

October 22, 2023

21st Sunday after Pentecost

CALL TO WORSHIP

(From Carol Holbrook Prickett and Presbyterian Outlook)

In this sacred hour of worship
when we name things for what they really are,
we give to God what is God's.
Between the demands of this last week
and the demands of the one ahead
we give to God what is God's.
With open hearts and hands and minds,
every innate gift from our loving Creator,
we give to God what is God's.

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 710

We Lift Our Voices

PRAYER

OPENING MUSIC

Variation 7 from *Goldberg Variations* by J.S. Bach
Grace Anderson & Alan Black, cello duet

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(From Carol Holbrook Prickett and Presbyterian Outlook)

Creator God, we are commanded to give to you what is branded as yours. But since we cannot see your face, we confess to a miserable confusion. Where is your image printed? Not on our coinage or our calendars. Not on any of the things we buy in the store or in the ad-laden videos that stream by us. No, the only place we can see your face, is in our neighbor and in the mirror. We're the ones created in your image. Honestly, we'd rather pay you taxes, God, than give up our whole selves. But if we are what you want, heart, mind, soul, and strength — we will do our best, God. We will give our all to you. Amen.

(Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 447

We Are Forgiven

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 612**

We Praise You, O God

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22: 15 - 22

SERMON

"Bigger Than A Budget"

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

Ave Maria by Charles Gounod
based on Prelude No. 1 in C major BWV 846
from *The Well Tempered Clavier* by J.S. Bach
Grace Anderson & Alan Black, cello duet

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 (from Confession of 1967)

The church calls all people to use their abilities, their possessions, and the fruits of technology as gifts entrusted to them by God for the maintenance of their families and the advancement of the common welfare. It encourages those forces in human society that raise hopes for better conditions and provide people with opportunity for a decent living. A church that is indifferent to poverty, or evades responsibility in economic affairs, or is open to one social class only, or expects gratitude for its beneficence makes a mockery of reconciliation and offers no acceptable worship to God.

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 298**

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Variation 1 from *Goldberg Variations* by J.S. Bach
Grace Anderson & Alan Black, cello duet

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.

Please join us in welcoming cellists Grace Anderson & Alan Black to Starmount today. They will be performing a selection of pieces by or in honor of J.S. Bach during the service and then will be doing a small performance after the service. Below are the selections they will perform after the service:

From *Goldberg Variations*, by J.S. Bach

- Aria
- Variation 8
- Variation 10
- Variation 5

***Hommage à Bach*, by Henri Dutilleux**

From Cantata 6 "Ach bleib bei uns, Herr Jesu Christ," by J.S. Bach

Pumpkin Bash 2023, Sunday, October 29, 3 – 5 pm. Come by for trunk or treating, games, face painting, and inflatables. Please contact Cindy Lee (cindy@starmountpres.org) if you are interested in decorating your trunk or if you would like to donate candy or non-edible treats.

Join us on Sunday, November 5 after worship for lunch in Fellowship Hall for a presentation from the Finance Ministry on the Narrative Budget and table discussions.

Homework Helpers began October 5! We meet weekly on Thursday from 4-5:30pm. We need transportation, snack and dinner providers, and homework helpers to work with students. Contact Laura (laura@starmountpres.org) for more information!

***Please stand in body or spirit**

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

November 6 – Burrito Buddies – Come to Qdoba @Friendly for dinner. Laura will be there from 6 – 7:30 pm.

November 19 – Game Night! – Come for a night of pizza, Mario Kart and other games. Invite a friend!

November 26 – Sermon Talk-Back – Meet after church to debrief and explore the themes of the sermon of the day.

Lunch will be provided!

Contact Laura for additional information

laura@starmountpres.org

'Tis the Season! The Chancel Choir has begun practicing the **Christmas Cantata!** This work will be presented during worship on Sunday, December 10th. If anyone has ever considered being a part of the Choir in general or the Cantata specifically, please consider this your official invitation to join us in learning and presenting this work. We began practicing the cantata, on Wednesday, October 4, during our regular rehearsal, from 7:30 until 8:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to join us for just that part of rehearsal. Please contact Sarah if you have any questions, sarah@starmountpres.org

Volunteers needed for Sunday morning nursery care. Cindy Lee is looking for help to care for our youngest members (ages 2 and under) while their parents worship. If you are interested in helping, please email Cindy, cindy@starmountpres.org.

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.

Join the stewardship campaign! Stop by the table in the narthex to share with us why you give to the church. We want the entire community to see how our giving makes an impact!

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
October 22, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.**