St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church

Morning Worship | Twenty-Third Day After Pentecost | November 1, 2026 | 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

•WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Chris Currie

VOLUNTARY — Steven Blackmon, organ

•*CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)* — Caitlin Wallace-Rowland

In this place where saints are made, where scripture and song, faith and action, fellowship and community, have shaped the heritage we share,

Gather us together, O God.

In this community where saints are grown, where all who doubt and who believe are claimed by Christ and called to offer their God-given gifts in his service,

Build us up to be the body of Christ.

In this place where God's Spirit makes all things new, where what's gone wrong can be forgiven and saints of tomorrow come from the sinners of today,

Come, Holy Spirit.

•*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord our God, we give thanks for those who have gone before us, those whose legacy continues to shape us, and those whose faith inspired our own. Remind us that you have given all of us gifts to be used for the sake of Jesus Christ and the life we are called to embody through his church. In our worship together, may you give us what we need to run the race set before us until we join that great company of your people in heaven and on earth who forever sing your praises. Amen.

•†*HYMN 401 — "Here in This Place" — Gather Us In

•CALL TO CONFESSION — Susie Watson Burns

•PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

For the right roads we avoided traveling, for the kindly words we refused to share, for the false gods who received our worship, and the true selves we have starved of love, Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly, for the promises which we never kept, for the careless use of our time and money, for the lame excuses we should never have made, Christ by your grace, forgive us.

For all we should be and all we can still amend, for all you may demand of us and all you call us to be, Holy Spirit commit us.

As recipients of your forgiveness, may we live peaceably with all, do what you will, follow where Christ calls, and embody the gifts of the Spirit. 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.***)* — Revelation 7:9-17

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM — Adeline James Adams

Presentation — Wendi and Nathan Adams, Presenting Elders

Affirmation of Faith "The Apostles' Creed" *(unison, Hymnal p. 35)* — Morgan Smith, Junior Baptism Buddy

Questions to Parents

Baptism

Presentation and Prayer

†MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN — Mary Dawn Pugh

•SECOND READING *(response:* **Thanks be to God.***)* — Matthew 5:1-12

•SERMON — "The Communion of Saints" — Chris Currie

•*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: "The Nicene Creed"‡

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

•*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581 "Glory Be to the Father" GLORIA PATRI

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP◊

•THE OFFERING

Offertory Anthem "Sing Me to Heaven" Gawthrop

In my heart's sequestered chambers lie truths stripped of poet's gloss. Words alone are vain and vacant and my heart is mute. In response to aching silence memory summons half-heard voices, and my soul finds primal eloquence and wraps me in song. If you would comfort me, sing me a lullaby.

If you would win my heart, sing me a love song. If you would mourn me and bring me to God, sing me a requiem, sing me to heaven.

Touch in me all love and passion, pain and pleasure. Touch in me grief and comfort, love and passion, pain and pleasure.

Sing me a lullaby, a love song, a requiem. Love me, comfort me, bring me to God. Sing me a love song; sing me to heaven. - Jane Griner

The Chancel Choir

•SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer *(unison, Hymnal p. 35)*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord**.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise**.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion Anthem "Pie Jesu" from *Requiem* Lloyd Webber

Jodi McWilliams, soprano; Claire del Valle, mezzo-soprano; Chancel Choir

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

•*HYMN 481 "I Believe in God the Father" GEVEVAN 42

•*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE "An Irish Blessing" Blackmon

•*VOLUNTARY

•8:30 service | *Please stand as you are able | †Latecomers seated

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Today we welcome SUSIE WATSON BURNS who is joining us as our temporary pastoral assistant for November and December. Susie is a recent graduate of Union Presbyterian Seminary and is in the process of ordination in the PC(USA). She is also the mother of church member Scott Burns. We look forward to Susie being with us in worship and ministry over the next two months.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
is being administered today to
ADELINE JAMES ADAMS,
daughter of Alexandra Melisse Downs
and Patrick Elliott Adams,
granddaughter of Wendi and Nathan Adams.

‡We use the NICENE CREED on Sundays that we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at both services because the Nicene Creed is the most ecumenical of our creeds, and we believe we are joining our Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and most Protestant churches in affirming as we partake in Christ's body. Presbyterians believe we are one part of the one holy catholic and apostolic church that the Nicene Creed professes, alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ from other communions.

◊INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP: Worship is central to who we are as a Christian community, sustaining us, shaping us, nourishing us, and forming us as disciples of Jesus Christ for service in the world. As we continue to grow in membership and stewardship and as disciples and human beings, we will pursue a greater sense of inclusivity and belonging within this congregation and alongside our partners in ministry.' As these words from our Vision Statement indicate, St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church seeks to be open and affirming and believes people of all races, backgrounds, sexual orientations, and genders, are called by God to use their gifts in the life of the community and in service to Jesus Christ. After worship each week, we invite you to the Phifer Library to get to know this community better and to learn more about membership in the life of this church.

REMEMBRANCE: During the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving this morning, we remember those SCAPC members who have died in the last year: JoAnne Chancey, Richard W. Freeman Jr., Marion Potter Giardina, Charlotte Hoggatt, Lincoln D. Paine, Thelma J. Stalcup, and Christie Theriot Woodfin; as well as other loved ones shared with us by church members.

