



St. Andrews-Covenant

Presbyterian Church | PC (USA)

Welcome to Worship! | September 17, 2023 | Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

It is good you are here! Please silence all electronic devices.

GATHERING

Prelude *Amazing Grace*

Maureen Howell

Welcome

Moment for Mission *Rescue Mission of Cape Fear*

***Call to Worship**

How shall we live in the love of God?

We will treat one another with fairness and dignity.

How shall we witness God's forgiving love?

We will reach out to others with compassion.

Come, let us worship God who has always loved us.

May our worship of God be reflected in our lives of hope and peace.

***Gathering Prayer**

***Hymn 35** *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

Prayer of Confession

God who alone is Judge, we admit we have double standards. We seek forgiveness for ourselves, but fail to forgive others. We seek relief for ourselves, but fail to seek relief for others. We seek leniency for ourselves, but fail to show that mercy to others. Forgive us, mighty God, and help us to forgive, showing others the same grace and mercy that you have generously shown to us. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Sung Response 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WORD

First Lesson *Psalm 103:1-13*

Second Lesson *Matthew 18:21-35*

Sermon *Community Matters: Forgiveness*

Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

***Hymn 444** *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

***Please stand in body or in spirit.**

***Affirmation of Faith** from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

THANKSGIVING

Offering and Passing of Friendship Pads

Offertory *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*

Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night skies and see the works of your fingers; the moon and stars suspended in space. Oh, what is man, that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor, and have made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all creation: the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea. Oh, what is man, that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name transcends the earth and fills the heavens. O Lord, our God, little children praise you perfectly, and so would we. Alleluia! The majesty and glory of your name. Alleluia!

***Doxology 606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

SENDING

***Hymn 753** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (Prayer of St. Francis)*

***Blessing**

***Dismissal**

We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life, goes with us. Go in peace!

Postlude *Break Forth, Ye Heavens!*

Edward Broughton

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington
Parish Associate, Rev. Dr. Gary Smith
Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger
Choir Director, Angela Burns

Organist/Pianist, Sara Bryant
Adult Choir
Lay Reader, Virginia Hager
Production Coordinator, Jim Fox

Our Church's Mission

*Inspiring one another to love Jesus
by staying faithfully present in our community.*