

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENSBORO, GEORGIA

Sunday, October 8, 2017 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Elder of the Month: Alex Brazier

Musician: Rev. Joan Stevens

Pastor: Rev. Alex Stevens

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

PRELUDE *Living for Jesus*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP 2 Thess 3:18; Psalm 105:1-2

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

O come, let us sing to the Lord and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise.

*** HYMN #305** *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we strayed from Your ways. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from You. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In Your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose Your will and obey Your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Hear us now, Lord, as we pray silently to You...

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON 1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse

us from all unrighteousness. Be at peace, my friends, in the sure and certain knowledge of God's grace.

People: Amen.

*** PEACE OF CHRIST**

*** GLORIA PATRI** *(insert)*

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

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory *As the Deer*

*** Doxology** *(insert)*

Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

*** HYMN #708** *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament

Anthem, Choir

Epistle Lesson

Sermon

Brooke Hinds

pew Bible p. 24

Matthew 21:33-46

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Philippians 3:4b-14

pew Bible p. 198

What's the Point?

Rev. Alex Stevens

*** HYMN #353**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

And all God's children said,

People: Alleluia! Amen!

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #700, vs 1**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

*** (Those who are able, please stand.)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST AND ANNOUNCEMENTS should be forwarded to Pastor Alex at either 678-897-2299 or waastevens@gmail.com.

THE CHURCH PICNIC will be at Beth Lewis' on Sunday, October 15. It will include worship at 11:00 AM and lunch. A sign up sheet for bringing food is in the narthex. Contact Cheri Moore for any other details. You may want to bring your own chair.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will meet on Sunday, October 22 at 2:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

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 SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: We will not meet next week, October 15, as we will all be gathering at Beth Lewis' farm for worship. We hope to see you there. On October 22 we will continue our study of the Protestant Reformation as we celebrate its 500th Anniversary. Do you know why the baptismal font is at the front of the Sanctuary in Presbyterian Churches but at the door of Catholic churches? Or why the cloth on our Communion Table does not reach the floor? Or why Presbyterians say "forgive us our debts" and Methodists say "trespasses"? Because of the Reformation! Join us and learn. 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.

HURRICANE RELIEF can be supported by making a donation at any time to the church and earmarking it for hurricane relief. All such funds received will be forwarded to Presbyterian Disaster Relief where they will be applied to the areas of greatest need in support of hurricane stricken communities.

FROM THE SHORTER CATECHISM

Q. 70. Which is the seventh commandment? The seventh commandment is: "You shall not commit adultery."

Q. 71. What is required in the seventh commandment? The seventh commandment requires us to preserve our own and our neighbor's chastity in heart, speech, and behavior.

Q. 72. What is forbidden in the seventh commandment? The seventh commandment forbids all impure thoughts, words, and actions.

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.*

[* the word catholic means universal]

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

When you depart this sanctuary, you enter the mission field.

Mission Statement (where we are now)

We are disciples of Jesus Christ reaching out through mission and warm, welcoming fellowship to individuals of various communities of the Greene County area.

Vision Statement (where we are in the future)

To be the church of choice to the very rapidly growing population of the Greene County area: the active adult community.

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 *Desiderius Erasmus (1466–1536)*

O Lord Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life: do not let us stray from you, the Way, nor to distrust you, the Truth, nor to rest in anything other than you, the Life. **Amen.**

Isaiah 2:3

And many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

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	Spencer Hinds, surgery recovery
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
Hurricane victims	Bob Wheeler, surgery recovery
Las Vegas victims and their families	