



South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Youth Sunday

February 8, 2026

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestream

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

We Gather

Prelude

Welcome

Mark Miller

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Rev. Lindsey Odom

The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

Introit

Rain Down

Jaime Cortez

***Call to Worship**

Alayna Calderwood,

Hannah Heath, Paxtyn Sandeen

One: See what love God has given us,

All: that we should be called children of God.

One: And that is what we are.

All: For each of us is created

One: with gifts to share,

All: to reflect God's goodness,

One: and to live as signs of God's hope, peace, love, and justice;

All: just as we are.

One: Because just as we are,

All: God names us and claims us beloved.

One: Just as we are,

All: God nourishes us.

One: Just as we are,

All: God sends us into the world to serve.

One: In the eyes of God,

All: we are endlessly enough! Let us worship God, Amen!

***Hymn 366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL



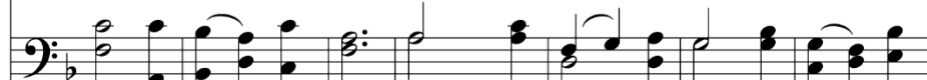
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.



Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Tuuli Ritchie, Lilliana Smigiel

God of love, you call us your children and name us beloved with a love wider than we can comprehend. Yet we confess that we do not always live like people who belong to you. We forget our identity and measure our worth against others, shaping our lives more by insecurity than by your hope. We chase acceptance and hide beneath shame and fear, forgetting that you have already claimed us as your own. We resist the transforming work of Christ within us and struggle to trust your grace. Forgive us, O God. Cleanse what is impure in us, and shape us by the hope and humility of Christ. We confess these things trusting not in ourselves, but in your abundant love.

Assurance of God's Grace

Lilliana Smigiel

One: The good news is this: God has claimed us as beloved children. We are created with purpose and are endlessly enough. God knows us fully and never gives up on us. When we confess our sin, our gracious and loving God forgives and sets us free. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel,

All: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response of Praise**

No. 582, stanza 1

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

We Hear and Respond to the Word

Church Family Moment

Lacey Cook

1. **Story Connection:** As a family, watch or read [*I Am Enough*](#) by Grace Byers. After reading, share together how this story connects with 1 John 3:1, which says, "See what love God has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are." Talk about how both the story and scripture remind us that we are God's children just as we are, held in love, growing in hope, endlessly enough.
2. **Game:** Have everyone crouch down small like seeds. One person calls out the phrases while everyone moves. When you hear "Held in love," hug yourself. When you hear "Children of God," stand tall. When you hear "Growing in hope," slowly stretch up high. When you hear "Just as you are," freeze. Take turns calling out the phrases and mix them up. After playing, notice all the different frozen poses and name together that none of them are wrong. This shows us there is no one right way to be God's child.



3. Craft: Work together on an “I Am Enough” craft. Invite each person to decorate their page by drawing or writing words about who they are — things they enjoy, gifts they see in themselves, people who love them, and hopes they carry. As you create, remind one another that this is not about making something perfect. It is about celebrating who God has already made you to be: children of God, held in love, growing in hope, endlessly enough.

4. Wonder Together:

- a) I wonder what it feels like to be held in love
- b) I wonder where you notice yourself growing in hope.
- c) I wonder when it is hardest to remember, “I am enough.”
- d) I wonder who might need to hear that truth from you this week.

Children’s Liturgy

Lacey Cook

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

Jake Zagora

First Reading

Austin Stockstill, Blake Stockstill

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want. The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Anthem

Umoja Tunaimba

Victor Johnson

Jubilate Choir; Charleston Bates, soloist; Blythe Kinsey, piano

*Umoja tunaimba! United we sing! Umoja tunaimba!
We stand as one in unity! We lift our voices and we join our hearts
singing songs of justice and peace.
We stand together as the
children of God bringing hope to humanity.
Imbakwa amani! Imbakwa furaha! Imbawka upendo! Imba!
We will sing for peace! We will sing of joy!*

We will sing for love! We will sing!

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

Mason Briganti

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflections

Haley Davis

Judah Estes

Elizabeth Glover

Caroline Guy

***The Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) A Brief Statement of Faith (27-51)

Hannah Angerer, Skye Palmer

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Owen Bickett, Jordan Booker, Grace Wooley

(Refrain) **We are children of God, just as we are, held in love, growing in hope, endlessly enough.**

. . . (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.**

Offering Invitation

Thomas Hall, Braxton Kasmer

Offertory

We Are Enough

Lenora and Hannah Rand

(Please join in singing the chorus below)

You are enough. I am enough.

