

**The Worship of God**  
**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 26, 2020 - 8:30 & 10:55 AM**

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*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.*

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Reflection

*“You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy.” - Psalm 16:11*

*“How very little can be done under the spirit of fear.” - Florence Nightingale*

*“If the Lord be with us, we have no cause of fear. His eye is upon us, His arm over us, His ear open to our prayer – His grace sufficient, His promise unchangeable.” - John Newton*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty arr. John Carter  
Phil Biedenbender, Piano

Call to Worship Hebrews 12:1-3

Pastor: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**All: Amen!**

Prayer 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: Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will. 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	Romans 8:1 <i>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.</i>	
Special Music	O, Lord Most Holy Tom Ellington, Bass Phil Biedenbender, Piano	Franck
Scripture Reading	Psalm 16	
Sermon	The Confident Hope of the Christian	Rev. Matt Kuiken
Songs of Praise	Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing Christ Is Mine Forevermore	Robinson, Thompson
Benediction		
Postlude	In Christ Alone	arr. Mark Hayes

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God by Jenny Morrow.

We extend love and sympathy to Jane Pearson on the passing of her mother, Betty Barkley on July 17, 2020; to Leanne Stowe on the passing of her mother, Billie Laws Ballard on July 18, 2020; and to Mike Watson on the passing of his brother, Curtis Watson on July 24, 2020.

### Financial Update General Operating Fund

	<b><u>As of 6/30/20</u></b>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$ 733,580.61
<b>Expenses</b>	<u>704,745.07</u>
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<u>\$ 28,835.54</u>

<i>Name</i>	<i>Prayer Concern</i>
Amelia Pritchett	Health concerns
Carlton Dixon	Recovering from surgery
Dana Haley's mom, Betty Allen	Under Hospice care
Trey McKeown's mother	In kidney failure – on dialysis
Jane Pearson & family	Passing of mother, Betty Barkley, on 7/17
Tim Schaap	Stamina and strength
Leanne Stowe & family	Passing of mother, Billie Laws Ballard, on 7/18
Leanne Stowe's father	Fell and broke hip; had surgery 7/24
Mike Watson & family	Passing of brother, Curtis Watson, on 7/24
Mark Wingate's dad	In GA hospital with 5 broken ribs from bad fall and breathing issues due to Covid-19

## Announcements

- **“If my people would... PRAY.” (2 Chron. 7:14)** - PARK and PRAY. Join us for a time of prayer for our community on Sunday, July 26, from 6-8pm. [733 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Gastonia, NC 28052](https://www.google.com/maps/place/733+Dr.+Martin+Luther+King,+Jr.+Way,+Gastonia,+NC+28052). Organized by Pastor Wavey Williams and The Gathering Place Ministry.
- **Exciting News** – Check out the new “Exciting News” button on our website. It contains tutorials on things to come such as a church app, text and online giving, and remote check-in from church or at home!
- **Welcome Visitors** – If you are visiting with us today and would like to receive our weekly email blast, please send an email to [whenderson@firstarpchurch.org](mailto:whenderson@firstarpchurch.org). If you would like to know more about our church or have questions about church membership, please email Pastor Matt at [mkuiken@firstarpchurch.org](mailto:mkuiken@firstarpchurch.org).
- **Neighborhood Singalongs** – Ms. Milette will be making rounds this week to lead you in some socially-distanced neighborhood singing! She'll lead about 30 minutes of Bible-school type songs, most with motions, and we'll also have a prayer request time together. Available times are: Monday, July 27 or Tuesday, July 28 at 10:00; or Thursday (July 30) at 5:30. Family members of all ages are welcome! To host a neighborhood singalong, contact Milette at [unacordanc@gmail.com](mailto:unacordanc@gmail.com).
- **Women’s Ministries** - Our last gathering for WOW (Walk on Wednesdays) will be Wednesday (7/29) at Rankin Lake at 9:00. *Around The World In 60 Minutes* - Zoom study with Bible teaching and discussion. Join us this Thursday (7/30) from 12:30 – 1:30 as we welcome Sarah Koh, founder of LifeTogether Korea. Contact Betsy for more information (704-718-0026).
- **Doves Back Yard Bible Study** - The Doves' Backyard Bible Study meets on Wednesday nights at Court’s (411 Dale Avenue) from 6-8pm. Dinner is provided.
- **Picnic and Prayer** – Each week we are reaching wide and inviting new families in our community to come and see the love of Jesus through a time of fellowship, play, picnic, and prayer. Thursdays (11:30-1pm) on the playground. Rain Plan: The MAC.
- **Grab & Go** – The Grab and Go lunches will continue through the summer for children and youth in our community. This outreach has met the needs of many families during Covid-19. We serve between 150-200 lunches Monday-Thursday (10:30-12pm)! We have around 60+ volunteers already signed up to help this summer. Grab and Go provides a tangible and easy way to love our neighbors. If you/your family would like to join the team and reach wide into the YC neighborhood during the month of August (dependent on when school starts back), contact Court at [cmckeown@firstarpchurch.org](mailto:cmckeown@firstarpchurch.org) to sign up.
- **Promise Land Kit Camp** - we will leave access to the camp curriculum posted on the home page of our children’s ministry website for a couple of weeks for those who still need access. <https://bit.ly/FARPChilWeb>
- **Prepare to Participate in our “Friday Nights at the Movies”** - during the month of August! Age-graded family movies and corresponding discussion questions/activities will be posted weekly. We begin on **Friday, August 7**. Take time this week to make sure you have a RightNow Media account! Directions will be posted!

