St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church

Morning Worship | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost | September 24, 2023 | 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Services

GATHERING

•WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Currie

Aden Program

Kasey Bealer, Aden Program Director

VOLUNTARY

Steven Blackmon, organ

•*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Laurie Young

From the corners of the world, from the confusion of life, from the loneliness of our hearts,

Take what we are, make us into something more, give us grateful hearts.

To feed our minds, to fire our imaginations, to free our hearts,

Take what we are, make us into something more, give us grateful hearts.

Let us know your grace more deeply, share your love more fully, live the faith more courageously.

Take what we are, make us into something more, give us grateful hearts.

•*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord our God, it is a privilege to gather in your presence, to be reminded of who we are and who we are called to be, to worship, to sing your praises, and to be carried back out into the disarray of our world by your grace. At this day's beginning, help us to commit ourselves to go wherever Christ calls, to love one another and all whom you put in our paths, and to meet the power and creativity of your Spirit with enthusiasm and hope. Amen.

•†*HYMN 19

"God of Great and God of Small" GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL

•CALL TO CONFESSION Ashley Brown

•PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Good and gracious God, you reign over earth and sea and stars; we give thanks for your generosity.

Forgive us, we pray, when we forget the gift in our every breath, the divine care that sustains our every moment, and the grace that can transform our every day.

As we seek to be transformed and to live as your redeemed creation, set us free from the prison of grudging hearts, mean desires, and resentful spirits.

By the work of your Spirit in our lives, give us the courage to act with justice and generosity, and to be guided by a love that does not calculate or keep scores, and that is ours in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

KYRIE

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

Blackmon

 $\bullet {\rm ASSURANCE\ OF\ FORGIVENESS}$

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING (response: **Thanks be to God.**) †MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Esseth Condo Dible Descenter

Fourth Grade Bible Presentation

Michele Murphy Matthew 20:1-16

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

Chris Currie

•SERMON "More Gracious Than We Are"

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

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

GLORIA PATRI

•*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

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INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

• MOMENT FOR MISSION: Stewardship as an Investment

Stewart Peck

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (Hymnal, p. 35)

•THE OFFERING

Offertory

"When I Can Read My Title Clear"

arr. Love

When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies, I'll bid farewell to ev'ry fear and wipe my weeping eyes. Then not a wave of care will roll across my peaceful breast when I shall bathe my weary soul in seas of heav'nly rest. Let cares like mighty torrents come and storms of sorrow fall! May I but safely reach my home, my God, my heav'n, my all.

Betsy and Pat Widhalm, pianos; The Chancel Choir

*Doxology, Hymn 606

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Old Hundredth

*Prayer of Dedication

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

SENDING

•*HYMN 649

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

AMAZING GRACE

•*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"A Scottis Blyssing"

Blackmon/Willcox

•*VOLUNTARY

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

Fourth graders receiving their Bibles this morning are Kate Beevers, Larson Beezley, Raven Breaux, Adele Carlisle, Neve Christiansen, Avery Danner, Clementine DiSalvo, Maddie Duvernay, Craig Egan, Michael Habetz, Suzie Lanier, Briggs Smallpage, and Caroline Wheeler.

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

THE COMMUNION SERVERS for the 8:30 service are Ashley Brown and Bob Smith.

THE ACOLYTES for the 10:30 service are Adele and Theo Carlisle.

<u>THE USHERS</u> for the 8:30 service today are Mayson Buffington, Miriam Hollar, Thomas Schulingkamp, and Wesley Simon; and for the 10:30 service are Geoff Snodgrass (captain), David Grissett, Jeanie Clinton, Polly Hardie, Catherine Rigby, Kathy and Ben Slater, and Catherine and Luke Lemoine.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Edward T. Krementz and Edward Thomas Krementz by their family.

