

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 291

vs. 1 & 4

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

GATHERING PRAYER *(by Rev. Seth A. Normington)*

Mighty God, You welcome us into Your Kingdom as honored guests. You give us water to wash our feet, You give us a kiss of greeting, and You anoint our heads with oil. Merciful God, You welcome us even though we are sinners. You forgive our debts and give us a seat at Your table. Wondrous God, we have come here to give You our worship and praise. May we make a joyful noise at Your table!

OPENING MUSIC

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(from The United Church of Christ)*

We confess, Anointed One, that we excuse ourselves from reaching out to those who need your care. We take your words – that there will always be unmet needs – as a reason not to try to meet the needs we can. Forgive us, and help us to change. Renew our determination to live as faithful followers, faithful disciples, faithful Christians. Help us to work with you for the well-being of your creation, that the fortunes of all your peoples may be restored. Amen.

(Silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 791 vs. 3 & 6

For You, My God, I Wait

If you should list my faults, the sins of heart and hand, like sleepless ones who groan at dawn I know I could not stand!

O God, you are my hope; I know that you forgive. Your love redeems me from the depths so I may rise and live.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Jiel Gai Ajak

Son of Gai Ajak Riak and Adhieu Atem

APOSTLE'S 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 sits 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.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

HYMN 486

vs. 1 & 3

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 833**

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7: 36 – 50

SERMON

"Surprised by Grace"

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

Psalm 23

By Paul Basler

Starmount Chancel Choir & Dalton Guin, French Horn

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

***HYMN 15**

vs. 1, 4, & 6

All Creatures of Our God and King

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

**The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Myrtle and Henry Greeson's wedding anniversary, by their daughter Paige Greeson.*

Thank you for joining us for worship this Sunday! We hope you will find it to be an uplifting and meaningful experience. If you are a **guest or visitor**, we invite you to stop by our information desk in the Narthex (entry space). We have a gift for you as well as some information about our wonderful community of faith. If you feel comfortable sharing your contact information, we invite you to also fill out a visitor card.

Families with young children are invited to stop by the children's corner in the Narthex. Here you can check in your children for nursery care and staff can direct you to our downstairs classrooms. There are also worship/activity bags available.

"Meeting Jesus at the Table" Lent Book Study – Join us for one of our two book studies offered each week. We will meet in the conference room on Sundays @ 11:30 am and Wednesdays @ 8:30 am.

In-Home Gatherings – Join one of our In-Home Gatherings during Lent. Host homes, days & times are posted in the Narthex for you to sign up.

Legacy & Estate Planning Workshop - Join us for lunch and the conversation on how to be a blessing here. On Sunday, March 19, following the worship service at 11:00 am, Olanda Carr, Jr., Ministry Relations Officer, Presbyterian Foundation, will discuss:

- How to discern your own legacy
- How to share that message with the church and those you love, and
- How to make a planned gift to continue your ministry here

Use the QR code to the right to register for this event:



39th Annual Bach's Lunch will be held **March 20 – 24** at 12:15 pm in the Sanctuary. Please check your emails for the lineup of artists performing. Please consider donating to this year's Bach's Lunch by using this QR code to the right:



Join us on **Palm Sunday, April 2**, for finger foods and light refreshments following worship! We will have crafts for kids, "Holy Week at Home" resources, and fellowship for all ages!

Holy Week & Easter Schedule –

- Maundy Thursday, April 6 – Communion Service at 5:30 pm
- Good Friday, April 7 – Stations of the Cross will begin with a prayer service at Noon
- Easter Sunday, April 9 – Sunrise Service at 6:45 am
- Easter Sunday, April 9 – Worship Service at 10:00 am

Easter Lilies – This Easter, honor or remember someone special by purchasing an Easter Lily for \$15.00 per plant. Order forms can be found on the Gathering Space desk or in your weekly email. All forms and donations must be in by **Sunday, March 26**, and all lilies will be in the Sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, April 9**.

Summer Stars registration is now open! Registration information can be found on the welcome desk in the Narthex.

Sentimental Journey – Save the date of **Sunday, May 21** to honor and celebrate our Starmount members that are 80 years of age and older. More info to follow in the coming weeks.



Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee, Pastor

Rev. Scott Lawson, Parish Associate

Jada Poteat, Interim Director of Music

Michael Parker, Pianist/Organist

Cindy Lee, Director of Children's Ministries

Laura Roberson Hadas, Director of Youth & Refugee Ministries

Welcome to Sunday Worship
March 12, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.