

# Seneca Presbyterian Church

April 28, 2024

*What Happens When We Get to the Top of the Mountain?*

*“Grounded in Faith ~ Growing to Serve”*



115 West South First St., Seneca, SC 29678  
(864) 882-2505  
[www.sprez.org](http://www.sprez.org)

# WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter | 9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship - 10:00 a.m. Combined Worship | April 28, 2024

## PRAISE & WORSHIP

*I Call You Holy*

*I Could Sing of Your Love*

## GATHERING

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Awaken our minds, O God, that we might set aside distractions and competing thoughts. Awaken our hearts, O God, that we might sense Your presence with us. Send Your Holy Spirit to awaken our spirits, as we sing Your praise and draw near to You in prayer. Wake us up, O God, in this time of worship. Amen.

### POURING OF THE WATER

Congregational Response: *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (v 1)* Hymn 486  
Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign, with the water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from the Lord.

**People: God only is my rock and my salvation; I shall not be shaken.**

Leader: Trust in the Lord at all times, O people; pour out your heart before God.

**People: Our trust is in the Lord. We worship God's name.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

—Psalm 62

### \*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 450

*Be Thou My Vision (vs 1, 2, 4)*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of life, there are days when the burdens we carry are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down, when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening, when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path light, turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us companionship with the saints of every age; and lift our spirits so that we may be able to encourage all who journey with us on the road to life.**

*(silent prayers of confession)*

## **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Lord, Have Mercy*

Hymn 551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Friends in Christ, hear this incredibly good news. Like a shepherd searching for a lost sheep, God will seek us out. Like a person looking for a lost coin, God will not give up on us. Proclaim the good news to one another.

**People: In the love of Christ, we are forgiven and freed to try again. Amen.**

## **\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Glory Be to the Father*

Hymn 581

## **THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Psalm 63

### **ANTHEM**

*Lord Reign in Me*

SPC Choir and Band

### **SECOND LESSON**

John 14:1-7

### **SERMON**

**What Happens When We Get to the Top of the Mountain?**

Rev. Pat Rabun

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** *from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### **OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

Special Musical Offering *Wonderful Merciful Savior*

Ashley Carlson, Michelle Jordan,  
Shawn Thomas, and SPC Band

\*Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Hymn 606

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.

\*Prayer of Dedication

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **SENDING**

\*HYMN 667

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

#### **BENEDICTION**

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

#### **POSTLUDE**

\*Let those who are able stand

#### **LEADING WORSHIP TODAY**

Rev. Pat Rabun

Carol Hartman, Liturgist

Shawn Thomas, Director of Music & Communications

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Church Family: Faith Beerman, Ken Schuman, Suzan Strickland, Aislinna Sow, Donna Absher, Sally Caswell, Margot Holmquist, Nancy Allgood, Sue Anders, Evans Harris, Maria Leitner, Nancy Henning, Emily Holleman, June Carroll, Tracy Andrews, Nancy Wilson, John Wilson, Beti Strobeck

Extended Church Family: Leah Lehner (Betty Lehner's great-niece) Darlene Crawford (David Hartman's sister), Denise and her family (Denise is Dain Yanessa's cousin), Jim Preshell (Dan Gryder's nephew), Rev. George Harper, Lula Ladd (Brian Ladd's mother), Philip Gaines (James Gaines' son), Todd Ramsey, (Nancy Ramsey's son), Chris Tharp, (Nancy Ramsey's brother), Bella (Charlotte McDonald's family member), 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), Debbie Clary (Janey Turner's sister-in-law), Paul Cain family, Amy Schaub (niece of Alan & Brenda Thomson), Bobby Finch & Kenneth Finch (friends of Scott Nickles), Mike & Susan Bryant, Andrea Marie Dunlap, and the Lessmann Family (cousins of Pamela Davison-Smith), Tara Perry (Norma Liebenberg's 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin), Jennifer Bueno (Elaine Williams' daughter), Peri Hart (friend of Norma Liebenberg), Amy Chilton (Susan & Larry Goebel's daughter), Dennis Drbal (Jan Crismore's son-in-law), Mike Mobley (friend of Donna McIntire), Frank Stegmann & Karen McCarty (siblings of Kris Saracelli), Sue Shank (friend of Dian Yanessa), Jean Gettys (friend of Gene Goodwin), Kim Robinson (friend of Ginger Pope)

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

## **THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>9:45 am</i>	<i>Praise &amp; Worship</i>
	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Combined Worship</i>
	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Intergenerational Sunday school and Meal</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Staff Meeting</i>
	<i>5:30 pm</i>	<i>Handbell Choir Rehearsal</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>9:00 am-Noon</i>	<i>Parish Nurse (In office)</i>
	<i>1:00pm-5:00pm</i>	<i>Parish Nurse (Available by appointment)</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>3:00 pm</i>	<i>Fellowship Committee Meeting</i>
	<i>5:30 am</i>	<i>Choir/Band Practice</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>	<i>Parish Nurse (In office)</i>
	<i>12:00 pm</i>	<i>Brown Bag &amp; Bible Study</i>
	<i>1:00 pm-5:00 pm</i>	<i>Parish Nurse (Available by appointment)</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>10:30 am</i>	<i>Walk in SC Botanical Gardens</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>9:45 am</i>	<i>Praise &amp; Worship</i>
	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Combined Worship</i>
	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Youth Faith Formation</i>
	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study – Book of Ruth – Classroom 1</i>

## **THIS WEEK'S LECTIONARY READINGS**

Acts 8:26-40	Psalm 22:25-31
Luke 24:36b-48	Exodus 19:1-6
1 John 4:7-21	Psalm 118:19-25
John 15:1-8	

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Intergenerational Sunday School and Meal**

Please join us in Pastor's Hall **TODAY** after Worship Service for an Intergenerational Sunday School and meal. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Brown Bag & Bible Study on 1 Corinthians**

Please come join us and bring lunch if you'd like, or just bring yourself! We meet on Thursdays at noon in Classroom #1.

### **Walk in SC Botanical Gardens**

Join us on Saturday May 4 for a stroll through the South Carolina Botanical Gardens. Bring your own lunch and water. We will meet at the red caboose at 10:30am and enjoy the spring flowers and sunshine. Stay as long as you like. In the event of rain we will postpone.

### **SPC Potluck with K-9s!**

The Fellowship committee invites everyone to a potluck supper on Thursday, May 9th at 5:30pm. Our special guests will be Seneca Police K-9's "Rogue" and "Bea" with their handlers. Sign-up for potluck items in the church office.

### **Protecting Yourself and Others From Scams**

Join the Clemson Institute for Engaged Aging on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm at Seneca Presbyterian Church in Classroom #1. They are seeking 6-10 Participants to stay after for a focus Group. Focus group participants will receive a \$25 gift card as a thank you.

### **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). Please have your request for the bulletin submitted by noon on Tuesdays. Submissions for Presby Press are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.



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**SUNDAYS AT 3PM**

**May 19th**  
**Steve Cooper**

**June 30th**  
**Shawn Thomas**

**PURCHASE ONLINE AT:**  
**[WWW.SPREZ.ORG](http://WWW.SPREZ.ORG)**  
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**(864) 882-2505**  
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Steve Cooper, Organ



Shawn Thomas, Christian Singer/Songwriter

\*Tickets are per person, and per each individual concert. \*Funds remaining after expenses will be donated to local charities.