#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Source of all that gives us life, we have turned away from your authority to our own small concerns. Forgive us for our failure to bear one another's burdens, for boasting of anything but your cross, for believing in our own power to justify our lives, and for denying your call to take comfort in you alone. Lead us to the river of life that in all we do, we may honor your name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

#### THE WORD

TIME WITH OUR YOUNG CHURCH Jen Jammer Psalm 66:1-9 PSALM READING Polly Angel There Is A Balm in Gilead arr. Burson ANTHEM

**OLD TESTAMENT** Isaiah 66:10-14

MESSAGE Called In, week 4: Called to Comfort

Rev. Chip Stapleton

#### RESPONSE

†Affirmation of Faith

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.

**OFFERTORY** 

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

arr. Tornquist

†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

#### **SENDING**

†Hymn

It Is Well with My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul." It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul), It is well with my soul. And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, "Even so" - it is well with my soul. It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul), It is well, it is well with my soul.

†Blessing & Benediction

†Postlude

Attende Domine (Hear Us, Almighty God)

†All who are able, please stand

**Worship Leaders** 

Rev. Chip Stapleton, Senior Minister Pam Langston, Dir. of Music Ministries Jen Jammer, Dir. of Children's Ministry Chris Jackson, Dir. of Youth Ministry

Hello Highlanders,

Most of us, whether we have plans to travel or not, are already looking forward to and planning for the upcoming long Holiday weekend. For good reason, July 4th is one of the biggest and most important holidays every year in our country.

It is a day when we remember and celebrate our nation's founders, the path towards freedom that they blazed for all of us, and the central value and importance of freedom itself.

America and American democracy is often described as an 'experiment' mostly a government of, for, and by the people had never been tried on a national scale. It is a good term, but I prefer to think of America in terms of relationships. I think a more apt descriptor for our nation and it's values/ government is that of a marriage.

We celebrate July 4th as independence day, because that is when we proclaimed it in 1776, but much like the relationship of the wedding day to a marriage, this was only the beginning of the story. America's freedom from British rule wouldn't be accomplished until 7 full years later (August of 1783) and even then, England wasn't ready to finally give up control, restarting the fight in the War of 1812.

The point is that our freedom isn't given to us because we proclaim it, or because we say we value it. Instead, our freedom is gained - and maintained by what we do next. Some brave souls have given their lives in defense of this freedom, but all of us have a responsibility to it.

Importantly it is always a work in progress: it took over a century for all men to be given that freedom and it took even longer for all men and women to be viewed equally. For our country to remain free, we must continue to work to make it so.

We can view our freedom in Christ in a similar way. We often think of this freedom as 'freedom from' - and it is that, it is freedom from sin, death, and destruction. But, importantly, it is also 'freedom for'. Christ has given us our freedom so that we might orient our hearts and lives towards him and then others. We have been freed for service in our loving creators name, so that all might know his love.

Sharing God's Love

~Chip

Callahan

#### ~~~PASTORAL CONCERNS~~~

We ask that you keep our home-bound in your thoughts and prayers.

P.W. and Martha Jessup **Jean Robinson** Lisa Hitt (daughter of Gayle McDonald) Charlotte Ingram June Marie Smith Doris English

John English

Steve & Orion Gaynos Madie Rae Locklear ("Grandma" to the Guy Family) Lib Yarborough Bill Johnson Patsy Thames

Gayle McDonald

Please let us know if you have concerns that you think the church should know about. Please limit to close-extended family. We will put their names (and relation to you if you desire) in the email update. The names will be removed after a few weeks unless requested otherwise. Thank you.

Kelli Lujan 401-0928 or email kellilu@gmail.com

Music Notes with Pam...

**Prelude:** Ancient, biblical languages did not have a separate word to say "thank you." Thanks was expressed this way: "I praise you." Don Wyrtzen's Prelude of Peace is a contemplative medley of three hymns of adoration that will bring quiet praise to the beginning of worship.

**Opening hymn:** "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" sets the frailty of human beings against the timeless greatness of God who has been our help (in the past) and hope (in the future). Isaac Watts is often called the father of English hymnody, and he has given us poetic words to attempt to proclaim the infinite timelessness of God.

**Anthem:** "There Is a Balm in Gilead" is an African American spiritual that offers courage in the face of despair. There are three scriptures that reference the balm of Gilead, a product of the region of Gilead that was valuable and rare. In this song it serves as a symbol of Christ's power in the life of a believer.

**Offertory:** "His Eye is On the Sparrow" is a song of comfort. It's one of the most influential and often-recorded gospel hymns of the 20th century. This song was inspired by Matthew 6:26: "Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap...yet your heavenly Father feeds them."

*Closing hymn:* "When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll..." - There will always be storms to face. With faith in a loving God and with trust in God's divine help, we can confidently sing, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

**Postlude:** "Attende Domine" (Hear Us, Almighty God) is an interpretation of a Gregorian Chant by Charles Callahan. Like the rhythm of a calm heartbeat, Gregorian chant fosters peace.

~Pam





HPC offices and buildings will be closed Monday,
July 4th, to celebrate
Independence Day.

# **VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

Want to contribute to Second Mile worship, but don't feel comfortable singing or reading in front of everyone? As we have returned to something a little more like normal, we are in need of volunteers to fill communion cups and prepare the elements each week. If you'd like to help, please contact Chris Jackson.



**WOODPECKERS GAME** - Sunday, July 10 2:00pm Cost: FREE (We have 20 seats available, contact Chris to reserve yours!)

#### **NEW WILMINGTON MISSION CONFERENCE** - July 15-22

Join Pastor Chip for a week of worship, fun, and mission opportunities. It's a great chance to meet youth from all across the US and grow in faith together.

More info: nwmcmission.org/nwmc-2022/

#### **OTHER DATES**

Wednesday July 27, 5:30 pm Activity TBD (Feel free to send in suggestions to Chris)

~Chris Jackson
Director of Youth and Worship Ministries
chris@hpchurch.org
Mobile 910-309-3030
Office 910-401-0923

### **Kids Science & Craft Camp**

Monday, July 11 - Thursday, July 14...11:00am - 2:00pm

Camp will be every day from 11am-2pm. Spend the week with us learning & experimenting with art & science. Contact Jen Jammer (989-447-3489) for more information! Please pack a bag lunch for your child(ren) each day. Snacks will be provided.



# Friendship Community Gardens Farm-to-Fender

Just letting you know that the Farm-to-Fender produce bus can be found parked in the Haymont Post Office parking lot each Monday (except for July 4th), from 10:00am-4:00pm until Labor Day.

Fayetteville Community Gardens appreciates you!



# SHARING GOD'S LOVE

# **GATHERING**

Prelude of Peace

Wyrtzen

INTROIT Second Mile Praise Band

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sing praises to God, O faithful ones.

All: Give thanks and proclaim God's holy name.

One: Weeping or joyful, mourning or dancing,

All: come as you are, for all are welcome here.

One: Open your hearts to healing, to life restored.

All: Let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

†HYMN #210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

CALL TO CONFESSION