THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

11:00 a.m. February 25, 2024

Welcome and Opportunities of the Church
Striking of the Hour
Prelude*: O World, I Must Now Leave Thee*.....Brahms
Call to Worship.....Psalm 150:1-2, 6

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

* Hymn of Praise: *O Lord, Thou Art My God and King*.....HB No. 5
* Prayer of Adoration, Confession, 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.....Joel 2:12-13

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

* Confession of Faith—Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #60

Q. How are you righteous before God?
A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Although my conscience accuses me that I have grievously sinned against all God's commandments, have never kept any of them, and am still inclined to all evil, yet God, without any merit of my own, out of mere grace, imputes to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ. He grants these to me as if I had never had nor committed any sin, and as if I myself had accomplished all the obedience which Christ has rendered for me, if only I accept this gift with a believing heart.

Anthem: *I Will Be a Child of Peace*.....Hagenberg
** Children's Message.....Jon Oliphant
* First Reading.....Joel 2:28-32
Moment for Missions
Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings
Offertory: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*.....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: *Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed*.....HB No. 199
* Sermon Text.....Acts 2:14-41
Sermon.....*The Gospel Lens*
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Petition
* Hymn of Dedication: *More About Jesus Would I Know*.....HB No. 316
* 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: *Melody by Melchoir Vulpius*.....Willan

** 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 25
- 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
- 12:00 p.m. .....VBS Planning Lunch
- 5:30 p.m. .....Youth Group

TUESDAY, February 27
- 10:00 a.m. .....Women's Ministries Bible Study
- 4:00 p.m. .....Farewell Drop-in Reception for Danni Jo

WEDNESDAY, February 28
- 8:00 a.m. .....Youth Prayer Team
- 5:30 p.m. .....Foundations for the Faith
- 6:15 p.m. .....GriefShare
- 7:15 p.m. .....Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAY, February 29
- 12:00 p.m. .....Women's Ministries Bible Study

FRIDAY, March 1—SUNDAY, March 3
- HS Retreat at Bonclarken

SUNDAY, March 3
- 8:30 a.m. .....Prayer Time, parlor
- 9:00 a.m. .....Worship Service; Jubilee Birthday
- 10:00 a.m. .....Sunday School; Jubilee Birthday
- 11:00 a.m. .....Worship Service; Jubilee Birthday
- 2:00 p.m. .....Angela Fischesser Memorial Service
- 5:30 p.m. .....Youth Hangout

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor Danni Jo Brown with appreciation for her years of service here.

Looking Ahead

- **2024-25 Preschool Registration** Open to current preschool families and First ARP Church families. Spots are limited and public registration opens the 20th!
- **Farewell Drop-in Reception** Tuesday, February 27 from 4-6 pm we will have a casual drop-in reception in Robinson Hall for members and friends to come and say thank-yous and see-you-laters to our Administrative Coordinator of almost 8 years, Danni Jo who will be resigning the 29th.
- **Middle School Retreat** March 22-24 at Bonclarken. Register by March 1, see Elijah Hoyer for details.
- **Jubilee Birthday** Sunday, March 3 we will have Martha Margaret Cotton join us in both worship services and during Sunday School. Homemade cake slices will be available before and after worship.
- **Angela Fischesser Memorial Service** Sunday, March 3 at 2 pm.
- **2024 Church Member Directory** The 2024 Member directories are in and available to be picked up in the T-hall and Connector.
- **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.
- **Senior Connect Day** Friday, March 15 from 9 am-2 pm in Columbia. See the weekly email to register or call the church office for assistance.

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

From the English Standard Version of the Holy Bible

First Reading // Joel 2:28-32

"*And it shall come to pass afterward,*
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.
29 *Even on the male and female servants*
in those days I will pour out my Spirit.
30 "And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. 32 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

Sermon Text // Acts 2:14

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

17 "'*And in the last days it shall be, God declares,*
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
18 *even on my male servants and female servants*
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.
19 *And I will show wonders in the heavens above*
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;
20 *the sun shall be turned to darkness*
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.
21 *And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'*

22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25 For David says concerning him,

"'*I saw the Lord always before me,*
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;

[26] *therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;*
my flesh also will dwell in hope.
[27] *For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,*
or let your Holy One see corruption.
[28] *You have made known to me the paths of life;*
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'
[29] "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. [30] Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, [31] he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. [32] This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. [33] Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. [34] For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,
"'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
[35] *until I make your enemies your footstool."'*
[36] Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."
[37] Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" [38] And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. [39] For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." [40] And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." [41] So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Usher Captains..... John Pearson & Nancy Templeton
Counters for today..... Jan Stephenson & Chet Wingate
Greeting ..... Charles Robbins
Worship Assistance ..... Tim Marshall & Tim Templeton
Safety .....

Anthem

I Will Be a Child of Peace

Traditional Shaker Hymn // Arranged by Elaine Hagenberg
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O Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity,
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

O Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity,
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

O Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity,
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

O Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity,
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

Today we welcome Amber Hinson from the Life House Women's Shelter. Amber is the Cottage Coordinator for the Life House and will be doing a Moment for Missions at both services.

General Fund 2024	**January 2024**	**Jan-Dec 2024**
Receipts	$71,162	$71,162
Expenses	$66,951	$66,951
Surplus (Deficit)	$4,211	$4,211
Budgeted Monthly	$87,798	—