- **Prayer Meetings:** Please see the information below for both this week's Dawn Prayer Meeting and our Tuesday/Friday Virtual Prayer Meetings. If you haven't been able to access one of these meetings and would like assistance, please reach out to Billy Marino at 704-271-4497, and he'll be happy to help.

**Dawn Prayer Meeting** - In need of some community, connection, and prayer? Please join us this Tuesday from 6:30AM-7AM for the Dawn Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary. It will also continue to stream via Zoom conference for those folks participating from home through the following information. Join us by clicking the link or calling the number below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/99447000388?pwd=WHITaDFIQSs4Y1o0MjU2ZlIxT2hNdz09>

DIAL IN BY PHONE - 1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 994 4700 0388

Password: 625606

**Tuesday & Friday Virtual Prayer Meetings** – The virtual prayer meetings on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:15pm until 1:45pm are continuing via Zoom. Join your brothers and sisters in Christ in prayer and fellowship by clicking on the link below or by dialing in to the meeting via your phone. Join us by clicking the link or calling the number below:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9660972853?pwd=Y1o1V25aUVh1b1VOem44cDFRejhMQT09>

DIAL IN BY PHONE - 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 966-097-2853

Password: 141437

- **Thank You for Giving** - Thank you for faithfully tithing during this time of uncertainty. You may place your tithes into the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary today, drop them into the locked mailbox to the left of the Admin. Building entrance, mail them in, or give online through our church website. Click [here](#) for an Online Giving Tutorial.
- **Faith Promise Reminder from the Missions Committee:** Your generosity over the past several months is greatly appreciated. The faithfulness of the congregation to our church and her various outreach and benevolence ministries in the community has been incredible. Thank you! Please be reminded of our Faith Promise ministry as well. The summer months can be a lean season with busyness and travel by many. Our missionaries depend on our continued support during these months.
- **First ARP Love Locker** – The Love Locker initiative began as our church family and the York Chester community entered into a time of need. This is a great opportunity for the congregation to serve and meet some immediate physical needs. With a “Take what you need; leave what you can” approach, the concept is for those in the community to get food and other essential items, as needed, but also for the locker to be restocked by church and community members, as their own resources allow. The locker is located in the church parking lot near the entrance to the new Administration Building, and non-perishable food items, toiletries, and other essentials are items we hope to supply. Please feel free to donate to the locker at any time. If the locker is full, please save your items and bring them back at a later time.
- **Counseling Available** - During this difficult time, many are asking about counseling services available through the church. Thankfully, we have a wonderful resource in the Christway Counseling Center, which offers quality and Christ-centered counseling at a discounted rate for First ARP members. Scholarships are also available through our benevolence fund. If you are interested in setting up a virtual or in-person appointment, please contact Wes and Virginia Phillips by emailing them at [Christwaycounseling@gmail.com](mailto:Christwaycounseling@gmail.com) or calling 980-522-8671.



# Come thou Fount of Every Blessing [Lyrics]

[Default Arrangement]

## Verse 1

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung  
by flaming tongues above. Praise the  
mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of  
Thy redeeming love.

## Verse 2

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.

## Verse 3

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that goodness like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above

# Christ Is Mine Forevermore [Lyrics]

[Default Arrangement] by Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson

## Verse 1

Mine are days that God has numbered  
I was made to walk with Him  
Yet I look for worldly treasure  
And forsake the King of kings

## Chorus 1

But mine is hope in my Redeemer  
Though I fall His love is sure  
For Christ has paid for every failing  
I am His forevermore

## Verse 2

Mine are tears in times of sorrow  
Darkness not yet understood  
Through the valley I must travel  
Where I see no earthly good

## Chorus 2

But mine is peace that flows from heaven  
And the strength in times of need  
I know my pain will not be wasted  
Christ completes His work in me

## Verse 3

Mine are days here as a stranger  
Pilgrim on a narrow way  
One with Christ I will encounter  
Harm and hatred for His name

## Chorus 3

But mine is armour for this battle  
Strong enough to last the war  
And He has said He will deliver  
Safely to the golden shore

## Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city  
Where beside the King I walk  
For there my heart has found its treasure  
Christ is mine forevermore

## Misc 1

### (Bridge)

Come rejoice now O my soul  
For His love is my reward  
Fear is gone and hope is sure  
Christ is mine forevermore