<u>THE PRAY GROUND</u> is a special place that is designated for children where families with children of any age can experience worship together. It is located in Frampton Fellowship Hall where the 10:30 service is live-streamed to the large screen. There are toys, books, and puzzles provided to help kids stay engaged and present.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES • 9:30 AM • SCAPC.ORG/SUNDAY-SCHOOL

ADULTS

"Exodus: God Revealed to Moses and His Community": led today by Richard Ashmore | Land Building & Zoom Studying the transition of the Hebrews from a group of tribes to a nation and how Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament

"When Kids Ask Hard Questions": led today by Tyler Wheeler | 2nd floor conference room This week's topic: "Crafting a Family Culture of Conversation" led by Tyler Wheeler

YOUTH & CHILDREN

Youth Sunday School (grades 6-12): 3rd floor Youth Room Challenger Class (grades 4-5): 2nd floor Challenger Classroom 3-year olds through 3rd graders: 2nd floor classrooms by age groups Nursery (ages 0-3): open 8:15-11:45 a.m. | Bear Classroom, 1st floor corner

CHURCH · PICNIC

following 10:30 service today · Land Building · fried chicken · Saints game

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ADEN PROGRAM FOR ELDER CARE will hold an OPEN HOUSE this Tuesday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Land Building. We are thrilled to welcome our **new Director**, **Kasey Bealer!** Kasey is a native New Orleanian and has been providing social support and engagement for people living with dementia for the last 20 years. As a certified dementia trainer and consultant, she conducts hands-on educational seminars, therapeutic engagement, and an educational Care Partner Support Series. Kasey will be available in Frampton Fellowship Hall this morning, and at aden@scapc.org, for interested participants and volunteers.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT begins each week with a pastor-led study on the Book of Acts at 5:15 p.m. in the Phifer Library, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. in Frampton Fellowship Hall. The cost for dinner is \$10/adult, \$5/child, and \$25/family. On the menu this week are red beans and rice with sausage, salad bar, fruit, French bread, bread pudding and ice cream. Make your reservation by tomorrow (Monday) at 5 p.m. at scapc.org/wno or on the new SCAPC app. At 6:30 we will dive into a "SCAPC Game of Life"!

Next week is <u>WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY</u> in which we will celebrate Holy Communion not just at SCAPC, but with Christians all around the world. To help us visualize this great feast, <u>WE NEED BREAD</u> of all nationalities, sizes, shapes and colors. If you would like to contribute some bread (which you don't have to bake yourself!), please contact Sarah Chancellor-Watson at sarah@scapc.org and bring your bread to church by Friday, September 29 at 5 p.m. There will be a box for bread donations in the church kitchen refrigerator. You can also come to...

WORLD COMMUNION BREADMAKING this Thursday from 6-8 p.m. in the Land Building. This is an all-church event sponsored by the McMillan Society and the 40/50's Group. Each participant will make two loaves of bread to bake at home, a German slow rise and a focaccia, and will help with the creation of loaves for Sunday. Please make your reservation by check (made out to SCAPC with "bread baking" in the memo) brought to Pierce Young in the church office by Tuesday at noon.

Our <u>FALL DAY OF SERVICE</u> is this Saturday, September 30. There will be projects for all ages and abilities. The day will begin with breakfast and prayer, after which we will break into groups to go out and serve. Sign-up today in Frampton Fellowship Hall or email sarah@scapc.org. Projects include: gardening and landscaping at Okra Abbey, Eden House, and the New Orleans Women's and Children's shelter; organizing clothing donations at New Orleans Mission; assembling refugee assistance backpacks for Puentes de Cristo; building a home or making lunches for Habitat for Humanity's Unity Build.

Please join us for our first annual "BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS" on Sunday, October 1 at 4 p.m. in the front yard of the Land Building. Bring your pets—on a leash or in a crate/carrier/container—for a short worship service, a blessing and light refreshments. For those pets who do not travel well, a photo can be a good representative! Our offering will be donations of pet food to our local SPCA. Please RSVP to Pastor Sarah at sarah@scapc.org, no later than September 30.

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH