

**The Worship of God  
Second Sunday in Lent  
March 17, 2019 - 8:30 AM Service**

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Come, let us worship God.*

**Reflection**

“*You are the light of the world.*” - Matthew 5:13

“*A church that loses its distinctiveness is a church that has nothing distinctive with which to engage the culture....A worldly church is of no good to the world.*” - Russell Moore

“*We live in a world of competing narratives. In the end, we have to decide for ourselves which is right. And having made that decision, we then need to inhabit the story we trust.*” - Alister McGrath

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Silent Preparation for Worship**

**Call to Worship**      Psalm 20:5/Isaiah 12:6

May we shout for joy over our salvation,  
and in the name of our God set up our banners!  
**Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

**Invocation** (concluded by 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.**

**Song of Praise**      Holy, Holy, Holy      NICEA

**Confession of Sin**

**O my Savior, help me.  
I am slow to learn, prone to forget, and weak to climb;  
I am in the foothills when I should be on the heights;  
I am pained by my graceless heart,  
my prayerless days,  
my poverty of love,  
my sloth in the heavenly race,  
my sullied conscience,  
my wasted hours,  
my unspent opportunities.  
I am blind while the light shines around me:  
take the scales from my eyes,  
grind to dust my heart of unbelief.  
Make it my highest joy to study you,  
meditate on you,  
gaze on you,  
sit like Mary at your feet,  
lean like John on your breast,**

**appeal like Peter to your love,  
count like Paul all things but dung.  
I believe, help my unbelief. Amen**

Assurance of Pardon      Micah 7:19  
*He will again have compassion on us;  
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.  
You will cast all our sins  
into the depths of the sea.*

**Commissioning of Guatemala Mission Team**

**Song of Preparation**      Speak, O Lord      SPEAK O LORD

Offertory      Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee      Beethoven/Wagner  
Celebration Ringers  
*Please pass and sign the welcome pads during this time.*

**Scripture Reading**      Acts 17:16-44

**Sermon**      Jesus in the Public Square      Rev. Matt Kuiken

**Song of Response**      Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus      LEMMEL

**Benediction**

***If you have a physical or spiritual need, or a concern for the upcoming week, there are elders available to pray with you immediately following the service. The prayer room is located behind the piano area.***

Worship care ministries for infants-four year olds are located on the first floor of the education building during the 8:30 and 10:55 services. All members and visitors are required to pick up a parent pager when arriving. Students that are kindergarten age and older remain in the worship service.

The flowers today are in memory of Harry Bryant, Sr. for his 98th birthday. They were given by his family.

We extend love and sympathy to Judy Daniels on the passing of her brother, Freddie Hullett on February 27, 2019, and to Deb Erwin on the passing of her father, A. Gordon Lewis on March 7, 2019.

**First ARP Construction Update  
Week Ending 3/17/19**

This week at First ARP, concrete front steps were poured in the Welcome Center. In the Multipurpose Building/Offices, wiring was ruffed in the offices, more brick was laid, metal stud framing was set, and “bad dirt” mud was hauled away.

**Faith Promise (Missions) Update**

	<b><u>As of 2/28/19</u></b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$245,500.00
<b>Receipts</b>	211,685.81
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	(33,814.19)

There is still time to give to the 2018-2019 Faith Promise (Missions) Budget. If you haven't turned in a Faith Promise Pledge for the 2019-2020 Budget, there are pledge cards in the pew racks and narthex. Thank you.

**Acts 17:16-44**

Names	Prayer Concerns
Martha Cox's neighbor	Brain Tumor surgery 3/14
Jack Green	Pray for pain relief - pain meds changed
Louise "Tweet" Heavener	Had reconstructive foot surgery on 3/7 - doing well
Brice Huffstetler	Health concerns
Kathy Martin	Recovering from knee surgery - doing great
Rita McCurry	Will have heart shocked to restore rhythm 3/21
Ben Morrow	Health concerns
Rob Trefz	Ostomy reversal on 3/13 - doing well

**Prayer Needs**

**Prayer Requests:**

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**Prayer of Belief:**

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment and offering forgiveness. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior. Amen.

