



# ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 24, 2021 | 22nd Sunday after Pentecost | 10:30 a.m. Service  
Installation of Senior Pastor Thomas Christian Currie by the Presbytery of South Louisiana

## GATHERING

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
VOLUNTARY

“Trumpet Tune in G”  
Steven B. Blackmon, organ

Sarah Chancellor-Watson  
Jeremy Bankson

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Linda Trueblood

To Pharisees minding their business, Jesus interrupts and calls out to them, **Follow me.**

To Fishermen mending their nets, Jesus changes their lives forever, calling out to them, **Follow me.**

To the money handlers, the lawyers, the intellectuals, and the power brokers, Jesus conveys true status by calling out to them, **Follow me.**

To carers and cleaners, married, single, young and old, country-folk and city dwellers, Jesus bestows dignity and calls out, **Follow me.**

Then and now, in this time, in all time, willing or doubting, ready or not, Jesus shows up and calls out to us all, **Follow me.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†\*HYMN (*see insert*)

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Almighty God, you are the source of all goodness and the satisfaction of all our desires. Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Where our understanding of you is small, we ask that you increase it. Where our desire to do your will is weak, we pray that you enliven it. Where the seed you have planted with us has yet to bear fruit, enable it to ripen. But first, create in us clean hearts; as we gather together and gather in your sight, help us to unburden ourselves of guilt, anger, fear, pride, hardness of heart, and weakness of intention.**

**By the power of your Spirit, take our lives, not to lift us out of this world, but to lead us through it; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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

Guy D. Griffith

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

Psalm 27

†MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Katie Brendler

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

Luke 24:36-49

SERMON

“Staying”

Ted Wardlaw

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*responsive, from the Presbyterian Study Catechism 263-265*)

Donna Stogner

What is the mission of the church?

**The mission of the church is to bear witness to God’s love for this world in Jesus Christ.**

What forms does this mission take?

**The forms are as many and various as God’s love, yet the center is always Jesus Christ. The church is faithful in its witness when it extends mercy and forgiveness to the needy in ways that finally point to him. For in the end it will always be in Christ’s mercy that the needs of the needy are met.**

Who are the needy?

**The hungry need food, the homeless need a roof, the oppressed need justice, and the lonely need fellowship.**

**At the same time—on another and deeper level—the hopeless need hope, sinners need forgiveness, and the world needs the gospel. On this level no one is excluded, and all the needy are one. Our mission as a church is to bring hope to a desperate world by declaring God’s undying love—as one beggar tells another beggar where to find bread.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

THE OFFERING

Offertory Anthem

“I Thank You, God, for Most This Amazing Day”

Dan Forrest

i thank You God for most this amazing day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes (i who have died am alive again today, and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing breathing any—lifted from the no of all nothing—human merely being doubt unimaginable You? (now the ears of my ears awake and now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

e.e. cummings (1894-1962)

The Chancel Choir Chamber Singers; Meg Frazier, conducting; Steven Blackmon, piano

\*Doxology, Hymn 606

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDREDETH

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer (*Hymnal*, p. 35)

## SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

### PRESENTATION OF MINISTER AND PROCEEDINGS OF PRESBYTERY

Donna Stogner and Barry Chance

#### QUESTIONS TO MINISTER

1. Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
3. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
4. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture and continually guided by the confessions?
5. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
6. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
7. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
8. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
9. Will you be a faithful minister of the Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

### SIGNING OF THE BOOK OF OBLIGATIONS AND RECEPTION INTO THE PRESBYTERY

#### PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

#### QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Stephanie November

1. Do we, members of the church, accept Thomas Christian Currie as our senior pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? (**We do.**)
2. Do we agree to pray for him, to encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? (**We do.**)
3. Do we promise to pay him fairly and provide for his welfare as he works among us; to stand by him in trouble and share his joys? Will we listen to the Word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care, and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ? (**We do and we will.**)

#### DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

#### CHARGE TO THE MINISTER

Thomas W. Currie, III

#### CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

## SENDING

\*HYMN (*insert*)

“The Church's One Foundation”

arr. Forrest

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

“An Irish Blessing”

Blackmon

\*VOLUNTARY

“Fanfare”

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

Steven B. Blackmon, organ

## IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

**SPECIAL GUESTS:** Today during morning worship, along with representatives from the Presbytery of South Louisiana, we will be installing Thomas Christian Currie as Senior Pastor at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church. Chris was called as our Senior Pastor on May 9, 2021 and began his work with us on September 1, 2021.

The installation of a Teaching Elder (minister) to a congregation is an act of the presbytery, and we welcome the following members of the Presbytery of South Louisiana's Administrative Commission and thank them for their participation in today's service:

**Mrs. Linda Trueblood**, Elder, Berean Presbyterian Church, New Orleans

**The Reverend Sarah Chancellor-Watson**, Associate Pastor for Mission, St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church, New Orleans

**The Reverend Dr. Guy D. Griffith**, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Spiritual Nurture, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee

**The Reverend Dr. Theodore 'Ted' J. Wardlaw**, President, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

**Mrs. Donna Stogner**, Elder, Faith Presbyterian Church, Harvey, Louisiana, Moderator of the Presbytery of South Louisiana

**The Reverend Barry Chance**, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Hammond, Louisiana, and Stated Clerk, Presbytery of South Louisiana

**Mrs. Stephanie November**, Elder, St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church, Chair of SCAPC Pastor Nominating Committee

**The Reverend Dr. Thomas W. Currie III**, Dean Emeritus, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte, NC, and honorably retired from Mission Presbytery.

**TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERING** is for the financial support of ministerial candidates from the Presbytery of South Louisiana (PSL). Please use the 'Special Offering' envelopes provided in your friendship pads and **make your checks payable to PSL**.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Chris Currie and Steph, Thomas, Harrison and Corinne given by the Pastor Nominating Committee.

