

# Seneca Presbyterian Church

November 5, 2023

## *OUR PLACE IN THE CLOUD*

*“Grounded in Faith ~ Growing to Serve”*



115 West South First St., Seneca, SC 29678  
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[www.sprez.org](http://www.sprez.org)

# WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

23rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship - 10:00 a.m. Combined Worship November 5, 2023

## PRAISE & WORSHIP

*Glory to God Forever*

*This I Believe (The Creed)*

## GATHERING

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

Thornwell

### PRELUDE

*Panis Angelicus (Bread of Angels)*

Diane DeMont-Malle

### SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

We praise you for creating this world in all beauty, for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord, and for sending us the gift of your Spirit to encourage, instruct, and sustain us. We long for your Spirit to work among us now, to inspire our praise, to challenge us with your truth, and to equip us for service in your world. 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: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

**People: there is no end to his greatness.**

Leader: One generation shall praise your works to another

**People: and shall declare your power.**

Leader: All your works praise you, Lord,

**People: and your faithful servants bless you.**

Leader: They make known the glory of your kingdom

**People: and speak of your power.**

Leader: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

**People: Let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

—based on Psalm 145:3-4, 10-11, 21

### \*GATHERING PRAYER

**Eternal God, neither death nor life can separate us from your love. Grant that we may serve you faithfully here on earth, and in heaven rejoice with all your saints, who ceaselessly proclaim your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 326**

*For All the Saints (vs 1,2,3,5)*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

People of God, let us acknowledge who we are and ask our ever-present God to forgive us.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. Forgive our indifference to your will. You have commanded us to speak, but we have been silent. You have called us to do what is just, but we have been fearful. Have mercy on us, your faithless servants. Keep before us faithful people for us to follow so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to the praise of your holy name. Amen.

*(silent prayers of confession)*

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Lamb of God*

Hymn 604

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

People: **Thank be to God for His love and grace!**

—from Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Glory Be to the Father*

Hymn 581

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 25:6-9

**ANTHEM**

*This Do in Remembrance of Me*

SPC Choir

**A TIME FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

**SECOND LESSON**

Hebrews 11:1-28; 12:1-2

**SERMON**

***OUR PLACE IN THE CLOUD***

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Apostles' Creed***

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

Musical Offering      *And God Shall Wipe Away All Tears (Dennis Eliot)*

\*Doxology      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*      Hymn 607

Praise God, from who all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

**REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS**

Leader: I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

**People: "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"**

Leader: Let us give thanks for these brothers and sisters in Christ to whom God has granted rest from their labors.

*The names of those who have died from our church this year shall be read aloud.  
Time will be offered for other names to be remembered, either aloud or in silence.*

Jean Kovacs	January 1, 2023
Fynn DeHay	January 30, 2023
Eleanor Richardson	February 19, 2023
Barbara Kolze	March 5, 2023
Ann Smith	July 28, 2023
Tony Knowles	August 15, 2023
Kaki Harmon	August 21, 2023
Herbert Morgan	September 24, 2023

Leader: Almighty God, we give you thanks for these your servants whom we remember today. Grant us grace to follow them as they followed Christ. Bring us, with them, to those things no eye has seen, nor ear heard, which you have prepared for those who love you.

**People: Give us faith to look beyond touch and sight, and seeing that we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, enable us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Bring us at last to your eternal peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **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 516

*For the Bread Which You Have Broken*

Communion Music

*"Simple Gifts" (arr. Greg Sewell)*

Prayer following Communion

### **SENDING**

**\*HYMN 610**

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

### **BENEDICTION**

### **RETURNING INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE**

*Please be seated for our organ postlude*

**POSTLUDE**

*A Song of Thanksgiving (Edward Broughton)*

\*Let those who are able stand

### **LEADING WORSHIP TODAY**

Rev. David Howell

Shawn Thomas, Director of Music & Communications

Steve Cooper, Organist

Carol Hartman, Liturgist

Judy Arnold & Kathy Gerner, Bells

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Church Family: Nancy Allgood, Sue Anders, Evans Harris, Jean Reinking, Christy Jones, Maria Leitner, Nancy Henning, Gordon Lewis, Emily Holleman, Bob Malle, Noel Lehner, June Carroll, Debbie Simpson, Tim Moon, Lou Schuman, Tracy Andrews, David Hartman, Beti Strobeck, Jon Young

