



First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

February 9, 2025

CCLI License #399806

Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Mrs. Kathy Weiss

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jonathan Williams

(tithes and offerings may be placed in the plate as you exit Worship)

ENTERING WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 150:1-2

¹Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in his mighty heavens! ²Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!

***Song of Praise**

Red Trinity Hymnal #53

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (verses 1, 2, 3, and 5)

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

*All ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.*

*2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!*

*Hast thou not seen
how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?*

3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!

Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;

*ponder anew
what the Almighty will do,
if with his love he befriend thee.*

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!

All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!

*Let the amen
sound from his people again;
gladly fore'er we adore him.*

APPROACHING GOD

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession with 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, for ever. *Amen.*

***Assurance of Pardon**

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

***Confession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic** and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

***Doxology**

Red Trinity Hymnal #731

*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.*

Children's Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

MEANS OF GRACE

***Psalm 91**

Blue ARP Psalter #183

"Under His Wings"

*1 Under the care of my God, the Almighty,
Safe in the secret place of the Most High!
He is my refuge, the Lord is my fortress,
Him I am trusting when trouble is nigh.*

*3 Seek the Most High for thy sure habitation,
Unto Jehovah for refuge now fly;
There shall no evil befall thee, nor harm thee,
Unto thy dwelling no plague shall come nigh.
[Refrain]*

Refrain:

*Under His wings, under His wings,
Safe in the refuge hide thee;
Trusting His truth and faithfulness,
No evil can betide thee.*

*4 Love thou the Lord, surely He will deliver;
He will exalt thee and answer thy pray'r;
He will be with thee to honor and give thee
Life without end, His salvation to share.
[Refrain]*

*2 Be not afraid for the terror of midnight,
Nor for the arrow that hasteth to slay;
Fear not the pestilence walking in darkness,
Nor the destroyer that wasteth by day.
[Refrain]*

***Prayer for Illumination**

***Scripture Reading**

Pew Bible page 899

John 12:37-50

Sermon

"The Character Of Faith"

Prayer of Application

RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

***Hymn of Response**

Red Trinity Hymnal #465

“Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord”

*1 Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.*

*2 Sin and despair like the sea waves cold,
threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.*

[Refrain]

Refrain:

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin.*

*3 Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide;
Whiter than snow you may be today.*

[Refrain]

***Free Offer of the Gospel**

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁴The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

LEAVING WORSHIP

Congregational Response

*May the peace of God our heav'nly Father, and the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit keep our hearts and minds within His love,
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign. From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain, Christ Eternal, the King of Kings.*

“Benediction” / Stuart Townend and Keith Getty / © 2005 Thank You Music

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
26 MISSIONS	27	28	29 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
2 COMMUNION	3	4	5 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
9 12:30 New Mem- bers luncheon	10	11	12 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
16 12:30 AE Circle 5:00 Diaconate	17	18 7:00 Session	19 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
23 MISSIONS	24	25	26 6:00 Wednesday Family Night

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:30 LCHC	31	1
6 8:30 LCHC 3:00 JL Circle	7	8
13 8:30 LCHC +4H	14 2:00 LCHC Valentines Party	15 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast
20 8:30 LCHC	21 CWM Retreat	22 CWM Retreat
27 8:30 LCHC	28	1



ANNIVERSARIES

20- Tom & Betty Arant

BIRTHDAYS

- 1- Mott Henley
- 2- Sydnee Banholzer
- 9- Mary Strickland
- 15- Conner Tindal
- 24- Lynn Moore
- 27- Ed Ogburn

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 9:15** Officer meeting
- 10:00** Morning Worship
- 11:15** Sunday School
- 6:00** Evening Worship
- 7:00** Prayer meeting/ Youth group

Prayer Guide

February 9

Benny Brazell- Pending appointments, Sheryl Huey– Foot pain, Don Rushing– Continued recovery from surgery, Pat Scruggs– Improving health, Grace Kelso and family– Passing of her brother, JB Powell– ENT appointment and follow up, Tracey Hardin– Job, Johnny Crenshaw (Debbie Hardin’s dad)- Health, Ken (Nancy Ogburn’s brother)- Health, Jessica (Katey Powell’s niece)- Health

February 2

Clovis Steele– Rehab, Myra Sims– Improved health, Those suffering from pneumonia, flu, and covid

January 26

Erskine College accreditation, Those affected by the winter weather, Sheryl Huey– Improved hip issue, Jean Hollis– Neck, Lynn Moore– Health, Mallory– Health

Chronic Illnesses

Tanya McCree

Nursing Home/ Shut Ins

Pat McEachern, Charles Montgomery, Richard Robinson, Clovis Steele

Missionaries

Phil Baer, Rebekah Carson, Justin & Gillian Brickey

Church Planters

King’s Church (Columbia), Arsenal Hill (Columbia)

