

**The Worship of God
Third Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2020 - 10:55 AM**

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

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” - John 10:10

“And to a place I come where nothing shines.” - Dante Alighieri

“If Jesus, the Lord of Love and Author of Grace spoke about hell more often, and in a more vivid, blood-curdling manner than anyone else, it must be a crucial truth.” - Tim Keller

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude With Praises All Unite! Sweelinck

Call to Worship Hebrews 12:22-23,28-29

Pastor: But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect.

People: Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Hymn of Praise, #381 Brethren We Have Met to Worship HOLY MANNA

Prayers of Adoration (Concluded by 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.

Confession of Sin

All: Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements and those when I have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.

[In these quiet moments, we admit to God our sins and doubts, and ask Him by His Holy Spirit to cleanse us, forgive us, redirect our lives, and grant us renewed faith.]

Assurance of Pardon 1 John 4:10
In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Hymn of Thanksgiving, #275 The Strife Is O’er the Battle Done
PALESTRINA

Offertory The King of Love and Grace arr. Christopher Aspaas

Scripture Reading Mark 9:42-50

Sermon The End of the World As We Know It Rev. Matt Kuiken

Hymn of Response In Christ Alone Getty, Townend

Benediction

Postlude March in C Major Johnson

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.

We extend love and sympathy to Annie Anthony and family on the passing of her grandmother, Nell Chavis Tatham on March 5, 2020.

| Financial Update General Operating Fund | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>As of 2/29/20</u> |
| Revenues | \$ 290,192.36 |
| Expenses | <u>260,570.25</u> |
| Net surplus (deficit) | \$ <u>29,622.11</u> |

| <i>Names</i> | <i>Prayer Concerns</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Annie Anthony | Grandmother passed away on 3/5 |
| Frances Boyles | Cataract removed, surgery mid-March |
| Ann Cain | Hospice called in |
| Jimmy Dale | Heart problems |
| Carlton Dixon | Lung cancer - taking chemo & radiation |
| Carole Lee Ferguson | Health concerns |
| Dana Haley | Nerve pain medication is working - Praise God |
| Mary Ann Lore | Health concerns |
| Ann Lovell | Heart attack 3/6 - at home recovering |
| Source Baptiste | Our sister church |
| Rob Trefz | Health concerns - recovering from surgery |

Mark 9:42-50

Prayer Needs

Prayer Requests:

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.)

- **The Gathering** between worship services and Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall has been temporarily postponed until further notice.
- **The Farewell Reception** for Pastor Jeff Morrison and family has been postponed to a later date.
- **Dawn Prayer Meeting** - Please come and join us this Tuesday, March 17, from 6:30-7am sharp in the Sanctuary for our weekly Dawn Prayer Service. It is our privilege and blessing to awaken the dawn with prayer and praise, offering the first fruits of the day to the Lord.
- **Open Gym** - Thursday night Open Gym has been suspended until March 26.
- **We Need Eggs and Candy - preferably pre-filled!** Bring your non-chocolate candy and eggs to the collection baskets outside Mrs. Maney's door.
- **Wednesday Night Ministries** - Come join us this Wednesday for supper at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall followed by adult elective classes at 6:30pm.
- **Resurrection Trail - April 6-10** - Reservations will be available beginning Tuesday, March 17, by calling Billy Marino in the church office at 704-271-4497 or 704-864-3468. We recommend that you make your reservations promptly, before we open them to the public later in the week.
- **Community Lenten Lunch and Worship** has been canceled for Wednesday, March 18.
- **Women's Ministries** - All widows are invited to come to the Walking Through Widowhood Brunch on Friday, March 27 at 11am in the dining room in the Fellowship Hall. Candy Hayes will be teaching on Naomi and Ruth. RSVP to Jo Summey (704-616-1277).
- **Fifth Sunday Evening Special Worship Opportunity - On March 29** at 6:00pm we will have a special worship service of thanksgiving through music by participating in a program of **Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs**. This service will be appropriate for all ages.
- **Faith Promise Mission Budget for 2020-2021** - We have received 126 Faith Promise pledge cards with \$213,525 pledged toward our 2020-2021 Faith Promise (Missions) Budget. If you have not turned in a Faith Promise pledge card, they are available in the pew racks and narthex.
- **Faith Promise Mission Budget for 2019-2020** - If you have not yet fulfilled your Faith Promise pledge for our 2019-2020 Faith Promise (Missions) Budget, you have until March 31, 2020.

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

Name: _____ I would like more information about:

Email: _____ Learning about Christianity

Spouse: _____ Becoming a Church Member

Spouse's Email: _____ Sunday School Community

Children: _____ Journey Groups

Mailing Address: _____ Serving on Sunday Mornings

_____ Please add me to the following lists:

_____ Weekly Email Blast

_____ Monthly Newsletter

_____ Children's Ministry Newsletter

_____ Youth Ministry Newsletter

Preferred Phone: _____ Women's Ministries Opportunities

SESSION

Matt Kuiken, Moderator Jeff Morrison, Vice Moderator Gene Martin, Clerk

| 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Micah Bomgaars | John Connor | Fred Caldwell | Artie Cooper |
| Ellis Fisher | Ken Henry | Vincent Cherry | Ron Kirkpatrick |
| Gene Martin | Morris Keeter | Andy Dyksterhouse | Randy Mumford |
| Truscott McLearn | David W. Smith, III | Walter Payne | Phil Painter |
| Gary Miller | Joe Summerville | Bob Rouse | David Smith |

ELDERS EMERITUS

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Bob Barnhill | Brice Huffstetler |
| Tom Campbell | Tete Pearson |
| Maurice Canaday | Bob Sytz |
| Charles Ferguson | Joe West |
| Lin Hollowell | Oscar Whitescarver |

DIACONATE

| 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Matt Adams | Brian Cerilli | Butch Boyd |
| Tom Balsom | Mike Harwell | Tim Daniels |
| Gene Barber | Shawn Hubers | Billy Israel |
| Robert Heussy | David Jansen | Mark Miele |
| Frank Hinson | Rob Parker | Richard Pearson |
| Chris McKay | Greg Starnes | William Ratchford |
| | | Jeff Stowe |

TRUSTEES

| 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| Bob Barnhill | Wade Huss | Charles Ferguson |

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Rick CraigChairman
 Gene Martin.....Secretary
 Jerry Best.....Treasurer
 Alice Auten.....Asst. Treasurer

FIRST ARP WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Gayle Goodrich.....Advisor
 Carol Hayes.....Advisor Elect
 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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