Breathe in the love; we are enough.

You are enough. I am enough.

Breathe in the love; we are enough.

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**

Julia Nancarrow, Caitlin Vaughan

God of abundant love, we give these gifts as your beloved children, knowing that in your grace we are already enough. Receive them as signs of our shared life and love together as your church; called to sing and pray, to greet and give thanks, to wonder, to worship, and to serve. Use our gifts for your glory and for the good of our community and world. Purify our hearts, multiply what we offer, and continue to make us new in Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

Hymn 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me
(Stanzas 1 – 4)

GREEN TYLER



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

***Charge and Benediction**

Lily Claire Jacobus

***Congregational Response**

Hymn 543, stanza 5

*Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

Postlude

Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen
Alec White, piano

Edvard Grieg

Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth and Missions/Outreach
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist

Senior Speakers: Haley Davis, Judah Estes, Elizabeth Glover, Caroline Guy

Liturgists: Hannah Angerer, Owen Bickett, Jordan Booker, Mason Briganti, Alayna Calderwood, Thomas Hall, Hannah Heath, Lily Claire Jacobus, Braxton Kasmer, Austin Stockstill, Blake Stockstill, Julia Nancarrow, Skye Palmer, Tuuli Ritchie, Paxtyn Sandeen, Lilliana Smigiel, Caitlin Vaughan, Grace Wooley, Jake Zagora

Music: Jubilate Choir; Charleston Bates, soloist; Blythe Kinsey, piano; Alec White, piano

Art Group: Charleston Bates, Alexa Cannon, Dylan Davis, Haley Davis, Judah Estes, Luke Estes, Elizabeth Glover, Emery Hicks, Lily Claire Jacobus, Colin Lee, Katherine Kuszmar, Fiona Rawlings, Camdyn Sheeler (Youth Elder)

A/V Team: Brad Alford, Luke Estes

Children's Worship Leaders: Madilyn Boyes, Emily Mitchell, Julia Nancarrow, Caitlin Vaughan, Grace Wooley

Church Family Moment: created in collaboration with Lacey Cook and Katie Gravender

Cookies and Lemonade Hosts: Julia Nancarrow, Caitlin Vaughan, Grace Wooley

Ushers: Hannah Angerer, Savannah Brown, Natalie Guy, Felix Jaynes, James Martin, Emily Mitchell, Graeme Mitchell, Austin Stockstill, Blake Stockstill, Miles Ullman

Welcome Team: Owen Bickett, Alayna Calderwood, Siena Carr, Gracie Carreira, Anderson Greeson, Julia Greeson, Nolan Greeson, Clara Guzman, Paxtyn Sandeen, Jake Zagora

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Stephen Clark.

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](https://www.instagram.com/southmeckpres) and Facebook: [@southmecklenburgpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian).

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Our Session will gather to welcome new members Sunday, February 22, at 11:30 a.m. To learn more, contact Rev. Melissa White, Parish Associate, melissa@smpchome.org or 704-887-7488.

Congregational Notes (as of February 4, 2025)

Remember in Prayer

- 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

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South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

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smpchome.org

WELCOME!

After worship, we hope you'll join us for lemonade and cookies near Coffee Grounds. We will also have cake to celebrate our youth! Come meet friends old and new! Registry pads are located in your pews. Please sign and pass to your neighbor and perhaps introduce yourself to someone new!

THIS WEEK'S CLASSES & EVENTS

today
FEB. 8
10:10 a.m.

Youth Sunday and Souper Bowl of Caring Sanctuary

Thank you for your donations to Nourish Up. SMPC Youth is also hosting an envelope fundraiser in front of Coffee Grounds for its scholarship program, which helps offset the cost of youth retreats. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.



tuesday
FEB. 10
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.

tuesday
FEB. 10
11:30 a.m.

SMPC Lunch Bunch, Tuesday Trio Restaurant, 10709 McMullen Creek Parkway

All are invited - bring a friend! RSVP to Ruth Ann Engle by today, February 8, raengle22@gmail.com, or on Realm via QR code.



tuesday
FEB. 10
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

A Caregiver's Journey McQueen Room

Finding meaning and purpose as you care for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Contact: Kathy Garner, kathygarner15@gmail.com

tuesday
FEB. 10
7:30 p.m.

