

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENSBORO, GEORGIA

Sunday, January 7, 2018
First Sunday after Epiphany
Elder of the Month: Cheri Moore
Musician: Jo Ellen Wells Pastor: Rev. Alex Stevens

RINGING OF THE HOUR *(Please be seated)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Almighty God, You have shed upon us the new light of Your Incarnate Word.

May this light be enkindled in our hearts and shine forth in our lives;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Light of the World has come, let us worship the Lord!

* **HYMN #634** *To God Be the Glory*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In Your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Hear us now, Lord, as we pray silently to You...

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Romans 8:34; 2 Cor. 5:17

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us, and Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

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 # 321 (vs 1,2,5)** *The Church's One Foundation*

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament

Anthem

New Testament

Sermon

Colossians 1:15-20

Because He Lives

Colossians 3:1-17

My Prayer for You

Brooke Hinds

pew Bible p. 200

Choir

pew Bible p. 201

Rev. Alex Stevens

* **HYMN # 306 (vs 1-4)**

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Brooke Hinds

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

CHARGE AND BLESSING

And all God's children said,

People: Alleluia! Amen!

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Hymn # 306 (v.5)**

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

* (Those who are able, please stand.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST NOTIFICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS should be forwarded to Susie Pressley at either jimmiypressley@yahoo.com or 404-630-7592.

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

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will meet at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall starting next Sunday, the 14th. Join us and learn. No homework. No stress.

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

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS:

For the elders-elect:

- a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
- c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
- d. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
- e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
- f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
- g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
- h. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
- i. Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

For the congregation:

- (1) Do we, the members of the church accept Jan Brazier, Brooke Hinds, Cherie Moore, Johnnie Satterfield and Noble Usherwood as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? Do we?
- (2) Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? Do we?

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*

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*

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]

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.

A PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Micah 6:6, 8

With what shall we come before the Holy One, and bow ourselves before God on high? God has shown us what is good. What does the Holy One require of us, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God?

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Veterans and military personnel	Doris Birdsong, Andrew Boswell's sister
Dell Boettger, Jane Epps's cousin	David Blough, cancer recovery
Scotty Brazier	Nancy Jo Durham, Judy Boswell's sister
Lanie Epps Whitt	Becky Dennis
Lindsey Walker	Lucy Lathrop, Vivian Ferland's sister
Orphan Aid Liberia	Adair Moore, Jimmy Moore's brother
Johnnie Satterfield	Bill Corry
Mildred Tietjen	The Wickland family in their grief
Nancy Gloege	Ed Lewis
Stephen Jackson	Chris Sandoval, Beth Lewis's son-in-law
Chris Penna	Gary Pressley
Victims of trauma	Pastor Nominating Committee
Eileen Usherwood, leg injury	Susie Pressley, ankle surgery recovery