

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENSBORO, GEORGIA

Sunday, September 10, 2017 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Elder of the Month: James Graham

Director of Music: Donna Kicklighter

Pastor: Rev. Alex Stevens

RINGING OF THE HOUR *(Please be seated.)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 103:1-5, 8, 11, 12, 22

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—

Who forgives all our iniquity, who heals all our diseases, who redeems our lives from the Pit, who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies us with good as long as we live so that our youth is renewed like the eagles.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love toward those who fear you;

As far as the east is from the west, so far you remove our transgressions from us.

Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

* HYMN #14 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Oh Lord of all, you who create out of nothing, who sustains us with gifts and blessings, and who redeems us from our downward spiral of sin, ...we thank you for this wonderful creation you have entrusted to us, ...we thank you for your care of us ...and we praise you for your sacrifice which gives us the right to come to you and be forgiven and cleansed. Forgive us for our sin and for our sins. Hear our prayer, O Lord, so that we may be led to be better citizens and stewards in your world. Hear us, too, as we pray silently to you...

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Spirit of the Living God (insert)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As far as the east is from the west, so far has the Lord separated us from our sin.

Be at peace and know that through faith in Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

People: Amen

* PEACE OF CHRIST

* GLORIA PATRI *(insert)*

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed (insert)*

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory

* Doxology *(insert)*

Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN #838 *Standing on the Promises*

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Ezekiel 33:7-11

* Hymn #451 *Open My Eyes That I May See*

Gospel Lesson Matthew 18:15-20

Psalm Reading Psalm 119:33-40

Sermon *The Way of the Lord*

James Graham

pew Bible p. 802

congregation

pew Bible p. 20

pew Bible p. 567

Rev. Alex Stevens

* HYMN #720 *Jesus Calls Us*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

And all God's children said,

People: Alleluia! Amen!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #743 *Oh God, You Are My God*

* (Those who are able, please stand.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ICE CREAM AND SANDWICHES SOCIAL will be held after church this Sunday; please come.

PRAYER LIST AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Please note that announcements and prayer changes need to be forwarded to Pastor Alex at either 678-897-2299 or waastevens@gmail.com preferably by Monday afternoon, but no later than Thursday morning.

THE WORK GROUP FOR ORPHAN AID LIBERIA continues to meet on Mondays at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider joining this meaningful project.

FELLOWSHIP CLASS Join us at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall as we continue our study of Religions of the World. No homework. No stress.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY is a local mission project that knits/crochets shawls to be given to those in need of our special prayers and remembrance. For information, contact Brooke Hinds at 762-445-1006.

FLOWERS To provide flowers for the church, please see the list in the narthex and speak to Eileen Usherwood or Ann Corry.

THE SHORTER CATECHISM (The fourth commandment, part 1)

Q.57. Which is the fourth commandment? The fourth commandment is: *Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the foreigner within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, but he rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the seventh day and made it holy.* (Note: Sabbath also means rest, not just seventh.)

Q. 58. What is required in the fourth commandment? The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word, in particular, one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.

Q. 59. Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath? From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath, but thereafter he appointed the first day of the week, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath or the Lord's Day.

SERVICE MUSIC AND LITURGY

Spirit of the Living God

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me*

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* (universal church)*

Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; World without end. Amen, Amen*

Doxology

*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*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

As Christians, we grow in love for
the ones for whom we pray,
the ones with whom we pray and
the One to Whom we pray.

A PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own goodness, but in your all-embracing love and mercy. We are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs under your table, but it is your nature always to have mercy. So feed us with the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your Son, that we may forever live in him and he in us. Amen.

Mal. 1:11 From the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Our military personnel	Doris Birdsong, Andrew Boswell's sister
Dell Boettger, Jane Epps's cousin	David Blough, who has cancer
Scotty Brazier	Nancy Jo Durham, Judy Boswell's sister
Lanie Epps Whitt	Becky Dennis
Lindsey Walker	Lucy Lathrop
Orphan Aid Liberia	Adair Moore, Jimmy's older brother
Johnnie Satterfield	Jean Coleman, friend of the Satterfields
Mildred Tietjen	Carey Wickland
Nancy Gloege	Ed Lewis
Stephen Jackson	Chris Sandoval, Beth Lewis's son-in-law
Chris and Violeta Penna	Gary Pressley
Bill Corry	Vivian Ferland's sister
Spencer Hinds, surgery recovery	Hurricane victims

Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance.
The Lord be with you all! *2 Thessalonians 3:16*