Extended Church Family: Roy Laxton (father of Chad), Bella (Charlotte McDonald's family), Bill Cullison (brother of Sally Fortune), Wanda Nichols (friend of Donna Montague), Scott Gawlik (son of Betty Gawlik), Phylis King (friend of Donna Montague), Sally Owen (former member), Bob Willard (Elaine Williams' nephew), John Huston (friend of Scott Nickles), Reggie Williams (friend of Scott Nickles), Debbie Clary (Janey Turner's sister-in-law), Paul Cain family, Amy Schaub (niece of Alan & Brenda Thomson), Lisa Finch-Dwiggins, Billy Finch, Bobby Finch (Friends of Scott Nickles), Mike & Susan Bryant, Andrea Marie Dunlap, and the Lessmann Family (cousins of Pamela Davison-Smith), Tara Perry (family of Norma Liebenberg), Jennifer Bueno (Elaine Williams' daughter), Fernando (one of our friends from Guatemala), Linda Robinson and Kathy Shannon (relatives of Norma Liebenberg), Frances Matthews and Bernie Chalmers (friends of Carol Hartman), Amy Chilton, Susan & Larry Goebel's daughter, Kirsten Moss-Frye, Rodger Low's cousin, sympathy to Jan Crismore's family in the death of her brother Gale Steinway, and sympathy to Deborah Belflower in the death of her husband Gerald Belflower

**We pray for Rev. Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar,  
the missionaries supported by SPC.**

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>	
	<i>9:45 am</i>	<i>Praise and Worship</i>
	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Combined Worship – All Saints' Day</i>
	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Sign Language Team (meet in music room)</i>
	<i>11:20 am</i>	<i>Youth Faith Formation Time</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Staff Meeting</i>
	<i>3:30 pm</i>	<i>Mission and Community Care Committee</i>
	<i>4:30 pm</i>	<i>Deacon's Meeting</i>
	<i>4:30 pm</i>	<i>Handbell Choir Rehearsal</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>9:00-12:00 pm</i>	<i>Parish Nurse in Office</i>
	<i>5:30 pm</i>	<i>Unity Women's Circle Meeting</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>9:30 am</i>	<i>Days for Girls</i>
	<i>5:30 pm</i>	<i>Choir &amp; Band</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>9:00-12:00 pm</i>	<i>Parish Nurse</i>
	<i>9:00 am</i>	<i>SPC Men's Group</i>
	<i>12:00 pm</i>	<i>Brown Bag &amp; Bible Study</i>
<i>Saturday</i>		<i>Veteran's Day</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>9:45 am</i>	<i>Praise and Worship</i>
	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Combined Worship</i>
		<i>Dedication Sunday</i>
		<i>Receive New Members</i>
		<i>Congregational Meeting</i>
	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Youth Faith Formation Time</i>

## THIS WEEK'S LECTIONARY READINGS

Joshua 3:7-17	Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Micah 3:5-12	Psalm 43
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Congregational Meeting**

A Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, November 12 following our worship service. The new slate of elders, deacons, and trustees will be presented to the congregation for approval. We will also ask the congregation to vote to discharge the Pastor Nominating Committee after they have successfully completed their duties.

### **New Members!**

For those joining SPC in November, please meet in Classroom 1 on Sunday, November 12 at 9:00 am to be received into our church family. Their Shepherds and our Elders are asked to attend.

### **Peanut Butter Sunday**

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Peanut Butter Sunday collection as we continue to honor Ann Smith with this tradition. We delivered 93 pounds of peanut butter to The Golden Corner Food Pantry!

### **Brown Bag & Bible Study for November**

Our BB&B study group meets on Thursdays at noon. Our dates for this month are November 2, 9, and 30th. For more information contact [hello@sprez.org](mailto:hello@sprez.org).

