

May 21, 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 388

Come All You People

PRAYER

Dear Lord, you are the author and perfecter of our faith. You save us and sustain us. Help us to trust in you and to worship whether we have a lot or a little. May our praise bring you glory and remind us of your promises. We love you, Lord, we seek your presence, and we worship you alone.

OPENING MUSIC

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, Our lives are full of routine: waking, eating, working, sleeping. We fall so naturally into patterns. We see what we have always seen and desire the comfort of what is familiar. You are there in our ordinary rhythms, O God, of that we have no doubt. And so anything unexpected can make us nervous. We become afraid of going out on a limb or soaring into the unknown. Yet, we miss some of your grace when we keep our feet on the ground. Forgive us our anxiety and remind us that your wing will always enfold us even as you offer us new horizons.

(Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 447

We Are Forgiven

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1: 6 - 14

SERMON

"Rewriting the Story"
Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

Come, Holy Spirit Like the Wind
By John Carter

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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Excerpts from the Confession of Belhar

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

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 463**

How Firm a Foundation

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Ben & Ann Parks in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary on May 11.

Announcements

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.

Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY) activities for May:

May 21st – SPY: Come for dinner and fellowship from 5:18-7pm tonight! Contact Laura for additional information.

laura@starmountpres.org

Where is my newsletter? Starting with the June edition of the Star Press, Starmount Presbyterian Church is moving from paper to digital delivery for many of our newsletter subscribers. More information can be found in your weekly emails or on the handout in the narthex.

Earth Care Sunday - Starmount Presbyterian Church was certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Presbyterian Hunger Program this year! We will celebrate Earth Care Sunday on **June 4th**. The Earth Care Team will present "10 Simple Things" Understanding how our everyday actions can impact the world entrusted to us! A Short Conversation Lead by Lorelei Elkins, Community Environmental Program's Specialist, will occur following worship in room 319.

"Summer Choir" is "Open Choir"! Beginning **Sunday, June 4th**, the anthem for that morning's worship will be practiced at 9:00am. Anyone and everyone is welcome to learn it and sing it in worship! The anthems chosen will be simple and easy to learn quickly for anyone with any musical experience. This is a great opportunity to share your talents and gifts with the church, and also a great opportunity to try singing with a choir if music and singing bring you joy! Anyone high school aged and beyond with any level of musical training (even none!) is WELCOME! Please contact Sarah if you have any questions.

Join us for a class on how to use Realm! Whether you have already been using Realm or are a complete beginner, this class is for you! We will learn as a group and will have volunteers to work one-on-one with attendees. Bring the phone or tablet that you will use to access Realm. You must be able to access your email on your phone or tablet to participate. The class will be held on **June 11th following worship** in Room 319. Register by clicking the link in your email or call the church office.

Prayer Group Interest - If you have interest in hearing more about a prayer group that is forming during the month of June, please contact Charlie. This group would meet for 30-45 minutes following the service, share prayer requests, and learn different methods of prayer. If we have sufficient interest, this group will begin June 11th.



Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee, Pastor

Rev. Scott Lawson, Parish Associate

Sarah Downey, Director of Music

Michael Parker, Pianist/Organist

Cindy Lee, Director of Children's Ministries

Laura Roberson Hadas, Director of Youth & Refugee Ministries

Starmount Presbyterian Church
starmountpres.org
(336) 299-8131

Welcome to Sunday Worship
May 21, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.