*(If you are saying this prayer for the first time today, please share with a church officer up front, or let one of the pastors know.)*

## Announcements

- **Lenten Lunch and Worship** - St. Stephen's AME Zion will be the location on Wednesday, March 20. Lunch will begin at 12:00 noon and Pastor Matt will begin speaking at 12:30.
- **Wednesday Night Electives** - Come join us on Wednesdays at 6:30pm.
- **Club 45!** - Fourth and Fifth Graders are invited to remain after the 10:55 service today for a couple of hours for St. Patrick's Day fun; 12 noon-2:00pm. Bring a bag lunch and meet in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Start Bringing Those Eggs This Week!** - Bring already stuffed plastic eggs (non-chocolate candy or treats) to the baskets outside Mrs. Maney's office. Bags of candy for the eggs that we already have are also needed.
- **Middle School Retreat** - is this weekend. Students will meet in the parking lot at 5:30pm.
- **Youth Group** - will not meet tonight.
- **Church Book Clubs Will Meet** – on Monday, March 25 at 10am (Covenant Village) and 7pm at Rebecca Maney's house (2701 Steeplechase Rd., 28056)
- **S3 (Supper ~ Sharing ~ Shopping), our Women's Ministries Spring Fellowship** - will be on Tuesday, March 26 from 6-8pm at Parkwood Baptist. Contact Betsy Forbes to reserve your spot (bforbes@firstarpchurch.org or 704-718-0026).
- **Volunteer Peer Counselor Training** - April 6 & 13 at Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, 8:30am - 5:00pm (lunch will be provided). If you would like to volunteer, contact Rhonda Gottfried at 704-867-3706 or rhonda.gottfried.cpc@gmail.com.

*Welcome to our church community. To receive our newsletter and other mailings, please print clearly and place in the offering plate.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information about:

Learning about Christianity

Becoming a Church Member

Sunday School Community

Journey Groups

Serving on Sunday Mornings

Please add me to the following lists:

Weekly Email Blast

Monthly Newsletter

Children's Ministry Newsletter

Youth Ministry Newsletter

Women's Ministries Opportunities

## SESSION

Matt Kuiken, Moderator      Jeff Morrison, Vice Moderator      Rick Craig, Clerk

2019	2020	2021	2022
Rick Craig	Micah Bomgaars	John Connor	Fred Caldwell
Mark Forbes	Ellis Fisher	Ken Henry	Vincent Cherry
Mike Foster	Gene Martin	Morris Keeter	Andy Dyksterhouse
David Jennings	Truscott McLearn	David W. Smith, III	Walter Payne
Ben Morrow	Gary Miller	Joe Summerville	Bob Rouse

## ELDERS EMERITUS

Bob Barnhill	Joe Knowles
Tom Campbell	Tete Pearson
Maurice Canaday	Bob Sytz
Charles Ferguson	Joe West
Brice Huffstetler	Oscar Whitescarver

## DIACONATE

2019	2020	2021
Russell Cox	Matt Adams	Brian Cerilli
Craig Curtis	Tom Balsom	Mike Harwell
Todd Friday	Gene Barber	Shawn Hubers
Eric Riley	Robert Heussy	David Jansen
Brad Wilson	Frank Hinson	Billy Marino
Danny Wilson	Chris McKay	Rob Parker
		Greg Starnes

## TRUSTEES

2019	2020	2021
Bob Sytz	Bob Barnhill	Wade Huss

## CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Bill Kelly.....Chairman
Rick Craig.....Secretary
Jerry Best.....Treasurer
Alice Auten.....Asst. Treasurer

## FIRST ARP WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Gayle Goodrich.....President
Jenny Morrow.....Past President
Bonnie Jansen.....Recording Secretary
Alice Auten.....Treasurer

## MINISTERS

The members of this church family who in serving their Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, extend Deep Roots into God's Word and Wide Reach into God's World.

## STAFF

Matt Kuiken.....Senior Pastor.....mkuiken@firstarpchurch.org
Jeff Morrison.....Associate Pastor of Adult Ministry.....jmorrison@firstarpchurch.org
Josh Hjenvick..... Associate Pastor of Youth and Families.....jhjenvick@firstarpchurch.org
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Betsy Forbes.....Director of Women's Ministries.....bforbes@firstarpchurch.org
Wanda Henderson..... Church Secretary ..... whenderson@firstarpchurch.org
Wade Huss.....Facilities Coordinator.....whuss@firstarpchurch.org
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