

Seneca Presbyterian Church

September 10, 2023

THE MESSAGE AND MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION
“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

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

PRAISE & WORSHIP

We Praise You

God So Loved

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Here at Thy Table, Lord (arr: Hayes)

Jan Palmer, piano

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful find comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

POURING OF THE WATER

Congregational Response:

Baptized in Water (verse 1)

Hymn 482

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King; heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us kneel together before the LORD, our maker.

People: **For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

—Psalm 95:6-7

*GATHERING PRAYER

God of all faithfulness, you have opened the gate of mercy for your people and are always ready to welcome those who turn to you. Look on us in your compassion, that we may gladly respond to your love and faithfully walk in your way through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 774

There is Now a New Creation (verses 1,2,4,5)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in God's mercy and grace, Let us confess together our sin, using our responsive prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Across the barriers that divide race from race:

reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.

Across the barriers that divide rich from poor:

reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.

Across the barriers that divide people of different cultures:

reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.

Across the barriers that divide Christians:

reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.

Across the barriers that divide men and women, young and old:

reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.

**Confront us, O Christ, with the hidden prejudices and fears
that deny and betray our prayers.**

Enable us to see the causes of strife,

remove from us all senses of superiority.
Teach us to grow in unity with all God's children.
(silent prayers of confession)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God (vs 1)* Hymn 423
Create in me a clean heart, O God; create in me a clean heart, O God; create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew
a right spirit within me.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: The Lord says, "I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of
their sin and rebellion against me."

People: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! —Jeremiah 33:8

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Glory to God* Hymn 583

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 65:17-25

ANTHEM Crown Him (Majesty) SPC Choir and Band

A TIME FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

SERMON ***THE MESSAGE AND MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION***

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Apostles' Creed

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Musical Offering *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* SPC Handbell Choir, Jan Palmer, piano
*Doxology *Praise to God the Father* Hymn 605
Praise to God the Father; praise to God the Son; praise to God the Spirit: Praise to the Three-in-One. Sing praise,
sing praise to the Lord on high. Praise to God Almighty; praise to the Holy One.
*Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer
Words of Institution
Sharing the Gifts of God for the People of God
COMMUNION HYMN #494 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*
Prayer following Communion

SENDING

***HYMN 821** *How Can I Keep from Singing?*

BENEDICTION

RETURNING INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

POSTLUDE

*Let those who are able stand

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. David Howell

Shawn Thomas, Director of Music & Communication

Kelly Holleman, Liturgist