



A Service of Worship
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2026
10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestream

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

We Gather

Prelude *Fanfare in G* John Dixon

Welcome and Concerns of the Church Dr. Sandy Hull
The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

Moment for Mission David Kinsey

Introit *We Give Thee But Thine Own* William Walsham How

***Call to Worship** (Isaiah 43:19) Grace Wooley
One: Thus says the Lord, "See, I am about to do a new thing; now it
springs forth; do you not perceive it?"

**All: Creating, sustaining, and redeeming God, you are eternally new
and your love is inexhaustible. Bring your new thing to fruition in
us, among us, and through us, for the glory of your name.**

One: Let us worship God!

***Hymn 612** *We Praise You, O God* KREMSER



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
 To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Melissa White

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our shortcomings and sinfulness. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, misusing your gifts, forgetting your love, and bowing to the idols of power, prestige, and possessions. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace (Luke 7:48, 50)

Rev. White

One: "Jesus said, 'Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace; your faith has saved you.'" Friends, hear and believe God's good news!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Know that God is good. Know that God is good.
Know that God is good; God is good; God is good.
Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.
Halle, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.***

We Hear and Respond to the Word

Church Family Moment

Rebecca Guzman

1. Listen to a [read-aloud of Miss Fannie's Hat by Jan Karon](#). Miss Fannie is ninety-nine years old and has lots of hats! She says each one is her favorite, but when she is asked to give one away, she learns about sacrifice and the joy that giving can bring. What does it mean to sacrifice something? Why can giving away something we love be difficult?
2. [Watch and sing along with our opening hymn](#). Listen for the different things the song says we can offer to God. What might it mean to offer not just our money or possessions, but our whole lives to God?
3. Gather several simple objects and give each person one. Call out different reasons someone might need an object: "Someone is cold," "Someone needs something to play with," "Someone needs help carrying things," or "Someone feels lonely." Players decide whether the object they are holding could help and, if so, give it away. Talk about how giving sometimes means letting go of something we could keep so that someone else can have what they need.
4. **Wonder Together:**
 - a. I wonder why giving something away can sometimes bring us joy.
 - b. I wonder what we have that God might be asking us to share.
 - c. I wonder what it means to offer our whole lives to God.
 - d. I wonder how our giving can help God do "a new thing."



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:*

***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

Rev. White

First Reading

Philippians 4:15-20

Rev. White

You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone. For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit that accumulates to your account. I have been paid in full and have more than enough; I am fully satisfied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Anthem*All Things New*

Elaine Hagenberg

Chancel Choir; Ann Carney, piano

*Light after darkness, gain after loss,
strength after weakness, crown after cross;
sweet after bitter, hope after fears,
home after wandering, praise after tears.
Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end,
He is making all things new.
Springs of living water shall wash away each tear.
He is making all things new.
Sight after mystery, sun after rain,
joy after sorrow, peace after pain;
near after distant, gleam after gloom,
love after loneliness, life after tomb.*

Second Reading

Psalm 96

Dr. Hull

O sing to the Lord a new song!

Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations,

his marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

he is to be revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,

but the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before him;

strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor;

tremble before him, all the earth.

Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!"

**the world is firmly established;
it shall never be moved.**

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

**let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.**

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the Lord, for his is coming,

for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

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

Sermon

"A New Song"

Dr. Hull

***Hymn 711**

Lord of All Good

TOULON

1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you;
 2 We give our minds to un-der-stand your ways;
 3 Fa-ther, whose boun-ty all cre-a-tion shows;

use them your ho-ly pur-pose to ful-fill,
 hands, eyes, and voice to serve your great de-sign;
 Christ, by whose will-ing sac-ri-fice we live;

to-kens of love and pledg-es brought a-new,
 heart with the flame of your own love a-blaze,
 Spir-it, from whom all life in full-ness flows;

that our whole life is of-fered to your will.
 till for your glo-ry all our powers com-bine.
 to you with grate-ful hearts our-selves we give.

Presenting our Pledges to the Lord

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.

Prayer of Praise (from Revelation 4 and 5)

Dr. Hull

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things and by your will they existed. You are worthy, Lord Jesus, Lamb of God who gave your life for us, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Odom

... (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

Rev. Odom

Offertory

Becki Slagle Mayo

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord
Hosanna and Alleluia Choirs

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**

Hymn 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**

Will Hollingsworth

Generous God, you are the source of every good gift and the giver of all that we have. On this Commitment Sunday, we offer you not only our financial gifts and pledges, but also our lives, our hopes, and our willingness to serve. Bless these offerings and commitments, that they may strengthen the ministries of this church, deepen our relationships with one another, and extend your love into the world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn 712**

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

FOREST GREEN

1 As those of old their first-fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la-bor, love, and give,
 3 In grat-i-tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to-day,

to God, the giv-er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of-fer-ing that all may tru-ly live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.

so we to-day our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
 The church of Christ is call-ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,

of farm and mar-ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.
 help us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.

