

WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE YOU HERE TODAY!

\*WORSHIP PRACTICES:

- Be guided by love for those near you
- Masks are welcome but not required
- If you need assistance with social distancing, please speak to an usher

\*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.

\*\*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

FLPC Chancel Choir

Pam Bond, Linda Byrum, Margaret Cundall, Randy Dailey,  
Joe Davenport, Ann Elsenheimer, Margaret Harris,  
Charles Huff, Deborah Joyce, Norma Kirkland,  
Bob McKenzie, Katherine Patterson, Becky Pittman,  
Ryan Poole, David Skinner, Suzanne Sloan,  
Suzanne Thomas, Paul Van Wyke

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

10:00AM

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

WELCOME

Rev. Ed Black

PRELUDE

“Two American Folk Hymns”  
Charles Callahan

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

When we enter this sanctuary, we gather to worship God alone! Let us set aside everything that distracts us from seeking God, knowing God, and loving God.  
O God, we are gathered to seek your presence. Fill our hearts with your Spirit! We are here to worship you!

\*HYMN NO. 175 “Seek Ye First”

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of all ages and nations, you call us to trust in you and you have been faithful to us. But we are unable to be faithful to you. You call us to follow, but we prefer to lead off in our own direction. You call us to take up our cross and follow in the ways of Christ, but we prefer to have someone else suffer. We are quick to make excuses, afraid of the unknown, and slow to risk discipleship that calls us away from the ordinary. We are embarrassed to tell others about our faith in Christ and we seek out privilege, power, and prestige. Forgive our sin. Grant us the power of the Holy Spirit so that we may be renewed, re-focused, and realigned, living lives of faithful and costly discipleship. Amen.

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

Season of Ordinary Time; the color of green reminds us of the life – of the Church, the life of the world and our lives as active disciples.

Beginning worship with a Call to Worship, words most often taken from Scripture, reminds us that we are called to leave all other duties and worries aside for an hour, and focus our hearts and attention on God. We call ourselves to remember that when we gather in the sanctuary, God is our audience. What we do in worship is offered in love to God.

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!

- SUNDAY, JANUARY 21
- 9:00 AM —B365 Rozek (E102)
- 10:00 AM—Worship Service
- 11:00 AM—Called Congregational Meeting
- 5:00 PM—FLY
- 5:30 PM—Session Meeting (E205)
- 7:00 PM—B365 Bowman (Zoom)
- MONDAY, JANUARY 22
- 12:00 PM—Grief Group (E205)
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 23
- 7:30 AM – Men’s Breakfast (FH)
- 9:00 AM – Yoga (Parlor)
- 10:30 AM- Staff Meeting (E102)
- 10:30 AM- H3 Hunter (S211)
- 1:00 PM – B365 Black (E205)
- 2:00 PM– Sr Ministry Planning Meeting (S211)
- WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24
- 9:30 AM—H3 O’Bradovich
- 10:00 AM – H3 Livingston (E102)
- 4:00 PM – Book Discussion (E201)
- 5:15 PM – H3 Safe Space (E205)
- 5:30 PM – Children’s Choir
- 6:00 PM – Kirk Night Dinner (FH)
- 6:00 PM – FLY Eats In
- 6:15 PM – Handbell Choir
- 6:45 Kirk Night Programming
- 6:45 PM – B365 – Skidmore (E205)
- 7:00 PM – Chancel Choir
- THURSDAY, JANUARY 25
- 7:30 AM - H3 DiSivestro (?)
- 9:00 AM – Yoga (Parlor)
- 10:00 AM – B365 Collins
- 12:00 PM – Senior Lunch (FH)
- 1:00 PM – H3 Nichols
- 4:00 PM - H3 Turkey Point
- 5:30 PM – Endowment Committee (E205)
- 6:00 PM – MORE Justice Dinner (FH)
- FRIDAY, JANUARY 26
- 8:00 AM – 1<sup>st</sup> Steps Staff Meeting (FH)
- SATURDAY, JANUARY 27
- 10:00 AM – Choral Society Rehearsals
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 28
- 9:00 AM —B365 Rozek (E102)
- 10:00 AM—Worship Service
- 5:00 PM—FLY
- 7:00 PM—B365 Bowman (Zoom)

*An assurance of pardon is one way of claiming God’s promised forgiveness and grace. We believe that when we repent of our sin and ask God to forgive us that God does in fact forgive us. We don’t need a preacher or priest to ask on our behalf. God deals with us directly as believers who seek to love and to follow.*

*Learning to worship takes time, and we include our youngest members in worship by inviting them to the front for Time with Young Disciples. We are patient with young disciples learning to worship because God is patient with those of us who are older who are also learning to worship God.*

*Presbyterians pray to ask God to “forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors” because that is the prayer that Jesus teaches his disciples in Matthew 6:12. Other Christian traditions use the phrase “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” In both cases, the intent of the prayer is to remind us that God’s forgiveness of our sins is connected to our own commitment to be forgiving of others*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven  
**And freed to try again. Thanks be to God!**

**\*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 FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

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

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**READING OF THE WORD**

Mark 1:14-20

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON**

“God’s Son or Madman”

Dr. Ellen Skidmore

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

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

Rev. Ed Black

**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.

**OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY**

“Come Follow Me”  
Jay Althouse  
Chancel Choir

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting; Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 726 “Will You Come and Follow Me”**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

“Sinfonia”  
G.F. Handel

*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.*



*Although not written by Jesus’ disciples, The Apostles’ Creed does reflect the theological formulations of the first century church. An early form of the creed was developed around 180 CE to refute the heresy that the God revealed in Jesus Christ was different from the God revealed in the Jewish Bible (Marcionism). The creed took its present form by the eighth century.*

*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.*

***Sanctuary Flowers**  
Gifts have been given to the Glory of God  
and in memory of Bob Lockwood,  
By the Lockwood Family*