### **Dedication Sunday**

Sunday, November 12 is Dedication Sunday! If you have not already turned in your 2024 Pledge Card, we ask that you bring them to the worship service that day. During the service, you will be invited along with the rest of your church family to bring your cards forward to be presented for God's glory.

### **Christmas Choir!**

Are you interested in joining the Christmas Choir for our program on December 10? If so, rehearsals will be held at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays in the Music Room. Contact Shawn Thomas at [shawn@sprez.org](mailto:shawn@sprez.org) for more details.

### **Coffee Sunday – Today!**

Pick up some of our delicious Just Coffee, supporting our mission partner at the border, Frontera de Cristo. Available in Arabica, Robusto or Decaf, either regular or dark roast. Regular coffee is \$11 per pound bag and \$12 for decaf. Please pay by check or have exact change.

### **SPC Women's Group**

Our women's circle group is now called, "Unity Circle." Join us the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm in Classroom #1. For more information contact [hello@sprez.org](mailto:hello@sprez.org).



### **Christmas Sign Language Team**

We've got a new sign language song if you'd like to join us in learning it. We will present our interpretation as part of the Christmas program during worship on Sunday morning, December 10th. We will practice only three times - each right after church: Nov 5, Nov 19, Dec 3. (The youth will then move on to their regular "Faith Formation" classes.)

### **DSS Christmas Program**

The Wahalla Department of Social Services (DSS) is responsible for approximately 375 young children. The social workers, along with the parents and guardians of these children develop a profile for the wants and needs of each child. We at SPC receive these profiles which allow us to shop for them and provide a Christmas that perhaps they would not otherwise have. To sponsor a child and receive a profile, contact Jerry Crabtree, or the church office at [hello@sprez.org](mailto:hello@sprez.org). Donations/gifts should be delivered to the church in Classroom #2 by December 3rd. Financial donations can also be made to "DSS" and left with the church office.

### **Seneca Christmas Parade**

Join us on Monday, November 27 on our front steps just outside the sanctuary as we watch the Seneca Christmas Parade go right by the front of our church! Caroling starts at 5:30 pm, followed by the parade at 6:00 pm. Hot Chocolate and sweets will be available at our SPC tent/booth!

### **Interested in Learning More About SPC or Becoming A Member?**

If you'd like to learn more about us, or even about becoming a member of our church, please reach out to Rev. David Howell at [pastor@sprez.org](mailto:pastor@sprez.org) so that he can follow up with you personally.

### **Church Announcements**

Have a calendar update, room assignment, bulletin announcement, or Presby Press article? Please use our online submission form at [form.sprez.org](http://form.sprez.org), or email [admin@sprez.org](mailto:admin@sprez.org)

### **Name Tags**

Don't forget to wear your name tags! Need one made? Drop by the church office or email [hello@sprez.org](mailto:hello@sprez.org).

*On Sunday mornings and for special events, please remember to leave the main parking lot (entrance from N. Oak Street) open and available for our guests and those who need easy access.*

**INTERESTED IN A BIBLE STUDY?**

**Then this questionnaire is for YOU!**

**THIS BIBLE STUDY WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO BB&B WHICH MEETS ON THURSDAYS FROM 12:00 NOON – 1:00 P.M.**

WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU TO MEET FOR A BIBLE STUDY?

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DO YOU PREFER:                    MORNING \_\_\_                    AFTERNOON \_\_\_                    EVENING \_\_\_

WHAT BIBLE STUDY TOPICS WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN HEARING AND STUDYING ABOUT?

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WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO \_\_\_ LEAD, OR \_\_\_ HELP LEAD, A BIBLE STUDY CLASS?

**Please return this form to the church office so that the Christian Education Committee can review these forms.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

Christian Education Committee:

- Kathy Gerner, Chair
- Natalie Arnold, Co-Chair
- Susan Caldwell
- Nancy Ramsey
- Charlotte McDonald
- Ashley Carlson