

Lord's Day Worship
Creation Care Sunday
April 21, 2024
10:30 AM

Prelude: *Nimrod*..... Edward Elgar; arr. Robin Benton
Carillon Handbell Choir

Welcome: Rev. Elizabeth Johnson

Introit: *Celebrate* Carol Saylor
Sanctuary Choir
Celebrate, come celebrate. Join in as God's people in worship and singing.
Celebrate, come celebrate. Rejoice as we witness His love.
As we follow the path of life, may His strength be shown.
Celebrate, come celebrate His loving us as His own.

***Call to Worship** Sarah Elizabeth Phillips

Leader: In the midst of darkness...God imagined.

**All: God imagined a world filled with trees,
and blue skies and fluffy white clouds.**

Leader: In the meadow, God stood...

All: He imagined foxes, bluebirds and slithering snakes.

Leader: In a world of rainstorms and wildlife
and cattle and grasses blowing in the breeze...

All: God imagined humanity.

Leader: In a world teeming with billions of people...

All: God imagined me.

Leader: We are created in the image of God.

**All: God imagined us all. God loves each of us.
Let us worship with the same imagination as the Creator!**

***Hymn:** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*No. 20

Prayer of ConfessionAdalyn Aebersold
Creator God, we confess that we haven't cared for Your creation and creatures as we should. Often we waste rather than conserve. We're indifferent to polluted air and water that harm others but not us. We don't address what we've done and haven't done that endanger us and our earthly home. Merciful God, forgive us. By Your Spirit, inspire us to protect Your creation and creatures. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Response:** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* (stanzas 3 and 4 only).....No. 240

***Passing the Peace**

Scripture: from Psalm 148 Elizabeth Basaldua

Sermon: *Let All Creation Praise the Lord!* Rev. Dr. Will Robinson

Anthem: *All Things Bright and Beautiful* John Rutter
Sanctuary Choir
(Refrain) *All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.*

*Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours, He made their tiny wings. (Refrain)*

*The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset and the morning, that brightens up the sky;
The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,*

The ripe fruits in the garden, He made them every one: (Refrain)

*He gave us eyes to see them and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. (Refrain)*

***Affirmation of Faith**..... Millie Jones

We believe that God is the creator of all things, renews all things, and celebrates everything good and beautiful in creation. We believe Earth is a precious sanctuary, a sacred planet created by God in love, a home to share and to care for. We believe that God became fully human, became a part of Earth, shared family life, enjoyed friends and community, and suffered and died on a cross for all humanity and for all creation. We believe that Jesus is alive and at work reconciling all things to God and renewing all creation. We believe the Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the renewal of creation. We believe that we will be raised with the risen Lord, and with the Creator God we will live in the new heaven and new earth. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: *Walking With Jesus* arr. H. Dean Wagner
Carillon Handbell Choir

***Response:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*.....No. 606

***Prayer of Dedication** Hannah Smith

***Hymn:** *This Is My Father’s World*No. 370

***Charge and Benediction**

***Response:** *There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*Doris Akers

**There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise.
Without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.**

***Postlude:** *Plein Jeu a la Couperin* Gordon Young

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (FPC)!

We’re glad you’re here. We don’t look or act alike. God knows we don’t think alike. We come with questions, burdens and joys. But every Sunday we worship as one—in person and online. We pray you’ll experience God’s presence and better understand your faith through today’s service.

In-person worshippers: Complete the maroon fellowship pad at the end of your pew and wear your name tag if you’re a member so we can greet one another by name. (If you need a new name tag, just contact the church.) After worship, enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the Gathering Space.

Online worshippers: Use the QR code you’ll see on the screen at the beginning of worship or click on the blue “Connect” button on our website’s homepage and complete the brief pop-up form so we can connect with you.

“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME”

Children are welcome to sit with their parents/guardians in worship or to use the Family Worship Center in James Chapel (under the south balcony of the Sanctuary), which helps engage children in worship; check it out! You may also bring children to Creation Station (upstairs in Room 216) before worship begins for a lesson; children will return to the Sanctuary with FPC staff during the service.

ABOUT WORSHIP

Join us next Sunday at our 9 AM CrossRoads contemporary service in Fellowship Hall or at this 10:30 AM traditional service here in the Sanctuary. Or join us online by livestream or through a recording (available after 2 PM Sunday) of those services via our website’s homepage or on our YouTube channel.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor and celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on April 6 by Bob and Cindy Gluszik. (To give flowers for Sunday worship in memory or in honor of a loved one or in celebration of a particular event, please contact the church.)

The Call to Worship was written by Tim Graves and adapted by FPC Youth.

Leading in worship today: Adalyn Aebersold; Dr. Gerald Anderson, piano; Elizabeth Basaldua; Andrew Collins; Dr. S. Russell Floyd, Minister of Music; Elizabeth Johnson, Associate Pastor of Congregational Evangelism and Engagement; Millie Jones; Jane Jude, AV/Tech Coordinator; Chad Martin, Director of Music and Organist; Sarah Elizabeth Phillips; Rev. Dr. Will Robinson, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff; Bia Santos Almeida; Julia Santos Almeida; Dennis Smith, Carillon Handbell Choir Director; Hannah Smith

See something, say something! If you have concerns in the church or on our campus, please notify an usher, pastor or other staff.

“YOU’RE INVITED!”

