

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SEASON OF LENT

GRACE IN THE WILDERNESS: ENCOUNTERING GOD IN THE SPACE IN BETWEEN

MORNING WORSHIP | SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 5, 2023 | 8:30 & 10:30 SERVICES

GATHERING

•GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
VOLUNTARY

Sarah Chancellor-Watson
Steven Blackmon, organ
Pat Widhalm

•*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive, from Psalm 121*)

In the wilderness, from where does our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

In the troubles of life, who keeps us?

The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.

In encounters with evil, who protects us?

The Lord will protect our lives, from this time and forevermore. Let us worship God!

Sung response, Hymn 692, "Spirit, Open My Heart":

Spirit, open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.

Spirit, open my heart.

•*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, our helper, our shade, our protector, you are able to give life to the dead, to call into being things that do not exist. We trust in your power to make all things new; to keep us in sunlight and moonlight, along rocky paths and pathways unknown; until all our goings and comings bring us at last to your kingdom promised in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

•†*HYMN 37

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

•CALL TO CONFESSION

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

•PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Blackmon

•ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

Genesis 12:1-4a

†MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Catherine Karas

•SECOND READING (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

John 3:1-17

•SERMON

"A Beginner's Heart"

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

•*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: "The Apostles' Creed" (*unison, Hymnal, p. 35*)

•*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

•THE OFFERING

Offertory

"O Thou Sweetest Source"

Wood

O thou sweetest source of gladness, light's all lovely fountainhead, who, alike in joy and sadness, leavest none unvisited;

breath of God, highest king, who, upholding ev'rything, wilt uphold, with love undying, hear, o hear me humbly crying.

From thy throne, as April show'r, thou descendest, heav'nly one, freighted with thy sevenfold dow'r from the Father and the Son.

Bring me noble guest divine; God's own blessings they are thine, freely 'dealt at thy good pleasure. Fill me in abundant measure.

Save, uphold, and go before me; fainting, be my staff and rod; dying, to new life restore me, buried be my grave, O God.

From the dust when I arise, come, exalt me to the skies where thou, within realms supernal, feed thy saints with joys eternal. Amen.

The Chancel Choir

•SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (*Hymnal, page 35*)

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

•*HYMN 649

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

AMAZING GRACE

•*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"A Scottis Blyssing"

Blackmon/Willcox

•*VOLUNTARY

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

TODAY'S COMMUNION SERVERS for the 8:30 service are John Koch and Beth Poe; and for the 10:30 service are Christina Carlisle and Jill Nalty.

TODAY'S ACOLYTES are Clementine DiSalvo and William Thomas.

TODAY'S USHERS for the 8:30 service are Mayson Buffington, Miriam Hollar, Thomas Schulingkamp, and Wesley Simon; and for the 10:30 service are Stephanie and Pete November (co-captains), David Grissett, Jeanie Clinton, Polly Hardie, Brenda Stephens, and Catherine and Luke Lemoine.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Jung, Jr. by their children, Carroll Williamson and Louis Jung.

THE WHITE ROSE IN THE SANCTUARY is placed in honor of the birth of Max Wallace Siegel, son of Kyle and Eric Seigel, who was born on February 21. Congratulations are also extended to Jessica and James Vorhoff on the birth of their daughter, Eleanore James Vorhoff, who was born on Thursday, February 23. She is the granddaughter of Bob Vorhoff.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30-10:15 AM | DETAILS AT [SCAPC.ORG/SUNDAY-SCHOOL](https://scapc.org/sunday-school)

ADULT CLASSES:

“John Knox & How the Scots Invented the Modern World”: led by John Dunlap and Chris Currie

February 12-March 19 | Land Building, Lakeside Room and Zoom

Due to the contributions of John Knox and the reform movement that gave birth to the protestant church in Scotland, an environment was created that nurtured a literate society, education for all, faith that asks questions and seeks understanding, free thought and inquiry, a larger commitment to the ethical vision of society, and a say in the affairs of government.

