

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

11:00 a.m. February 4, 2024

Welcome and Opportunities of the Church

Striking of the Hour

Prelude: *Rhosymedre ("Lovely")*.....Vaughan Williams

Call to Worship.....1 Chronicles 16:8-10

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

* Hymn of Praise: *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*.....HB No. 15

* Prayer of Adoration and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon.....2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

* Confession of Faith—Heidelberg Catechism Question #1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven. In fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Anthem: *Prayer to Jehovah*.....James

** Children's Message.....Jon Oliphant

* First Reading: *Selection 30*.....p. 502

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*.....arr. Wood

* Doxology.....HB No. 544

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

* Hymn: *Faith of Our Fathers*.....HB No. 348

* Sermon Text.....Matthew 6:25-33

Sermon.....*Seek and Trust*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Petition

* Hymn of Dedication: *Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*.....HB No. 380

* Benediction

* Gloria Patri.....HB No. 546

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.

Postlude: *Pilgrims*.....Smart

** Those who are able, please stand.*

***Children through 2nd grade are dismissed to Children's Church.*

Inspired by the love of Christ, and enabled by the Holy Spirit, we serve God through worship, education and fellowship that we may proclaim His grace and share His love in the world.

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship here today.

Visitors are invited view our website www.firstarp.org for more information.

****If you would like to receive the regular church-wide communications via email and/or mail, please contact the church office with your information.****

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, February 4

8:30 a.m..... Prayer Time, parlor

9:00 a.m..... Worship Service

10:00 a.m..... Sunday School

11:00 a.m..... Worship Service

4:00 p.m..... Just Joy Board Meeting

5:30 p.m..... Youth Group

MONDAY, February 5

5:30 p.m..... Ruth Circle

TUESDAY, February 6

7:00 a.m..... Men's Ministry Prayer Team

10:00 a.m..... Women's Ministries Bible Study

5:00 p.m..... Missions Ministry Team

WEDNESDAY, February 7

5:30 p.m..... Foundations for the Faith

6:15 p.m..... GriefShare

7:15 p.m..... Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAY, February 8

12:00 p.m..... Women's Ministries Bible Study

7:30 p.m..... Esther Circle

SATURDAY, February 10

7:00 a.m..... Men's Bible Study

SUNDAY, February 11

8:30 a.m..... Prayer Time, parlor

9:00 a.m..... Worship Service

10:00 a.m..... Sunday School

11:00 a.m..... Worship Service

5:00 p.m..... Shortened Youth Group

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by the congregation in honor of Mike Duncan, First ARP's wonderful custodian.

Sermon Text // Matthew 6:25-33

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Rev. Dr. Kyle E. Sims is from Pickens County, South Carolina. He is a 1993 graduate of Erskine College, where he played basketball. He has a Master's of Divinity from RTS-Charlotte and a Doctor of Ministry from Erskine Seminary. Rev. Sims was pastor at the Hickory Grove & Smyrna ARP Churches before moving to Lancaster to serve at First ARP Church. Since June, he has been serving as Director of Admissions and Church Relations at Erskine Seminary. He is married to Kelly Counts Sims, and they have four children. His daughter Elizabeth works in the admissions department at Erskine College. Rev. Sims has served in many capacities within Catawba Presbytery. At the Synod level, he has served as Vice-moderator of Synod and is presently serving as the Principal Clerk of the Synod.

General Fund 2023	December 2023	Jan-Dec 2023
Receipts	\$152,972	\$1,042,413
Expenses	\$77,400	\$935,422
Surplus (Deficit)	\$75,573	\$106,991
Budgeted Monthly	\$83,322	—

Usher Captains Jeff Diers & Mike McQuinn
Counters for today Alex Wilson & Amber Graham
Greeting Jeff Lyon & Tim Marshall
Safety Bill Altman

Looking Ahead

- **2024 Church Member Directory** The 2024 Member directories are in and available to be picked up in the T-hall and Connector.
- **Inquirer’s Class** During Sunday School hour to learn more about the church, denomination and membership. This class will meet in the Grace Changes Everything Classroom. The last class will be next week on 2/11.
- **Family Life Valentine’s Night** Wednesday, February 14 will be an intergenerational night of fun cheering on 4 couples in the Newlywed Game after regularly scheduled dinner.
- **Galentine’s Brunch** All ladies are invited on Saturday, February 17 from 9-11 am. Bring a shareable breakfast food or dish and join us! Friends are welcome!
- **Women’s Ministries Retreat** March 8-9 in Columbia. Biblical Theology Workshop for Women with Nancy Guthrie. Please see monthly newsletter or the church app “Upcoming Events” section for more information and registration info.

FOR MORE DETAILS on these events and many others:

- Check out our *Newsletter* or *Weekly Update*
- Call or email the church office: 803-327-2009 or lross@firstarp.org

Anthem
Prayer to Jehovah

Molly Ijames // Peter Williams
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Guide me O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
 I am weak but Thou art mighty, hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.

Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven, feed me ‘til I want no more,
 Bread of Heaven, bread of Heaven, feed me, feed me ‘til I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream o’er flow;
 Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
 strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, Be my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
 Death of death and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side

Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;
 Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.