TODAY'S USHERS for the 8:30 service are Mayson Buffington, Thomas Schulingkamp, and Wesley Simon; and for the 10:30 service are Rick Grubb (captain), Randy Evans, Jackie Derks, Russell Steele, Mimi Koch, Lisa Stahl, JoNell Quinton, and Lynn Hoffman.

TODAY'S ACOLYTES are Beanie Breaux and Morgan Smith.

TODAY'S COMMUNION SERVERS for the 8:30 service are Christina Carlisle and Sarah Edgecombe; and for the 10:30 service are Stephanie Carter, Jane Rasi, Beanie Breaux, and Morgan Smith.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Palmer, Sr., Elizabeth Hunt Palmer, Richard Parke Ellis, Sr. and Joan Gillis Ellis Inman by Nancy and Parke Ellis, Betsy and Steve Clement, and Meg and Stephen Chernekoff.

THE REFRESHMENTS IN FRAMPTON FELLOWSHIP HALL have been provided by Donna and Dick Davis.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Children four years old and older are encouraged to remain in the service with their families and participate in the children's message during the service. After the message, children first grade and younger may go with the sitters to the playground for a time of play. Parents may pick up children after the service outside.

THE PRAY GROUND in Frampton Fellowship Hall is a special place where families with children of any age can experience worship together. There are toys, books, and puzzles provided to help kids stay engaged while the service is livestreamed to a large screen.

THE NURSERY is also opened for children ages 0 to 3 in the Bear Classroom located on the first floor corner. Childcare is provided from 8:15-11:45 a.m.

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

Class details and recordings: scapc.org/sunday-school or scapc app

New! Romans for Everyone | November 1-22 | Phifer Library | Led by Stewart Peck
Paul's epistle to the Romans stands as his masterpiece, addressing a plethora of topics from numerous angles. It weaves them into a captivating and swiftly flowing line of thought. Its energy and excitement stem from unveiling God's power and grace through Jesus, accessible to all who believe.

The Whiteboard Bible | September 13 - November 22 | Second-floor conference room
Led by Elizabeth Penn, Erika Cunningham, Lacy Edgecombe, and Michelle Greene
The Whiteboard Bible is created by Pastor G. Allen Jackson. It utilizes live-action whiteboard drawing video lessons to help everyone gain a fundamental understanding of the narrative of the Bible. Volume 2: A Nation Divided to the Gospels

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us in prayer for the participants in the SCAPC CUBA TRIP who are currently visiting the congregations of our sister congregations at El Fuerté and Juan G. Hall Presbyterian Churches in Cardenas, Cuba.

MAHJONG MONDAY will meet tomorrow from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Land Building! Know the basic rules of the game? Beginners through experts of all ages are invited to join a table or sign up a group on the SCAPC app or through our calendar page. This is a game night, not a tutorial program. There is no fee for the event.

Check out the WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT webpage (scapc.org/wno) or the SCAPC app for dinner reservations and details on this week's programming, including children's choir practice at 5:30, supervised play and study hall at 6:10, and family dinner (line opens at 5:45). The cost for dinner is $10/adult, $5/child, and $25/family. On the menu will be Pasta Bolognese, green salad, green peas, sautéed spinach, and cookies. Following dinner, programming for all ages will run 6:45-7:30 and will include a pastor-led Bible study on "Christianity and Difficult Questions", adult small groups PINTS and BREW, and this week's children's activity which will be preparing hot chocolate mix for the New Orleans Women and Children's Shelter.

GUEST PREACHER: Next Sunday, November 8, we will welcome to the pulpit Presbyterian Church (USA) global ecumentical liaison R. E. Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri. Vilmarie supports the synods of Boriquén, Mid-America, South Atlantic, and our own Synod of the Sun. She will be joined by Rev. José Manuel Capella-Pratts who also serves as a global ecumenical liaison, supporting Central America and the Caribbean Basin.

MISSIONS MARKET: Following both morning services next Sunday, November 8, there will be a "Missions Market" in Frampton Fellowship Hall where our community and global ministry partners will present special gifts for sale. Participating will be Eden Centers for Hope and Healing, Café Reconcile, Okra Abbey, Crescent City Café, Raintree Children and Family Services, the SCAPC college Cuba mission trip, and more. All proceeds will benefit their organizations. Representatives from Program of Hope and New Orleans Mission will be present as well.

It's time for the 4th Annual YAF TENNIS TOURNAMENT! Join us for this adults-only event at the City Park Tennis Courts next Sunday, November 8, from 4-6 p.m. The suggested donation is $10 per player. Bring your own racquet or use one of those available there. We'll head to Blue Oak to eat afterwards! RSVP at scapc.org/tennis or on the SCAPC app. Questions? Email caitlin@scapc.org.

KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT: Next Sunday, November 8, Temple Sinai, the Loyola Chorale, and the New Orleans Chamber Orchestra are presenting "Shattered Glass, Unbroken Voices: A Kristallnacht Commemorative Concert" at 4 p.m. hosted by Temple Sinai at 6227 St. Charles Avenue. Our own Steven Blackmon will be playing organ. Kristallnacht, the "Night of Broken Glass," was the night of November 9, 1938 when the Nazis unleashed terror against Jewish synagogues, businesses, and homes in Germany and Austria. The concert is free to the community with RSVP. Find the RSVP link at templesinainola.com.

SANCTUARY FLOWER MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS: If you would like to donate flowers for the two Sanctuary urns in honor or memory of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, please call Libbie Reiss at 504-813-1102.