***Charge and Benediction**

Dr. Hull

***Congregational Response**

Hymn 765

*May the God of hope go with us every day,
 filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.*

*May the God of justice speed us on our way,
 bringing light and hope to every land and race.*

*Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
 working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

Postlude

Fantasie on "Ein Feste Burg"

Paul Fey

Allegretto, Andante, Allegro, Maestoso, Chorale

Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Sandy Hull, Transitional Pastor

Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth & Missions/Outreach

Rev. Melissa White, Parish Associate

Laura Black, Ministry Associate for Children & Music

Zach Bowyer, Director of Music & Organist

Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation

Chancel Choir; Ann Carney, piano

Hosanna and Alleluia Choirs

Will Hollingsworth, Grace Wooley, liturgists

Acolyte: Mary Collins Hollingsworth

A/V Team: Mary Katheryne Zagora, Michael Zagora

Ushers: Andy Burke, Bob Cushman, Bjorn Hansen, Tim Maguire, Bob Williamson, Michael Zagora

Welcome Team: Andrew Gaul, Ethan Gaul, Kaitlin Gaul, Madelyn Gaul

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 Thursday mornings, contact Adrienne Jaquith, Office and Database Manager, adrienne@smpchome.org. SMPC uses Realm as a church directory and for event registrations. If you are new to Realm or have questions about it, please contact Adrienne Jaquith, and she will be happy to help!

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? To learn more about membership and the process of joining, contact Rev. Melissa White, Parish Associate, melissa@smpchome.org or 704-887-7488.

Congregational Notes (as of October 21, 2026)

Remember in Prayer

- Jimmy Galati and his family as Jimmy's brother, Tommy Galati, entered the Church triumphant on October 12.
- The Mission Study Task Force as they work to discern God's calling for SMPC.
- The people of Bayonnais and all of Haiti, that God would bring protection from violence, healing for the injured, provision for those in need, and strength and hope in the midst of hardship.
- All those affected by conflict, displacement, and unrest around the world and at home.
- That God would guide us to serve others with compassion, justice, and mercy within our church, our community, and our world.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:

prayer@SMPChome.org

SMPC STAFF

Dr. Sandy Hull, Transitional Pastor

sandy@smpchome.org

Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth & Missions/Outreach

lindsey@smpchome.org

Rev. Melissa White, Parish Associate

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Laura Black, Ministry Associate for Children and Music

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Mary Katheryne Zagora, Financial Administrator

mkzagora@smpchome.org

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:

prayer@SMPChome.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: Closed

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South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

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smpchome.org

Facebook: @southmecklenburgpresbyterian; Instagram: @southmeckpres

SMPC WEEKLY

OCTOBER 25, 2026

WELCOME!

After worship, we hope you'll join us for lemonade and cookies near Coffee Grounds. Registry pads are located in your pews. Please sign and pass to your neighbor and perhaps introduce yourself to someone new!



TODAY, OCTOBER 25

"Thus says the Lord, 'See, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?'" (Isaiah 43:19)

On Sunday, October 4, we kicked off 2027 Stewardship, "God is Doing a New Thing," based on Isaiah 43:19, and today we celebrate Commitment Sunday! Last week we heard from SMPC member Lee Martin about how his family made a commitment to tithe and then experienced God's cheerful abundance every step of the way, even when it felt a little scary. Scan the QR code to watch the video or read the transcript.



Today, we invite you to come forward with your pledge cards as an act of collective commitment in God's work at SMPC. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, you can find one in your pew. What a privilege it is to be a part of God's new thing at SMPC!



