

WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE YOU HERE TODAY!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:45 AM—Officer Training (E205)
10 :00 AM—Worship Service
11:00 AM— Faith Formation
12:30 PM—H.S. Cookout
5:30 PM—Session Meeting (E205)
5:30 PM—FLY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

12:00 PM—Grief Group (E205)
2:00 PM—H3 WWD

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

7:30 AM - Men’s Breakfast (FH)
9:00 AM - Yoga (Parlor)
10:30 AM – H3 Hunter (E205)
10:30 AM – Staff Meeting (E102)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

9:30 AM—H3 O’Bradovich (S211)
10:00 AM—H3 Livingston (E205)
4:00 PM—Book Discussion (E201)
5:15 PM—H3 Radeker (E205)
5:30 PM—Children’s Choir
6:00 PM—Kirk Night Dinner
6:15 PM—Handbells
7:00 PM – Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

6:30 AM—H3 DiSilvestro
9:00 AM—Yoga (Parlor)
1:00 PM—H3 Nichols
4:00 PM—H3 Turkey Point
6:30 PM—Circle 4

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:45 AM—Officer Training (E205)
10 :00 AM—Worship Service
11:00 AM— Faith Formation
5:30 PM—FLY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

12:00 PM—Grief Group (E205)
2:00 PM—H3 WWD
6:00 PM—Zipcode Group (Library)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

7:30 AM - Men’s Breakfast (FH)
9:00 AM - Yoga (Parlor)
10:30 AM – H3 Hunter (E205)
10:30 AM – Staff Meeting (E102)
12:00 PM—Senior Lunch (FH)
4:30 PM—Compass Meeting (Parlor)
6:30 PM—MORE Justice House Mtg
(Parlor)

***WORSHIP PRACTICES:**

- Be guided by love for those near you
- Masks are welcome but not required

***PLEASE BE AWARE** we live stream our worship and our services are video-recorded.

***LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND BIBLES ARE AVAILABLE.** Please ask an usher if you would like to use one during our service.

***CHILDCARE** is provided for all infants and children 6 yrs and younger.

***HEARING SYSTEM** available for those who are hearing impaired. Please ask an usher.

Also, if you wear Bluetooth enabled hearing aids, we have installed Listen Everywhere software to help you hear the service in the sanctuary. It requires installing an app on your phone, so if you would like to receive personal assistance in installing and using this software, please contact Shannon Fancher in the church office.

****PLEASE REMEMBER TO SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE****



6500 N. Trenholm Road . Columbia, SC 29206
Telephone: 803-787-5672 . www.flpc.org

Dr. Ellen Fowler Skidmore, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ed Black, Associate Pastor for Care and Discipleship
Dr. J. Eric Skidmore, Parish Associate for Stewardship
Dr. Elizabeth M. Mears, Director of Music
Sylvia Trimmier, Organist
Jodi Beckham, Dir of Mission and Community Engagement
Bill Wannamaker, Director of Youth Faith Formation

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

10:00 AM

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

WELCOME

Rev. Ed Black

PRELUDE

“Toccatà in F Major”
Dietrich Buxtehude

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 85

When God comes, steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

When God comes, faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. Come, O Lord, and live among us!

***HYMN NO. 611** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

When we have used the Law to judge and condemn others, while hiding our own Sin and brokenness, O Lord have mercy! When we are crushed by suffering and give up hope and faith, O Lord have mercy! When we have compared ourselves to others and judged ourselves to be good, just, holy, and faithful, O Lord allow us to see ourselves as you see us. When we have relied on our own strength or our own ability to do good, O Lord have mercy and save us from our own weakness, sin, and self-deception. Enable us to trust only in you, so that we may be saved and put right with you and each other. Forgive us loving Lord! Amen.

*When this symbol * precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

In Jesus we see and know what it looks like to be fully human. Our goal is to love God, neighbor, and ourselves in ways that make us fully and wholly human. We cannot reach that goal without God’s help. So, we pray to be forgiven when we sin and to be healed and made whole through God’s grace. Each week we get to begin again because of that grace!

An assurance of pardon is our way of claiming God's free and unmerited grace. Every Sunday we ask for God's forgiveness, and seek again to live in ways that honor God and reflect God's love onto the world.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Colossians 2:14

In Christ, God destroyed the record of the debt we owed and cancelled it by nailing it to the cross.
This gift of grace and reconciliation is from God! We accept and are grateful!

***HYMN NO. 606**

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children through 1st Grade depart to Room #E-107)

Question 1. Who are you?

I am a child of God.

Question 2. What does it mean to be a child of God?

That I belong to God, who loves me.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21-35

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Debts and Debtors"

Dr. Ellen Skidmore

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples when they asked him to teach them to pray. (Luke 11:1-4)

Children learn to worship God by participating in worship, and we are glad to have our youngest disciples in the sanctuary. Time for Young Disciples is designed to include our children in worship, and to teach our children more about being a disciple of Jesus.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Peace Be in You"
Allen Pote
Chancel Choir

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Study Catechism: Full Version Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Questions 80, 83 & 131

Q80. What do you mean when you speak of "the forgiveness of sins"?

That because of Jesus Christ, God no longer holds my sins against me. Christ alone is my righteousness and my life; Christ is my only hope. Grace alone, not my merits, is the basis on which God has forgiven me in him. Faith alone, not my works, is the means by which I receive Christ into my heart, and with him the forgiveness that makes me whole. Christ alone, grace alone, and faith alone bring the forgiveness I receive through the gospel.

Q83. How can you forgive those who have really hurt you?

I cannot love my enemies, I cannot pray for those who persecute me, I cannot even be ready to forgive those who have really hurt me, without the grace that comes from above. I cannot be conformed to the image of God's Son, apart from the power of God's Word and Spirit. Yet I am promised that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Q131. What is meant by the fifth petition, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us"?

We pray that a new and right spirit will be put within us. We ask for the grace to treat others, especially those who harm us, with the same mercy that we have received from God. We remember that not one day goes by when we do not need to turn humbly to God for our own forgiveness. We know that our reception of this forgiveness can be blocked by our unwillingness to forgive others. We ask that we will not delight in doing evil, nor in avenging any wrong, but that we will survive all cruelty without bitterness and overcome evil with good, so that our hearts will be knit together with the mercy and forgiveness of God.

***HYMN NO. 649** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION**

"River in Judea"
John Leavitt

*"There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago,
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know."*

***POSTLUDE**

"Trumpet Processional in G"
David German

Sanctuary Flowers

*Gifts have been given to the Glory of God
and in honor of Rae Hunter's birthday,
by Diane Goff*

We give to God out of gratitude. And the work of this church depends on your gifts. Offerings may be made online <https://flpc.org/giving/> or use the QR code below.



In 1998, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved three new catechisms for instruction and for worship: a children's version, a confirmation version and a catechism for use by adults. Catechisms (a series of questions and answers) have been used for instruction since the sixteenth-century. They provide brief summaries of Christian faith and life in dialogue form. Today's question comes from The Study Catechism: Full Version, written for adults and older adolescents.

Some worshipers find sitting and listening to the musical postlude helps them conclude their worship. Others find joy in greeting others. Choose the response that helps you worship God. And if a fellow worshiper is seated, please allow them time and space to listen and pray.