

A Service of Worship Trinity Sunday June 15, 2025

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestream

We Gather

Prelude	Partita on "Azmon"	Alfred V. Fedak		
Welcome and Concerns of the Church Dr. Matthew S. Brown				
Introit	Eternal Father, Strong to Sa	Ve John B. Dykes		
*Call to Worship Lacey Cook				
One:	How precious is God's steadfast love!			
Many:	: We will find refuge in the shelter of God's wings.			
One:	Come and feast on God's abundance.			
Many:	We will drink from the river of God's delights.			
One:	For with God is the fountain of life;			
Many:	And in God's light we will see light.			
One:	Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!			
All:	We will bring God our prayers and our praise with hearts full of			
	love.			
*Hymn 1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! NICAE		ighty! NICAEA		



Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Odom

Merciful God, we come to you with humble hearts to confess our sins. We have heard your call to reach out to the people around us in a manner of love, but we have been hesitant to get involved in the lives of other people. We are afraid of saying the wrong thing or being rejected. We have listened to the negative influences around us and in the process, we have hidden our hearts from the ever-present voice of your Spirit. Forgive us, Lord God. Teach us a new way of living. Guide us by your Spirit to be ambassadors of Christ within our broken world. Change our hearts, that we might be your messengers of the good news of hope, love, justice, and joy that your Gospel news conveys to us. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

Rev. 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

Lacey Cook

1. *The Log Cabin Church* by Ellen Howard: In this story, Elvirey learns that church isn't just a building—it's the people who love and follow God together. Paul reminds us that we are the Church, a beloved community, and we share God's love through our relationships. (*Source:* <u>Storypath, Union Presbyterian Seminary</u>, Noell Rathbun)



2. Explore the PC(USA) Seal: Can you find the cross, dove, open Bible, pulpit, flames, and triangle in the PC(USA) seal? The triangle reminds us of the Trinity—Creator, Christ, and Spirit. Use this link to find and understand the symbols: pcusa.org/resources/pcusa-seal

3. Rejoice Freeze Dance: Put on a joyful song and play freeze dance! When the music stops, everyone freezes in a silly or joyful pose. Afterward, talk about how we can live joyfully and in peace like Paul encouraged.

4. Make a Trinity Symbol: Draw or trace a triangle on paper. Inside each point, write one part of the Trinity: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Then decorate it with colors or symbols that remind you of each one (like sun, cross, dove, water, etc.). Hang it where you can see it as a reminder of God's presence in every part of life.

5. Wondering Questions:

- I wonder what Paul meant when he said, "Live in peace."
- I wonder how the Holy Spirit helps us be friends with one another.
- I wonder how we can show God's love to each other this week.
- I wonder what it means to be the Church together, even when we're apart.

Sacrament of Baptism

Harrison Reed Klecker

Son of Julianne and Jack Klecker, brother of Thomas and the grandson of Jane and Tom Klecker

Representing the Session: Brett Thompson Representing the Children: Rue Woodard

Baptismal Response

No. 482, stanza 3

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King; born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.

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

Prayer for Illumination

Dr. Brown

First ReadingProverbs 8:1-14Dr. BrownDoes not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? On
the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside

the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. O simple ones, learn prudence; acquire intelligence, you who lack it. Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right; for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. They are all straight to one who understands and right to those who find knowledge. Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her. I, wisdom, live with prudence, and I attain knowledge and discretion. The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. I have good advice and sound wisdom; I have insight, I have strength.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Dr. Brown Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Sermon	How Will You Leave It?	Dr. Brown
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*The Affirmation of Faith (unison)

The Apostles' Creed Rev. Odom

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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer ... (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 This is My Father's World arr. Jason Payne

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

*Doxology

No. 606

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 **Rue Woodard** Gracious God, all that we are and all that we have are yours alone. We ask that you accept our joyful offerings as a token of our abiding love. Breathe your Spirit into it and into us. Use our gifts and offerings to bring peace, justice and comfort to your beloved world now, and all the days to come. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve



Festival Piece on "Nicaea" Postlude Jerry Westenkuehler

our lives may be our gift to you.

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Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor

Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist

Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation

Lacey Cook, Rue Woodard, liturgists Will Hollingsworth, Summer Organ Sidekick **A/V Team:** Chris Wilcox, Joe Wilcox **Ushers:** Andy Burke, Richard Franseen, Bjorn Hansen, Curt Ireland, Donna Podgorny, Gwen Volker **Welcome Team:** Donna Brown, Jack Hess

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Harrison Reed Klecker's baptism by the Klecker family.

There are several options to remember or honor a loved one with the SMPC Flower Ministry! Find more details and sign up to reserve a Sunday via the QR code. Contact: <u>Karen Malmut</u>, <u>karenmalmut@yahoo.com</u>.