Nourish Up Food Drive - Bags Available Narthex

We are collecting canned goods for Nourish Up throughout October. Bags are located in the narthex with a list of items needed. Please return filled bags by next Sunday, November 1. *Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org*

BAM! (Bible and Music)

5:00-6:30 p.m. • Palmer Building • Grades K-5

Children sing, creatively engage with Bible stories, explore instruments, and build friendships in age-based groups. Dinner is served. Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. *Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org*

SMPC Youth Halloween Party

5:00-6:30 p.m. • Mecklenburg Hall • Middle and High Schoolers

Join us for a costume contest, Halloween-themed games and cookie decorating! Bring a bag of candy if you can! *Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org*

THIS WEEK

SMPC Tuesday Mahjong

Tuesday, Oct. 27 • 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Narthex

Players of all skill levels are invited to play weekly on Tuesdays. *Contact: Mary Katheryne Zagora, mkzagora@smpchome.org*

Men's Evening Study Group

Tuesday, Oct. 27 • 7:30 p.m. • Chapel 206

Meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays. New faces are always welcome! *Contact: Jon Myers, jonmyers2@gmail.com*

The Wednesday Pastor's Bible Study will not meet this week. The group will meet again on November 4 at 9:30 a.m. in the McQueen Room.

SMPC Thursday Mahjong

Thursday, Oct. 29 • 1:15-3:15 p.m. • Narthex

Players of all skill levels are invited to play weekly on Thursdays. *Contact: Mary Katheryne Zagora, mkzagora@smpchome.org*

Young Adults - Pumpkin Painting

Thursday, Oct. 29 • 6:00-7:30 p.m. • Room 302

For those in their 20s-30s! Scan the QR code to join the GroupMe. *Contact: Katie Cushman, blue4navy@outlook.com, or Chloe Davis, chloedavis870@gmail.com*

NEW!



NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Adult Study: *Bible 101*

9:00-10:00 a.m. • McQueen Room or Zoom

Join us for a basic introduction to the Bible! Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org

Third Thirty - Brain Health

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Mecklenburg Hall • Ages 60-90

This month's focus is on brain health. A light lunch is served. Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org

SMPC Youth Grade-Level Lunches **NEW!**

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. • Locations Vary • Middle and High Schoolers

Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events by today, October 25. You will be notified of your grade's lunch location!

Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org

COMING UP

Writing Your Story

Monday, Nov. 2 • 12:00-2:00 p.m. • McQueen Room or Zoom

Led by SMPC member Melinda Ferguson, this six-week group helps participants write the stories they would like to pass down to their families. Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. Contact: Melinda Ferguson, melindaferguson7@gmail.com

Making Space Moms Group

Thursday, Nov. 5 • 7:30 p.m. • Room 302

Moms of all ages are welcome to join us on the first and third Thursdays of the month for Bible study, service and fellowship. Newcomers are always welcome!

Contact: Allison Reeves, allison.tarwater@gmail.com

Friday Morning Men's Group

Friday, Nov. 6 • 7:30-8:30 a.m. • Chapel 206

Meets on the first and third Fridays for study and fellowship. All are welcome.

Contact: Curt Ireland, irelandcurtis00@gmail.com

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, Nov. 7 • 8:00-12:30 p.m. • The Commons

It's SMPC's 118th blood drive! Please bring your American Red Cross Donor Card or photo ID. We'll celebrate this milestone with cookies after worship on Sunday, November 8! Sign up via QR code. Contact: Bill Ramsey, bill.john.ramsey@gmail.com

SERVE!



Believing and Belonging

Sunday, Nov. 8 • 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • McQueen Room

For those interested in learning more about SMPC and the Presbyterian Church. Register on Realm or by emailing Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

SMPC Youth PJs and Pancakes

Sunday, Nov. 8 • 5:00-6:30 p.m. • Meck Hall • Middle and High Schoolers

November BYG (Big Youth Group) with a sweet twist! Wear your PJs and enjoy delicious pancakes. Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org

Shelter Ministry

Thursday, Nov. 12 • 9:30 a.m. • Mecklenburg Hall

Fill empty medicine bottles with body wash for Roof Above. Body wash and Rx vials are always needed. Contact: Carol Morgan, morgancc43@gmail.com.

SMPC Book Club - Pages and Fellowship

Thursday, Nov. 12, 6:30 p.m. OR Tuesday, Nov. 17, 1:30 p.m. • McQueen Room

Choose from two meeting times! Both groups are reading *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. Contact: Freda Smith, fredasmithnc8@gmail.com, or Jane Brookshire, jane.t.brookshire@gmail.com

DivorceCare's 'Surviving the Holidays'

Sunday, Nov. 15 • 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. • Chapel 206

Facilitated by SMPC members Janet Goetz and Andrew Metzler, this seminar offers community, support and hope. Childcare is available if needed. Register on Realm or smpchome.org/events. Contact: Janet Goetz, janetgoetz@carolina.rr.com, or Andrew Metzler, Andrewm1288@gmail.com