Men's Evening Study Group Chapel 206

The group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Contact: Jon Myers, jonmyers2@gmail.com.

wednesday
FEB. 11
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Pastor's Wednesday Morning Bible Study McQueen Room or Zoom

Transitional Pastor Sandy Hull leads this study that meets weekly. They are discussing the book of Ephesians. All are welcome! If you would like to join by Zoom, please contact Adrienne Jaquith, adrienne@smpchome.org.

thursday
FEB. 12
9:30 a.m.

Shelter Ministry Mecklenburg Hall

Notice new time! This group meets on the second Thursday of every month to fill empty medicine bottles with body wash for Roof Above. Contact: Carol Morgan, morgancc43@aol.com.

thursday
FEB. 12
9:30 a.m.

Men's Breakfast Group 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.

sunday
FEB. 15
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

New Adult Study: 'Meeting Jesus at the Table: A Lenten Study' McQueen Room or Zoom

A seven-week study with *Meeting Jesus at the Table: A Lenten Study* that provides Biblical insights along with thought-provoking queries regarding our own time, such as whom should we invite to Sunday dinner and who is left out and left behind in our culture today. Register on Realm. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

sunday

FEB. 15

11:30 a.m. -

1:00 p.m.

SMPC Youth Lenten Lunch

Mecklenburg Hall, Middle and High Schoolers

We'll have lunch and Lenten learning stations and activities. All are welcome - bring a friend! Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

sunday

FEB. 15

various times

Room in the Inn

Sardis Presbyterian Church

Volunteers will help with dinner, overnight stays or breakfast and cleanup. Donations also needed. Sign up via QR code. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Tuesday, February 17, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Mecklenburg Hall, All Ages

- Bring your family and friends for a pancake feast as we prepare to journey through the Lenten season together. We will collect food donations to support our Center of Hope ministry: pancake mix (add water variety), syrup, Tang drink mix or lemonade and quick grits. \$5/person (maximum family cost of \$20). Register on Realm. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.



Ash Wednesday Drive-Through Ashes - February 18, 7:30-9:15 a.m., Church Parking Lot

Worship Service - February 18, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary and Livestream; Childcare provided for ages 3 and under.

Food for Thought Book Club, Thursday, February 19, 12:30 p.m. - This group is reading James by Percival Everett. All are welcome. Contact: Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com.

Internal Dining Group, Thursday, February 19, 6:00 p.m., That's Amore, 2018 Bridgemill Drive, Indian Land, SC - All are welcome to join this group that loves to eat out! Register on Realm or via QR code. Contact: Carol Roan



Making Space Mom's Group & Rain or Shine, Thursday, February 19, 7:30 p.m., Chapel 206 - These two small groups are combining until the end of May for a study called *Parables* by Josh Scott. Moms of all ages are invited to join in - new faces are always welcome at the table! Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

Friday Morning Men's Group, Friday, February 20, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Chapel 206 - This group meets on the first and third Fridays of every month for study and fellowship. All are welcome. Contact: Curt Ireland, irelandcurtis00@gmail.com.

Center of Hope Breakfast, Saturday, February 21, Meet at SMPC at 5:15 a.m. - On the third Saturday of each month, SMPC preps, cooks and serves breakfast for guests at the Center of Hope. They are back to the church around 9:15 a.m. Food donations are due Thursday, February 19. Monetary donations are always welcome. Sign up via QR code. Contact: Lee Martin, leewilsonmartin@gmail.com.



All-Church Serves and Learns - Time Out Youth, Sunday, February 22, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Mecklenburg Hall, All Ages

- Join us for an all-ages service and learning opportunity as we partner with Time Out Youth. We will welcome their team for hands-on mission, education and connection. We are collecting full-size hygiene products for their Life Essentials Closet and will assemble hygiene kits! Register on Realm. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

**ALL-CHURCH RETREAT - REGISTRATION DEADLINE
EXTENDED TO TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT!**

All-Church Retreat: 'Created for Community,' Friday, March 6-Sunday, March 8, Montreat, NC - All ages are invited to join us as we examine how God exists in community and how God designed us to be in relationships with God and one another. More information and register on Realm or via QR code. Please register by TONIGHT, February 8. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

