BYG is held on the first Sunday of each month during the school year and provides an opportunity for youth to grow in faith and love through Bible study, small group time, good food, games, and amazing company. Register on Realm. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shelter Ministry, Thursday, May 8, 9:00 a.m., Mecklenburg Hall - This group meets on the second Thursday of every month to fill empty medicine bottles with body wash for Roof Above. They are always in need of body wash and Rx vials (please, no shampoo or conditioner!) Contact: Carol Morgan, morganc43@aol.com.

Men's Breakfast Group, Thursday, May 8, 9:30 a.m., Big View Diner, 6637 Lancaster Hwy - This group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays each month to enjoy breakfast and conversation. Contact: Bob Tyler, Btyler@unitedskates.com.

A Caregiver's Journey, Tuesday, May 13, 1:00-2:30 p.m., McQueen Room - For those caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Meets monthly on the second Tuesday. Contact: Kathy Garner, kathygarner15@gmail.com.

Men's Evening Study Group, Tuesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m., Chapel 206 - This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. New faces are always welcome! Contact: Jon Myers, jonmyers2@gmail.com.

Food for Thought Book Group, Thursday, May 15, 12:30 p.m., McQueen Room - This group will discuss *Meredith, Alone* by Claire Alexander. All are welcome. Contact: Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com.

International Dining Group, Thursday, May 15, 6:00 p.m. Great Wall of China South, Carmel Commons - All are welcome to join this group as it samples different cuisines around town! Sign up on Realm. Contact: Alice Tyler, rrt1317@aol.com.



Lunch on the Grounds, Sunday, May 18, 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Mecklenburg Hall - Everyone is welcome! Join us after worship for a delicious lunch on the grounds catered by Brown Bag. We'll enjoy sliced grilled chicken breast, spinach salad with berries and mandarin oranges, mac 'n cheese, rolls, brownies, tea and lemonade. Register on Realm or via QR code. Adults: \$12; Ages 4-11: \$6; Ages 3 and under: Free. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

GRADUATE SUNDAY! We're celebrating the high school and college Class of 2025 on Graduate Sunday, June 1, during 10:10 a.m. worship. Graduates, please complete the form via QR code for the bulletin High school graduates are also invited to Senior Breakfast before worship (9:00-10:00 a.m.) on June 1 in Meck Hall. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.



SMPC'S HYMN MADNESS!

"Here I am, Lord" topped "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" by only nine votes! Join us as we sing the Heavenly Hymn as a congregation today! Thank you for playing along - it was such fun!