



First Presbyterian

FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

11 a.m.

February 14, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

O God of Light

ATKINSON
H. Barrie Cabena
setting by Hildebrand

(Please prepare your hearts for worship in reverent silence.)

GREETINGS

INTROIT

Praise the Lord, All the Earth

Donald Busarow

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, all the earth; praise him above, ye heavens. Hallelujah!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants;
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

Psalm 148

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord's Prayer

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYRFRYDOL
Rowland Hugh Prichard

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art!
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory Be to the Father

MEINEKE

Christopher Meineke

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
second century Gloria Patri

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, Thank You that Your desire is for our good! Thank You that You have freely given us a place of honor in Your family. But so often we think we deserve our position and that others do not. Forgive us for how we feel entitled and then disdain for those who we feel are inferior to us. Forgive us for treating others as unworthy when we ourselves do not deserve Your grace and mercy. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

(Please continue in a moment of silence for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Luke 15:23-24

Leader: Our Heavenly Father says as we turn toward Him, "Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate."

All: "For this (child) of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate.

Leader: The father's generous love is the Good News!

All: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Of the Father's Love Begotten

13th century Plainsong
setting by Courtney

Of the Father's love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He; Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see, Evermore and evermore!
O ye heights of heaven adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him, And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert ring, Evermore and evermore!
Christ, to Thee with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee, Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be: Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory, Evermore and evermore!
Aurelius Prudentius Clemens

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Elder Mike Nunn

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst
arr. Courtney

In the bleak midwinter Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, Long ago.
Our God, heaven cannot hold him Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away When he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter A stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.
What can I give him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man I would do my part; Yet what I can I give him Give my heart.
Christina G. Rossetti

SERMON

Dr. Darryl Evans

The Parable of the Older Brother

Luke 15:11-32

“But [the older brother] answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.’”
— Luke 15:29

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON
Dodd Lamberton

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, And show me the way to the Father.
I’m looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
Kathleen Thomerson

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God Be with You

BEACH SPRING
Dale Wood

God be with you till we meet again, God be in you, go in peace.
Loving counsels guide, uphold you, With a shepherd’s care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again, God be in you, go in peace.
Jeremiah Eames Rankin

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in F Major

Mark Williams

This morning's worship is led by
Dr. Darryl Evans, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Chris Handley, Associate Pastor
Mr. Mike Nunn, Elder
Ann Rodgers Chandler, Organist and Director of Music
Elizabeth Frost, soprano
Brandon Frost, alto
Fred Kunz, tenor
Dr. Curt Boswell, bass

**Congregation is invited to stand if able.*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of C. Richmond Wilhoit, Sr. and Daisy B. Leland by Richie, Ellen, Richmond and Eliza Wilhoit.

Welcome back! As we increasingly return to in-person worship, we encourage wearing name tags. It can make it easier to recognize each other as we wear masks.

Welcome visitors! We would like to be in touch with you so please text your name, address and/or email to Dr. Darryl Evans, 704-773-1901, and Rev. Chris Handley, 843-229-0966. Glad you're with us today! If you're back again text your name again to us just so we know you've been with us again.

Congregational Meeting: On Sunday, February 21, at 10:40 a.m. in the Sanctuary, there will be a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing the Officer Nominating Committee. We need 10 percent of the congregation present to hold our meeting. The Officer Nominating Committee includes four at-large members from the congregation that will be elected at the meeting. This Committee will prayerfully consider nominees for the next class of deacons and elders. In addition to the election of the Officer Nominating Committee, the Enabling Unit will present the annual financial report and stewardship update. The annual financial report is presented for information only requiring no church action.

Corrected Church Directory: Every family that participated in having their pictures taken with Lifetouch last year can pick up their free copy of the corrected church directory in the Welcome Center. The directories are labeled so please pick up the directory that has your name on it. If you would like to purchase a copy of the directory for \$5, please stop by the church office during the week. If you have any questions, call the church office at 843-662-2583, or email kbrauss@florencefirst.org.

Ash Wednesday Service: Please join us for an Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m. February 17 in the Sanctuary as we will mark the beginning of the Lenten season. We will come together to acknowledge our sin, to acknowledge our mortality. We will come to glimpse the Christ who offers forgiveness, who offers everlasting life. As part of the worship, the imposition of ashes will be offered. This practice may not be familiar to everyone. Ashes have been used in Christian churches to mark the beginning of Lent since at least the 10th Century, and ashes are mentioned in scripture as a symbol of purification and repentance. We will offer the imposition of ashes as a physical reminder of our mortality and sin; an assurance of God's forgiveness and salvation. Childcare is available to children 5K and younger. First- and second-graders are invited to attend their own Ash Wednesday lesson in Children's Chapel. Older children are encouraged to attend the service with their parents.

Season of Prayer: We Will Seek God for the City from Ash Wednesday (February 17) through Palm Sunday, with other area churches in a season of prayer for our community. We're doing this because God works and acts as his people intercede. Seek God for the City prayer journals are available in the Welcome Center. A \$1.50 donation is appreciated.

The Child Development Center is accepting donations of roll paper towels, disinfectant wipes and peroxide to use at the center. Donations may be dropped off in the designated box in the Welcome Center.

Have a college student? The Women in Ministry and the Deacons of First Presbyterian Church would like to encourage our college students through out the year. Please send the mailing address for your student(s) to Patricia Fast (patriciajfast@gmail.com) or Teresa Stewart (tstewart@florencefirst.org) to ensure they are included.

COVID-19 precautions and guidelines: There are a few rules and procedures applied campus-wide at all times:

- All rooms now have a maximum occupancy number displayed next to the door.
- Please note, masks or face coverings are required at all times while on campus, this includes during worship services.
- Rooms will be cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- Do not come on campus if you are sick or if you are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Please remain seated following the Musical Benediction until one of our ushers dismisses your row. Thank you for your patience.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 9:30 AM Rehearsal: Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 5:00 PM EGW Leadership Study: Life Center

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
- 6:30 PM Basketball Practice (8U)
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Welcome Center

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 10:45 AM CDC Music: Fellowship Hall
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: Life Center
- 5:00 PM Basketball Practice (10U)
- 6:30 PM Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 10:30 AM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom
- 5:00 PM Basketball Practice (13U)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 9:30 AM Rehearsal: Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:40 AM Congregational Meeting: Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 5:00 PM EGW Leadership Study: Life Center