

STEWARDSHIP

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." - Matthew 6:21

2024

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morning Worship | Stewardship Dedication Sunday | October 8, 2023 | 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Services

GATHERING

•WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

•*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

We cannot fully put to words how much the sound of silence, creation's beauty, the starlit heavens, move us to gratitude and wonder.

Fill our hearts with thanksgiving, fill our lives with meaning, fill our moments with joy.

We cannot fully explain how much the son of Mary, the child from Nazareth, the Son of God upon a tree, how much this human life moves us to prayer and gives our lives meaning and purpose.

May our hearts be shaped by Christ, may we live our lives with grace and pursue justice, may our moments be overflowing with generosity.

We cannot fully measure how the Spirit's comfort shows up at just the right moment, how much the wind of freedom blows in far flung places, how our words cannot fully contain your love beyond all loves,

Give us the persistence to show up here and for each other, give us the freedom of a baptized imagination, give us wisdom to make use of our gifts and treasure for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

•*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we thank you for the gifts and generosity of this congregation in every age, and in particular in the opportunities and challenges of today. We thank you for dynamic worship, the gifts of music ministry, the formation that takes place in our classrooms, the joy of youth group, pet blessings, retreats, and the work of Presbyterian Women. We thank you for the gifts and generosity of those who gather here and those who stand with you on a distant shore and whose gifts continue to impact our life together and mission in our world. In our own life of discipleship, O God, may we live well and faithfully as stewards of your abundance and caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. May our gifts bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives, and may all of us, from the youngest to the eldest, be used and used up our whole life long to reflect the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

•†*HYMN 711

"Lord of All Good"

TOULON

•CALL TO CONFESSION

Ashley Brown

•PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

O Lord our God, forgive us, we pray, when we are too well pleased with ourselves; when our dreams are easily realized because we have dreamed too little; when we arrived safely because we have sailed too close to shore. Forgive us, Lord, when the abundance of the things we possess has caused us to lose our thirst for the Water of Life. By your grace, forgive what we have been and take what we are and by your Spirit make us dare more boldly, venture on wider seas. Continue to push forward the horizons of our hopes and push us into a future where we live out of your grace, generosity, and hope; through 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 FORGIVENESS

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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

Psalm 19

†MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Stephanie Currie

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

Philippians 3:4-14

•SERMON

"Knocked Down and Get Up Again"

Chris Currie

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

•*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

•MOMENT FOR MISSION: Presbyterian Women Life Membership Presentation

Nancy Davis (8:30); Kathy Randall (10:30)

•MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Stewart Peck

•PRESENTATION OF OFFERING AND DEDICATION OF PLEDGES

Offertory

"Upon Your Heart"

Daley

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in my love.

Love one another as I have loved you, then shall your joy be complete.

The Chancel Choir

*Doxology, Hymn 606

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDRETH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

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

SENDING

•*HYMN 712

"As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"

FOREST GREEN

•*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"An Irish Blessing"

Blackmon

•*VOLUNTARY

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

THE USHERS for the 8:30 service today are Mayson Buffington, Miriam Hollar, Thomas Schulingkamp, and Wesley Simon; and for the 10:30 service are Laurie Young (captain), Nancy Jane and Charlie Carson, Noah Hardie, Louise Schaefer, and Richard Seelman.

THE COMMUNION SERVERS for the 8:30 service are Ashley Brown and Beth Poe

THE ACOLYTES for the 10:30 service are Julianne and Maddie Duvernay.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Catherine Rea Vermeyley, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Matthew Rea Jr., and Buddy Rea, by Ann Rea, Lee Rea Manges, and Matthew Rea.

THE PRAY GROUND 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.

During the PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING this morning, we dedicate to God's service all Stewardship pledges for 2024. As God asks us to make good use of our resources, we invite you to invest financially in this church's mission as a personal spiritual discipline, as well as an investment in this community of faith. You can submit your pledge using the cards in your pews, the SCAPC app, or our website at scapc.org/stewardship where you can learn how your 2023 pledge dollars are being invested.

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

ADULTS

“Exodus: God Revealed to Moses and His Community”: led today by Patrick Widhalm | 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 Sarah Chancellor-Watson | 2nd floor conference room
This week's topic: “Courage and Hospitality: Talking about Race with Children and the Church”

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Currie is planning a GROUP PILGRIMAGE TO SCOTLAND on September 23-October 1, 2024. The group will journey to Iona, walk in the footsteps of pilgrims to St. Andrews, and discover the history of Edinburgh. If interested, please contact Pierce Young at pierce@scapc.org. Information sessions will be held both today and Sunday, October 22 at 5 p.m. in the Land Building.

We are looking for WRITERS AND ARTISTS of all ages who are interested in helping us create this year's Advent devotional on our theme 'The World is About to Turn' based on the hymn 'Canticle of the Turning'. If you would like to compose a short devotional, about 300 words, for our Advent devotional books and web page, please contact Katie Brendler (katie@scapc.org) by Wednesday, October 11. You will then be given a scripture reading about which to write a short reflection. We are also seeking artists to contribute drawings, paintings, or photographs, so please notify Katie if you wish to contribute art or have questions. You do not need to create new art but can send art you have already made.

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. This week **Trivia Night** kicks off at 6:30! The cost for dinner is \$10/adult, \$5/child, and \$25/family. On the menu this week are chicken enchilada casserole, small tacos for kids, beans and rice, salad bar, fruit, and Latino dessert. Make your reservation by tomorrow (Monday) at 5 p.m. at scapc.org/wno or on the new SCAPC app.

OUR 9TH-12TH GRADERS head to Camp Istrouma in Baton Rouge for their high school retreat this Saturday-Sunday. Please keep them in prayer as they explore the theme of being “Rooted in God”! Any remaining interested students should contact Chris Hazlaris (chrishazlaris@scapc.org) by the end of the day tomorrow to sign up.

THE CHALLENGER CLASS RETREAT for 4th-5th Graders will take place Friday, November 3-Sunday, November 5 at Tickfaw State Park. It will be a weekend of recreation and fellowship and our theme will be “Who Is Jesus?” We will leave on Friday at 5 p.m. and return Sunday by 10:30 a.m. If you are available to chaperone or have questions, please let Michele know, michele@scapc.org. The retreat is open to all 4th and 5th graders no matter of church affiliation. The cost of \$120 includes lodging, meals, and transportation. Registration can be found at scapc.org/challenger-retreat.

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