“God, Improv, & The Art of Living”: Book by MaryAnn McKibben Dana | January 8-April 30 | 2nd floor conference room

This book blends personal stories, pop culture and Scripture into a smart, funny down-to-earth guide to the art of living.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are thrilled to announce that SCAPC's elder care ministry, THE ADEN PROGRAM is returning! This ministry caters to adults with dementia, memory issues, and those aging alone at home who can benefit greatly from social interaction. Heidi Young Batson, Aden's new director, will be available in Frampton Fellowship Hall today to introduce herself, familiarize the congregation with the program, and receive names of potential participants and potential volunteers.

LENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKS, featuring writing and art by SCAPC members, are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary and Chapel as well online at scapc.org/lent-devotionals.

Today we welcome back our RHINO MISSION TEAM from their weekend of service in Port Charlotte, Florida with Wintergreen Presbyterian Church where they assisted in long-term rebuilding efforts. On the trip were Lisa Eldredge, Harriet Riley, and YAV's Khyah Van Es and Lena Kennedy.

On Tuesday, a team of SCAPC members will depart for a visit to OUR SISTER CONGREGATIONS IN CUBA. While there, they will deliver medications donated by our Presbyterian Women; update the Living Waters filtration systems at El Fuerte, Juan G. Hall, and Matanzas Central Presbyterian Churches; prepare a jambalaya lunch with live dance music by a local band and children's activities for the El Fuerte congregation; and visit a convent in Havana. Team members are Courtney Bell, Cindy and Ed Bush, Darlene Guillot, Laura St. Clair, and Ann Van Horn.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT begins each week with a pastor-led study on “A Vocabulary of Faith...a.k.a. Theology for Beginners” at 5:15 in the Phifer Library, followed by dinner at 6:00 in Frampton Fellowship Hall. This week we will have “Dad Jokes Night” so come prepared with your favorites! On the menu will be guacamole and chips, taco casserole, cilantro rice and black beans, and Mexican brownies. Dinner reservations are required **by tomorrow at 5 p.m.** at scapc.org/wno.

Chris Currie will be leading a weekly THEOLOGICAL READING GROUP beginning this Thursday to review the book *Faith Seeking Understanding* by Daniel Migliore. The group will meet 12:15-1:15 in the conference room on the second floor as well via Zoom and will include a weekly chapter review and discussion. You can bring your own lunch. The author himself may join us by Zoom for further discussion!

PALM LEAF PROJECT: Join us next Sunday, March 12 after the 10:30 a.m. service as we prepare for our Palm Sunday services. We will be making palm leaves that the children will wave before the Chancel Choir & Orchestra service on April 2. All ages are encouraged to participate. We will have supplies in Frampton Fellowship Hall.

TREE PLANTING PROJECT WITH SOUL: SCAPC is teaming up with Sustaining Our Urban Landscape (SOUL) for a fun morning of service on Saturday, March 18. Anyone over 16 is welcome to join us to plant trees in the Lower 9th Ward. Volunteers will meet at 2401 St. Maurice Avenue at 9:30 a.m. and we will plant from 10:00-1:00 with a pizza lunch to follow. All tools including clean gloves will be provided by SOUL. For more information or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tyler Wheeler (tyler@scapc.org) by March 8.

CALL FOR YOUTH SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS: Any 6th-12th grade youth interested in participating in or preparing for Youth Sunday should RSVP to Chris Hazlaris, chris@scapc.org, as soon as possible. Youth Sunday is March 19. Feel free to let Chris know if you'd like a speaking role, ushering role, or (for those who want to use their gifts but can't be present on that Sunday) a hand in writing prayers or making art for the bulletin.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the family and friends of Hunter Babin who died on February 18. A service was held Wednesday at Lakelawn Metairie Funeral Home.

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1545 State Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118 · 504-897-0101
www.scapc.org · Facebook /scapcnola · Instagram scapc_nola