COMMITTEES and CHAIRMEN

Fellowship– Sam Prete	Outreach– Richard Crawford	Discipleship– Stewart Screpetis
Missions- Sam Huey	Worship– David Pokopac	Building– Doug Patterson
Grounds– TBD	Safety– Walt Watford	Internal Needs– Debbie Dickson

Sermon Notes

The Character of Faith– John 12:37-50

1. True Faith is a Gift

2. True Faith is Public and Private

3. True Faith is Life-giving

Announcements

VISITOR INFORMATION Welcome to First ARP Church. If you are a first time visitor, we would like to have a record of your visit with us. Please fill out an attendance card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.

PRAYER REQUESTS The reverse side of our attendance card is for all prayer requests. Members and visitors are encouraged to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate as you exit Worship.

NICENE CREED STUDY On February 16, we will begin our study of the Nicene Creed on Sunday evenings.

NEW MEMBERS LUNCHEON Join us for a covered dish luncheon on TODAY at 12:30 to welcome those who have joined our membership this past year: Mark & Lynda Caskey, Crystal Hardman, Caroline Williams, and Noah Williams.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING The second Sunday in February, Super Bowl Sunday, is also celebrated nationwide as the Souper Bowl of Caring. Begun in 1990 by TackleHunger.org, this is a time to use the nation's enthusiasm for football to help provide support to foodbanks in local neighborhoods. We use this opportunity to stock the shelves at H.O.P.E. in Lancaster, a group that works locally to feed those in need. Be a part of this special Sunday by bringing a donation of money, canned goods, or other non perishable items. See the HOPE FOOD PANTRY announcement for suggestions.

SR. HIGH RETREAT Registration for the Senior High spring retreat is now open. The retreat will be held March 7-9. If you are a youth or adult interested in going, contact Rev. Williams or the church office by February 23.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS Contribution statements for 2024 are available in the mailboxes behind the choir loft. If there are any errors or amendments, please contact the church office immediately.

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2025 directories will be available today at the New Members Luncheon, then at the mailboxes behind the choir loft beginning next week.

WOMEN’S MINISTRY RETREAT Registration for the Bonclarken retreat is now closed. The cost of \$160 per person is due February 21 and includes registration, room, and meals for the event. Please make checks payable to **First ARP Church**. If you have questions, contact the church office.

MEN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS If you haven't joined our Sunday School class and would like to, we will be studying *5 Solas of the Reformation: The Grace of Repentance* by Sinclair Ferguson and then the Book of Revelation. If you'd like some more information feel free to speak to Jonathan.

SHOEBOX ITEM OF THE MONTH Our January focus is clearance Christmas and New Years items. The flyer in this week’s bulletin has a list of suggestions. Items can be dropped off at the Christmas table at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Financials

February 2, 2025	
Attendance– AM	76/4
Attendance– PM	21/0
General Fund	\$2,301
Total GF contributions this month	\$2,301
Missions Fund	\$145

ONLINE GIVING If you would like to make contributions online, visit our website at **FirstARPLancaster.org/Giving** to make a one time or repeating contribution. Contact the church office with any questions. If you prefer to download the VancoMobile app, search for “First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church” and use the invite code TPVK5P.

Volunteers

Childcare February 9

10:00

Nursery

Greta Cureton

Toddlers

Miranda Bohler/ Taylor Prete

11:00

Nursery

Suzanne Lever

Toddlers

Susan Cauthen/Esther Shields

Elementary

Debby Hegler/ Alaina Patterson

February 16

Nursery

Katey Powell

Toddlers

Niki Patterson/ Lorri Crawford

Nursery

Summer Bohler

Toddlers

Susan Cauthen/Gene Hunter

Elementary

Debby Hegler/ Alaina Patterson

Officers

January

Butch Ghent

Sam Huey

Susan Cauthen

Jim Davis

February

Richard Crawford

Sam Prete

Debbie Dickson

Doug Patterson

Staff

Pastor- Rev. Jonathan Williams

Secretary-Mrs. Stacy Pokopac

2025

2026

2027

Elders

Butch Ghent-VM

Sam Huey- C

Richard Crawford

Sam Prete

David Pokopac

Stewart Screpetis

Deacons

Susan Cauthen- S

Richard Shields- C

Debbie Dickson

Doug Patterson

Jim Davis-VC

Glenn Rhyne

An Associate Reformed Family Serving God, Lancaster, and the World

701 North Main Street, Lancaster SC 29720/ PO Box 864, Lancaster, SC 29721

803.285.1578/ onahill@comporium.net

<http://www.firstarplancaster.org>