

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENSBORO, GEORGIA

Sunday, September 17, 2017 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Elder of the Month: James Graham

Pianist: Joan Stevens

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 #366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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 #738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Special Music

Gospel Lesson

Sermon

Genesis 50:15–21

In Jesus' Name

Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiveness

James Graham

pew Bible p. 48

Joan Stevens

pew Bible p. 20

Rev. Alex Stevens

* HYMN #729 v.1-3 *Lord I Want to Be a Christian*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

And all God's children said,

People: Alleluia! Amen!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #729 v.4 *Lord I Want to Be a Christian*

* (Those who are able, please stand.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 NINETEENTH HOLLERS GOLF GROUP will meet for 10:00 and 10:10 tee times at the Creek at Hard Labor on Thursday September 21. Come and have fun. For more information contact Alex at either 678-897-2299 or waastevens@gmail.com.

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 five-week DVD series by Ray Van Derlaan filmed on-site in Israel. 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 2)

Q. 60. How is the sabbath to be sanctified? The sabbath /or Lord's Day, which is given for man's good and as a pointer to his eternal destiny, is to be kept holy by resting all that day from our work and recreations, and spending the whole time in the public and private worship, except the time spent in works of necessity and mercy.

Q. 61. What is forbidden in the fourth commandment? The fourth commandment forbids the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the misuse of the day by idleness, sinful acts, or unnecessary thoughts, words or works about our worldly affairs and recreations.

Q. 62. What are the reasons attached to the fourth commandment? The reasons attached to the fourth commandment are God's allowance of six days for worldly tasks, his claim to special ownership of the seventh, his own example, and his blessing of the sabbath 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

Loving God, you have so made us that we cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from your mouth. Give us a hunger for your Word, and in that food satisfy our daily need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 24:1

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.

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

Romans 16:24-27

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to the gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, which has been made known to all the nations, and which leads to the obedience of faith; to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.