

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SEASON OF LENT

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

MORNING WORSHIP | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 12, 2023 | 8:30 & 10:30 SERVICES

GATHERING

•GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
VOLUNTARY

Chris Currie
Steven Blackmon, organ

•*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kristi Trail

Son of Mary, Carpenter of Nazareth, Spirit of the Crucified and Risen Lord,

Open our hearts, stir our souls, awaken our minds.

Bringer of good news, Savior of the poor, Disturber of the Mighty,

Come among us; give us a clear vision of ourselves; make us ever mindful of the needs of others.

Healer of the Sick, Rabbi of Disciples, Hope of the Hopeless,

Take us as we are; shape what we shall be; fill our hearts with joy and gratitude.

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 (*unison*)

Eternal God, set your blessing on us as we begin this day together in worship. May our voices be lifted up in praise and bring you joy; may our hearts and souls be directed to the things in this world that matter; and may our lives be put to use for your purposes. In our worship together, may what happens here lead us forward toward mercy and justice and a future held secure in your hands; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

•†*HYMN 53

"O God, Who Gives Us Life"

NOEL

•CALL TO CONFESSION

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

•PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We gather in your presence, O God, in our need, bringing with us the needs of the world and confessing our role in neglecting the needs of others and our own participation in the unjust systems that do damage to the lives of our neighbors.

We come to you asking for mercy, for you have already brought mercy to us in the life of Jesus Christ, and you know by experience what human life is like, what human hurt and pain are like, and what it means to be subject to political expediency and abuse of power. Forgive us for our role in contributing to the hurt and pain of others; forgive us for our misuse of power and the forfeiture of our responsibility as your disciples.

By the power of your Spirit, forgive what we have been, amend what we are, and continue to shape what we shall be so that we make full use of all our God-given gifts and enable others to make full use of theirs; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.*)

Exodus 17:1-7

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Robert Royer Gravolet III

Presentation

Price Lanier, Presenting Elder

Affirmation of Faith "The Apostles' Creed" (*unison, Hymnal p. 35*)

Walter Kramer, Junior Baptism Buddy

Questions to Parents

Baptism

Presentation and Prayer

†MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Tyler Wheeler

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

John 4:5-42

•SERMON

"Close Encounters"

Chris Currie

•*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostles' Creed" (*8:30 service only*)

•*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison, Hymnal p. 35*)

•THE OFFERING

Offertory

"Greater Love Hath No Man"

Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends, who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins should live unto righteousness. Ye are wash'd; ye are sanctified; ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath call'd you out of darkness into his marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Jodi McWilliams, soprano; Frank Convit, baritone; The Chancel Choir

•*Doxology, Hymn 606

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDRETH

•*Prayer of Dedication

•SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (*8:30 service only*)

•8:30 service | *Please stand as you are able | †Latecomers seated
Large print bulletins are available. Please see an usher.

SENDING

- *HYMN 440
- *CHARGE AND BLESSING
- *CHORAL RESPONSE
- *VOLUNTARY

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

ABERYSTWYTH

“The Irish Blessing”

Blackmon

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

TODAY'S ACOLYTES are Maddie and Juliet Duvernay.

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 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM is being administered today to **ROBERT ROYER GRAVOLET, III**, son of Gwendolyn Baldwin van Benthuyzen Gravolet and Robert Royer Gravolet Jr.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hans Christian Boegh Jonassen by Pierce and Hans Jonassen and Pierce and Tom Young.

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 26 | 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

PALM LEAF PROJECT TODAY! Join us 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.

THE ADEN PROGRAM, SCAPC's elder care ministry, will hold an Open House on Tuesday, March 21 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Aden Program offers social engagement and activities for the young at heart, embracing those with memory impairment, as well as providing respite and peace of mind for the loved one caring for them daily. Director Heidi Young Batson 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. You can also visit our webpage at scapc.org/aden.

We now have a new dedicated PASTORAL CARE PHONE LINE in the office. When calling the office with a notice of a hospitalization, death, or other emergency, please press 4 to skip the office directory and be connected to a voicemail box specifically created and monitored for these important concerns.

Presbyterian Women are seeking donations for their annual EASTER EGG HUNT on Sunday, April 2, including treats to fill plastic eggs, refreshments for the day of the hunt, and help with set-up and clean-up. Sign up on our webpage at scapc.org/pw.

EDEN HOUSE TOTES: This month, Presbyterian Women are collecting items to be packaged in spring totes for the residents of Eden House, one of SCAPC's Community Ministry Partners. Eden House is a movement to eradicate the trafficking and selling of human beings through many programs including a residence shelter for 13 women. Requested items in multiples of 13 include journals, toiletries, (non-melting) candy, bracelets, etc. Please deposit items in the basket by the State Street Chapel entrance.

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 a **St. Patrick's Day Celebration**. On the menu will be corn beef and cabbage, potatoes and carrots, and St. Patrick's Day cake. Dinner reservations are required **by tomorrow at 5 p.m.** at scapc.org/wno.

YOUTH SUNDAY is this upcoming Sunday! Please let Chris know by tomorrow (Monday) if you are a 6th-12th grade who would like a role in participating, as all parts need to be assigned for practice at the beginning of the week. Following Youth Sunday worship will be our FAMILY CRAWFISH BOIL (noon-2 p.m.). Siblings and parents are encouraged to join our youth for this joyful celebration! Please RSVP to Chris ASAP for this as well, as a courtesy for ordering purposes.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL registration is open at scapc.org/vbs. The dates are Tuesday, May 30-Friday, June 2 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. This program is open to all children 4 years old (by June 1, 2023) through current 5th grade. Students currently 6th grade and older may register as youth volunteers. The cost is \$40/first camper, \$20/siblings and \$10/youth. Our theme is “Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God” which calls children to follow Jesus, help others, work together, listen to God, and show grace. Parent/Grandparent participation is strongly encouraged. For more information, contact Michele Murphy, Director of Christian Education, 897-0101 x116 or michele@scapc.org.

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