THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

9:00 a.m. May 5, 2024

Welcome and Opportunities of the Church

Prelude

Call to Worship……Psalm 30:4-5

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

* Hymns for Worship and Praise:

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise.....No. 29

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go.....No. 50

* 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.

Confession of Sin: from George Matheson

"O Lord, as long as I am apart from you, I am self-satisfied, because I have no standard by which to measure my low stature. But when I come near to you, there for the first time I see myself. In your light I behold my darkness. In your purity I behold my corruption. My very confession of sin is the fruit of holiness. Oh! Divine Man, let me gaze on you more and more until, in the vision of your brightness, I loathe the sight of my impurity; until, in the blaze of that glory which human eye has not seen, I fall prostrate, blinded, broken, to rise again a new man in you. Amen."

Assurance of Pardon……1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Offertory

* 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. Amen

* Prayer of Dedication

** Children's Message……Jon Oliphant

* Sermon Text……Acts 9:1-19a

Sermon……*The Miracle of Conversion*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Petition

§ Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

* Hymn of Dedication: *Wonderful Merciful Savior*……No. 69

* Benediction

* Congregational Response

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

Postlude

**Those who are able, please stand.*
***Children 4k—2nd grade are dismissed to Children's Church.*
§ Please note that the outer circle in each of the wine trays contains grape juice.

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, May 5
- 8:30 a.m..... Prayer Time, parlor
- 9:00 a.m..... Worship Service; Communion
- 10:00 a.m..... Sunday School
- 10:45 a.m..... Called Meeting of the Session
- 11:00 a.m..... Worship Service; Communion
- 4:00 p.m..... Just Joy Board Meeting
- 5:30 p.m..... Youth Hangout

MONDAY, May 6
- 6:30 p.m..... Ruth Circle, Robinson Hall

TUESDAY, May 7
- 7:00 p.m..... Preschool Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY, May 8
- 7:15 p.m..... Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAY, May 9
- 2:00 p.m..... Westminster Bible Study @ Westminster Chapel

SATURDAY, May 11
- 7:00 a.m..... Men's Bible Study

SUNDAY, May 12
- 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

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mills Wilson's 2nd birthday.

From the English Standard Version of the Holy Bible

Sermon Text // Acts 9:1-19a

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest [2] and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. [3] Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. [4] And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" [5] And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. [6] But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [7] The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. [8] Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. [9] And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

[10] Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." [11] And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, [12] and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." [13] But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. [14] And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." [15] But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. [16] For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." [17] So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." [18] And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; [19] and taking food, he was strengthened.

For further study on today's sermon text:

Ephesians 2:1-10

Looking Ahead

- **Gluten-free communion bread** Each tray has a couple individually packaged gluten-free elements. There are more in each vestibule.
- **Horizon & Quest** registration is open until May 10th. See the Elijah Hoyer or the weekly email for links and more details.
- **Preschool Summer Camps** First ARP Preschool will host 4 weeks of summer camp this year. Registration deadline is May 17. See newsletter and/or weekly email for details.
- **Graduation Sunday** June 2 we will have Sunday School at 9 am and a single service at 10 am where we will highlight our high school grads followed by a small reception.
- **Vacation Bible School: High Seas Adventure** June 24-27, registration is open for rising 4K-6th grade.
- **Camp Bonclarken** July 21-26 & July 28-August 2 for 2nd-8th graders. *scholarships available from WM upon request*

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

Usher Captains ..... Jackson Emerson & Matt Krinn
Counters for today ..... Alex Wilson & Michele Harbin
Greeting ..... Tim Kiser
Worship Assistance ..... George Coxhead
Safety .....

General Fund 2024	March 2024	Jan-Dec 2024
Receipts	$106,769	$253,961
Expenses	$87,203	$256,911
Surplus (Deficit)	$19,566	($2,950)
Budgeted Monthly	$87,798	—