

September 17, 2023 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

CALL TO WORSHIP *written by Thom Shuman*

We come, for God gathers us here,
with that community called faith:

**where the hungry are served first,
where the thirsty drink life's water.**

We come, for God welcomes us here
into that home called grace:

where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;

where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.

We come, for God reunites us here,
siblings in that family called love:

where the imprisoned model justice,

where the sick are cradled in God's peace.

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 399

God Welcomes All

PRAYER

OPENING MUSIC

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *from MYC 2023*

O God, in the Trinity, you show us what true community looks like: it is mutual, creative, loving, and just. Forgive us when we do not invest ourselves in faithful community, foolishly choosing to believe that we can walk this journey alone. Forgive us when we choose false sources of community, allowing ourselves to be led away from your call, your claim, or your care. Wash us in your grace once more, O God. Forgive us, free us, and transform us. (Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 444

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

HYMN 301

Let Us Build a House

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25: 31 - 40

SERMON

"It All Adds Up"

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.

HYMN 767

Together We Serve

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.

The congregation is invited to attend the marriage of Frances Gallagher and Ted Kallam on Saturday, October 7th at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please let Frances or Ted know if you plan to attend by emailing, fgallagher@bellsouth.net or calling (704) 906-1687. (Please feel no obligation to bring a gift; we are blessed that you are choosing to share this special day with us.)

Just Lunch – Join us after worship **TODAY**, for lunch at K & W Cafeteria. Visitors are welcome as our guests. Children are welcome as well!

Interested in a book study, Bible study, or just a time to gather and learn more about your faith in a small group? Contact Charlie Lee, charlie@starmountpres.org to express your interest.

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

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

CROP Walk Sunday is October 8, 2023. Right after Worship, our mission will be to **Walk the Arboretum** together, helping fight hunger both locally and around the world. Then after working up an appetite, we'll join together for lunch (at a place to be determined). Please check your weekly emails for more information on how to donate.

Blood Drive, October 14, 2023, 9 am – 2 pm. Starmount will be hosting the One Blood, Big Red Bus again this year. Please check your weekly email for the registration link to sign up to donate blood.

Plastics Recycling –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.

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
September 17, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.**