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 Sunday, June 22 at 11:30 a.m. To learn more, contact Rev. Melissa White, Director of Hospitality and Connection, melissa@smpchome.org or 704-887-7488

Congregational Notes (as of June 12, 2025)

Remember in Prayer

- Will Bates as he recovers from a fall while traveling in France.
- Sandi Buchanan and her family as Sandi's mother, Sarah Buchanan, entered the Church triumphant on June 9.
- Nancy Guy as she recovers from surgery.
- Karen Keough as she recovers from surgery.
- All those affected by conflict, displacement, and unrest around the world and at home.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti, that God's peace, protection and justice may prevail amid the crisis, chaos, and despair engulfing their country.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:

prayer@SMPChome.org

SMPC STAFF

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor matt@smpchome.org Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth & Missions/Outreach lindsey@smpchome.org Laura Black, Ministry Associate for Children and Music laura@smpchome.org Zach Bowyer, Director of Music & Organist zach@smpchome.org **Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation** rebecca@smpchome.org Adrienne Jaquith, Office and Database Manager adrienne@smpchome.org **Cheryl Perry, Director of Communications** cheryl@smpchome.org Steve Stevenson, Facility Administrator steve@smpchome.org Rev. Melissa White, Director of Hospitality and Connection melissa@smpchome.org Dr. Tammy Winchip, SMPC Preschool Director tammy@smpchome.org Mary Katheryne Zagora, Financial Administrator

mkzagora@smpchome.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday: Closed

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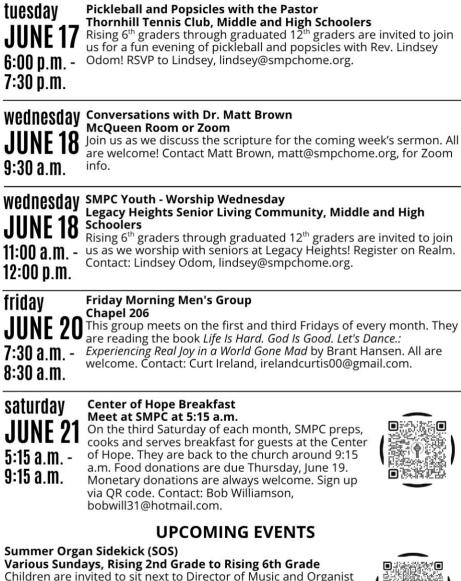
SMPC WEEKLY

JUNE 15, 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



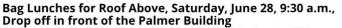
Various Sundays, Rising 2nd Grade to Rising 6th Grade Children are invited to sit next to Director of Music and Organist Zach Bowyer at the organ to experience what it's like to lead music during worship! Please arrive by 9:50 a.m. We'll have one "sidekick" per Sunday. Please sign up for only one Sunday to allow everyone a chance to participate! Scan QR code for more information and to sign up. Contact: Zach Bowyer,

zach@smpchome.org



Middle School Retreat at Massanetta, Tuesday, June 24-Friday, June 27, Massanetta Springs, VA - While registration is closed for this event, we keep our middle schoolers and chaperones in our prayers as they head to Massanetta for the annual middle school conference. This year's theme is "Wholly Loved" and is based on 1 John 4. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

Food for Thought Book Group, Thursday, June 26, 12:30 p.m., McQueen Room - This group will discuss *Indigo Isle* by T.I. Lowe. All are welcome! Contact: Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com.



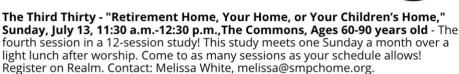
SMPC provides 100 bag lunches every month for Roof Above to help feed those in need. Sign up to bring bag lunches in June via QR code. Contact: Julie Durham, julierdurham@gmail.com.



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High School Retreat at Montreat, Sunday, July 6-Saturday, July 12, Montreat, NC - While registration is closed for this event, we keep our high schoolers and chaperones in our prayers as they head to Montreat for the annual youth conference. This year's theme is "Light My Path." Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

Desserts for Center of Hope, Sunday, July 13, Before 10:10 a.m. Worship - On the second Sunday of every month we provide sweet treats for the women and children that temporarily call Center of Hope home. Sign up via QR code. Contact: Terry Gaines, terryg@carolina.rr.com.



Vacation Bible School, Monday, July 21-Thursday, July 24, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., VBS: Ages 3-4th grade; Mission Possible: Rising 5th and 6th Grade - Register on Realm or via QR code. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.



Join the SMPC Men's Softball team! Games are held on Mondays and Fridays throughout the summer and most are played on the SMPC field. The team won the championship last year and has moved up to the league's top division this summer (the 2024 trophy is in Chapel 206!). Contact: Michael Choren, michaelchoren@yahoo.com.

SUMMER SERVICE

SMPC Ushers Needed! We are looking for new members to join our Usher Team! Usher responsibilities include arriving 30 minutes prior to worship, handing out bulletins before worship, collecting the offering, guiding church members up to communion and cleaning up after worship. Ushers typically work one time a month or every other month. This is a great way for all generations to serve. Contact: Nancy Parrish, cnparrish@bellsouth.net.

IMPORTANT STAFF UPDATE

We have been truly blessed to have Dr. Matt Brown serve as pastor of SMPC for 21 years! With both gratitude and sadness, we share that Matt announced his retirement, effective December 1, 2025. If you receive the church-wide weekly emails, you should have received Matt's email on Sunday, May 27, 2025. His final Sunday preaching at SMPC will be November 23, 2025.



You can find Matt's message to the congregation via the QR code to the left, along with a link to the letter from Personnel Committee Chair Janet Morgan, which expresses heartfelt thanks to Matt and his wife, Donna, and outlines our transition plan. If you would like to be added to the church's email list, please contact Director of Communications Cheryl Perry, cheryl@smpchome.org.

WHAT'S NEXT

We have compiled some frequently asked questions about the church's next steps, which can be found in the QR code on the right. We'll continue to update it as the process unfolds. We are blessed with a vibrant faith community and strong lay and clergy leadership at SMPC! We trust God's guidance and look forward with hope to what lies ahead!



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: Dr. Matt Brown, Pastor, matt@smcphome.org, 980-265-2834 Janet Morgan, Personnel Committee Chair, janetmackeymorgan@gmail.com, 704-577-3202 Gayle Ireland, Clerk of Session, gaylei93@gmail.com, 704-451-4706