**TODAY'S USHERS** are Jeff Young (captain), Mayson Buffington, Charlie and Nancy Jane Carson, Noah Hardie, Miriam Hollar, Louise Schaefer, Thomas Schulingkamp, Richard Seelman, Wesley Simon, and Laurie Young.

**THE NURSERY** is open today from 9:15 a.m.-noon for children ages 0-3.

JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION HONORING CHRIS CURRIE  
FOLLOWING TODAY'S SERVICE ON THE LAND BUILDING LAWN!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES NEXT WEEK 9:30-10:15: [scapc.org/sunday-school](https://scapc.org/sunday-school) for details and Zoom links

### ADULT CLASSES:

"Pairadocs" - September 19-December 19 | 2nd floor Learning Center (in-person only)

Exploring a humorous marriage, parenting, and family podcast by a father-son duo with Ph.D.'s in Clinical Counseling.

"First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God" - October 10-November 21 | Land Building Lakeside Room and Zoom

A study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God told on location throughout Galilee and Jerusalem.

**YOUTH:** 6th-12th graders meet in the Youth Room on the 3rd floor as well as virtually on Instagram (@SCAPC\_Youth). To learn more, visit [scapc.org/youth](https://scapc.org/youth). **CHILDREN** ages 2 - 5th grade are divided into age groups to study the Old and New Testaments and learn how the Biblical stories relate to their lives today. Locations are posted at the State Street entrance.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

This week we will spotlight Donald Jefferson, sexton, who has been with SCAPC for 26 years! Read more about Donald and all that he has done for SCAPC over the years, especially during the challenges of the last two years, in this Tuesday's Quatrefoil e-newsletter. Text "SCAPC" to 22828 to join the e-mail list or sign up at [scapc.org](https://scapc.org).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **HALLOWEEN THEMED “WNO-TO-GO”** is this Wednesday and everyone is invited to come in costume! All ages are welcome to help assemble Hurricane Clean-up Buckets from 5-6 p.m. Meals will be available for pick-up from 5:30-6:15 p.m. Take yours home or enjoy a picnic on the Land Building lawn (BYO blankets, chairs, etc.) Order your meals at [scapc.org/wno-to-go](http://scapc.org/wno-to-go). The order deadline is Tuesday at noon.

**NEXT WEEK IS SCOTTISH HERITAGE SUNDAY:** Tartans! Bagpipes! Kilts! For Scottish Heritage Sunday we will incorporate worship elements from our denomination's very beginnings and recognize SCAPC's 50+ year members. Services will be held at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. We encourage everyone to wear plaid!

**MEET THE CURRIES!** We will be holding several “Welcome Corner” receptions in different neighborhoods (Uptown, Metairie, River Ridge, and Lakeview) to give you an opportunity to visit with Stephanie and Chris. The receptions will all take place on Sundays from 5-6:30 p.m. Space is limited and reservations are required. Please visit [scapc.org/rsvp](http://scapc.org/rsvp) for details.

**THE CBD (CHRISTIAN BOOK DISCUSSION) GROUP** meets on Wednesday mornings at 8 a.m. at Bittersweet Confections, located at 725 Magazine Street. Coffee, pastries, and wonderful discussions are all on the menu. Currently, the group is studying *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, by Marcus J. Borg. New participants are always welcome. Join us!

Our **WALK-BY-WEDNESDAY** displays are set up weekly from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on St Charles Avenue. People of all ages are invited to come reflect on a Bible verse and participate in a related obstacle course. This week's theme is “Called to Serve.”

It's not too late to make your **2022 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE!** Scan the code to the right or visit [scapc.org/pledge](http://scapc.org/pledge) to learn about the programs your dollars support and to enter your pledge.



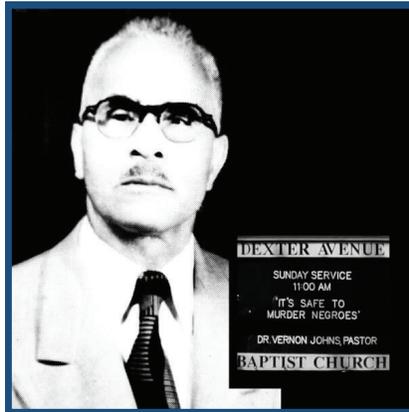
## Three (Southern) Saints

THE FAITH OF WILL CAMPBELL, VERNON JOHNS, & FLANNERY O'CONNOR

-Rev. Dr. Chris Currie



**WILL CAMPBELL**, son of a rural Mississippi farming family, ordained Baptist minister, the only white founding member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, marched with and stood beside John Lewis, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Little Rock nine, writer, activist, and minister who proclaimed a faith in Christ who died for bigots as well as devout people.



**VERNON JOHNS**, In 1951 in Montgomery, Alabama, police officers stopped a black man for speeding and beat him near death with a tire iron in front of members of Montgomery's black community. The pastor at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, Vernon Johns, made sure all week that the coming Sunday's sermon title was displayed all week on the church street sign: 'It's Safe to Murder Negroes in Montgomery.'



**FLANNERY O'CONNOR**, Roman Catholic from Milledgeville, Georgia, master of short stories set in the people and personalities of her rural Georgia landscape, in which those on the top rung of the Southern social structure find themselves miraculously upended by a disruptive grace that stuns those who have reduced faith to something neat, tidy, and manageable. O'Connor suffered with lupus, died at the age of 39, and once wrote: 'I come from a family where the only emotion respectable to show is irritation. In some this tendency produces hives, in others literature, in me, both.'

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 | 9:30 A.M.**  
**ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**FRAMPTON FELLOWSHIP HALL**