

Seneca Presbyterian Church

September 03, 2023

THE REWARD FOR GOOD WORK IS MORE WORK

“Grounded in Faith ~ Growing to Serve”



115 West South First St., Seneca, SC 29678 (864) 882-2505 www.sprez.org

WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

14^h Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship - 10:00 a.m. Blended Worship September 3, 2023

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Egypt

Jesus

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Loving and merciful God, as we come to this place to worship and praise you this day, open our hearts and minds to your love, grace and mercy. Amen.

POURING OF THE WATER

Congregational Response:

You Belong to Christ

Hymn 492

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We say we come to worship to be with God, but the beautiful truth is:

People: God is already with us.

Leader: God is always with us.

People: So in this time together, let us lift our voice in praise of this loving, ever-present God!

*GATHERING PRAYER

O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN 49

The God of Abraham Praise

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us now confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we acknowledge our guilt, and seek your face and your forgiveness. For we have not offered steadfast love to you or each other. We have not moved forward in faith but have allowed ourselves to be stifled by fear. Revive us, raise us up, that we might live before you, rejoicing in the knowledge of your love.

(silent prayers of confession)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O Lamb of God

Hymn 555

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us, Lamb of God, and grant us your peace.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news!

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. Because of this, I can declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ that we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father

Hymn 581

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 3:1-12

ANTHEM

Holy Ground

SPC Choir and Band

A TIME FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND LESSON

Luke 3:15-23

SERMON

THE REWARD FOR GOOD WORK IS MORE WORK

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (adapted from the Confession of 1967)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. Christ's human life involves the church in the common life of all people. Christ's service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. Christ's suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. Christ's crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Thanks be to God!

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Musical Offering

Take My Life (vs 1,2,&5)

Hymn 697

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow

Hymn 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

*HYMN 688

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

BENEDICTION

RETURNING INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

POSTLUDE

*Let those who are able stand

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Pat Rabun

Shawn Thomas, Director of Music & Communication

Susan Richardson, Liturgist