Join FPC at a new member class NEXT SUNDAY AT 11:45 AM IN THE LIBRARY!

FPC Kids Musical and All-Church Picnic

Join us for fun, food and fellowship!

Wednesday, May 15

5:30 PM FPC Kids Musical (Sanctuary)
6:15 PM Cook-out includes burgers, dogs and all the fixin's!

Reservations are required by May 12 on our website
\$12 adults; children under 12 free

IN THE LIFE OF FPC

JOYFUL WORSHIP

Chad Martin became our Director of Music and Organist on April 1! He’ll work with Rusty Floyd, our longtime Minister of Music, before Rusty retires after May 19. We thank God for both of them and their gifts and faithfulness to the Lord in worship.

PRAYERFUL STUDY

Earth Care Book Study: *Braiding Sweetgrass* at 10:00 AM on Mondays through April 29 (Library/Zoom). With the Bible in one hand and excerpts from the book in the other, Jim Wagner will help us explore how some indigenous cultures view and interact with the gifts of creation. Register on our website or call the church; book is available through Amazon. **NOTE: Due to in-person space constraints, we’re accepting Zoom registrations/participants only.**

SACRIFICIAL SERVICE

Feed My Sheep Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. Bring non-perishable items to our Gathering Space for local food pantries, including our own People in Need (PIN)’s pantry. PIN is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 AM-noon to help people with utility bills, rent and food/supplies. **PIN is in particular need of mac and cheese and rice.**

Help us change lives and make disciples by giving via 1) a check made payable to FPC (540 William Hilton Parkway, HHI, SC 29928), 2) the Give button at fpchhi.org, 3) QR code (on the screen and the card in the pew racks) or 4) texting “FPCHHI” to 77977.

CARING CONNECTIONS

Submit prayer requests for our staff prayers and our confidential prayer chain via:

- Prayer boxes in Fellowship Hall and the narthex (the area outside the Sanctuary)
- Email info@fpchhi.org or a pastor (dknauf@fpchhi.org, ejohnson@fpchhi.org or wrobinson@fpchhi.org)
- QR code (on the card in the pew racks)

Through Pentecost, May 19, we'll lean even more on the life-giving power of Jesus through prayer. After 9:00 AM worship, a pastor and pair of deacons or Stephen Ministers will be in the back of Fellowship Hall (by the door to the courtyard), and after 10:30 AM worship they'll be in James Chapel (under the south balcony). You're invited to come forward and allow us to hear your needs or joys and to pray with and for you in a confidential time of prayer.

Stephen Ministry is a vital ministry of compassion and care to others. To learn how a Stephen Minister might help you or someone you love, contact Pastor Diane (dknauf@fpchhi.org).

If you or a family member will be in the hospital, had a recent hospitalization or would like pastoral care or to receive communion, contact Pastor Diane Knauf (919-909-2660) or the church (843-681-3696, ext. 245).

Citizen's Response to an Active Shooter Event (CRASE): Thursday, April 25, at 10 AM in the Sanctuary. The Beaufort County Sheriff's office will present and discuss how we can prepare for such an event. *All are welcome to attend; volunteers on the Observer, Usher and Welcome teams are encouraged to attend.*

Session has called a congregational meeting NEXT Sunday, April 28, after 10:30 AM worship in the Sanctuary for the purpose of acting on a change to the Terms of Call for Pastor Elizabeth Johnson. Please join us!

THIS WEEK AT FPC!

To learn more, go to fpchhi.org or contact the church.

Monday, April 22

- 10:00 AM *Braiding Sweet Grass* Book Study (Library/Zoom)
- 5:00 PM Soul Food Womens' Group (Zoom)

Tuesday, April 23

- 7:45 AM Ironman Small Group (Library)
- 1:30 PM Knitting Ministry (Library)
- 2:00 PM Weavers Small Group (Room 202/Zoom)

Wednesday, April 24

- 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
- 10:00 AM Journeymen Small Group (Room 219)
- 10:00 AM Women's Spiritual Exercise Group (Library/Zoom)
- 3:00 PM FPC Kids (various rooms)
- **3:00 PM FPC Nature Walk (Pinckney Island)**
- 4:15 PM Lowcountry Lessons class (Zoom)

Thursday, April 25

- 10:00 AM CRASE Active Shooter Training (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
- 2:00 PM Bereavement Support Group (Gathering Space)
- 4:00 PM AiM Youth Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 PM Meditation Group (South Room)
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 28

- 8:30 AM Nursery opens (Room 109)
- 8:30 AM Fellowship Time (Gathering Space)
- 9:00 AM Children's Sunday School (Creation Station)
- **9:00 AM CrossRoads contemporary worship (Fellowship Hall/livestream)**

- 9:00 AM Adult Seekers class (Room 202/Zoom)
- 9:00 AM Work In Progress class (Library/Zoom)
- 10:00 AM Fellowship Time (Gathering Space)
- 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School (Creation Station)
- **10:30 AM Traditional worship (Sanctuary/livestream)**
- **11:30 AM Congregational meeting (Sanctuary)**
- 11:30 AM Fellowship Time (Gathering Space)
- 11:30 AM J.O.Y. Group class (Zoom)
- **11:45 AM New Member Class (Library)**
- 4:00 PM Middle School Youth Group (Youth Space)
- 5:00 PM Youth Group Dinner (Youth Space)
- 6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group (Youth Space)

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WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES