

**CALL TO WORSHIP
HYMN 399**

God Welcomes All

PRAYER

Lord God, Maker of heaven and earth, we gather together in Your name. We come as living sacrifices, to offer You our worship and thanksgiving, our praise and our prayers. Come among us, living Lord. Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, transform our hearts and minds so that we may recognize Your presence, hear Your voice, know Your will, and walk in Your way. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

OPENING MUSIC

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Written by Rev. Ginna Bairby*
Gracious God, you are always present and active amid your people. We confess that sometimes we fail to recognize and respond to your saving work in the world. We defer to power and privilege, expect the tried and true, and succumb to doubt and despair when your ways are not clear. Behold, you are doing a new thing; help us to perceive it. Forgive us when we do not respond to your call. Liberate us from our fears and self-imposed limitations. Guide us into the fullness of life and love that you are at work preparing. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 288

Spirit of the Living God

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 69**

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16: 13 - 23

SERMON

"A Changing Church"
Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

Laudate Dominum
By W.A. Mozart
Megan Weiss; Soprano

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 (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.

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 487**

These Treasured Children

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

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.

Blessing of the Backpacks – Today! The children will join us in worship on the "praground" and we will have a special blessing of the backpacks to begin the school year! All students and educators are welcome to bring their backpacks for this special day.

Welcome Home Sunday - Save the date, **Sunday, September 10**, for Welcome Home Sunday. All are invited to stay after worship for a time of fellowship. There will be refreshments, games and activities for kids and an opportunity to learn new ways to connect as a community!

Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY) activities for the month of September:

September 4 – Moe Monday, Come to Moe's @ Friendly for dinner. Laura will be there from 6 – 7:30 pm.

September 17 – Parent & Youth Meeting, meet briefly in Laura's office to talk about SPY this school year! If you're not able to attend, but want more information please let Laura know.

September 29 - GHS Tailgate, find Laura in the parking lot before heading into the football game! She will have food and drinks. Bring your friends! Contact Laura for additional information laura@starmountpres.org

Starmount Organ project - You may have noticed some empty space in the chancel area last Sunday. Our organ console is getting some much-needed repairs and updates. The organ technician has taken the console to his workshop and the work will be completed in about a month. Stay tuned for pictures and more updates as the process progresses!

Plastics Recycling – Did you notice the white recycling box in the Gathering Space? The Earth Care team is working with the NexTrex recycling program from August through January to collect plastic waste. Accepted items can be found on the box and in your weekly email.

Parking Lot Concert – Join us on **Friday, September 15 at 6 pm** for an evening of fellowship and music in the parking lot. Stamey's BBQ, water, lemonade, and a performance by Jack Gorham will be highlights of this evening. More information on Jack can be found in your weekly email.

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
August 27, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.