

October 8, 2023

19th Sunday after Pentecost

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are here to love the Lord, our God, with all our heart.

We are here to love the Lord, our God, with all our soul.

We are here to love the Lord, our God, with all our strength.

We are here to love the Lord, our God, with all our mind.

Let us worship God!

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 388

Come All You People

PRAYER

OPENING MUSIC

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, forgive us when we see your beauty, but do not pause in thanksgiving. Forgive us when we see all that you have done for us, but merely accept it as commonplace. Forgive us when we see an opportunity for mercy, but instead offer judgment. Forgive us for all the times we are too casual with you, with our neighbors, and with ourselves. By your grace, help us love rightly. (Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 447

We Are Forgiven

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 510**

We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25: 14 - 30

SERMON "A Conversation with Frank Twum Barimah"
Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

Promised Land
arr. Natalie Sleeth

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 (excerpt from The Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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 716**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

If you are interested in **reserving flowers** for a future Sunday, please contact Jinny Buchanan at jinnybug@mindspring.com or (336) 549-4674 to reserve your Sunday.

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.

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.

Session has called a **Congregational Meeting for today, Sunday, October 8** to elect the class of 2026 Elders: Gary Anderson, Mary Cuadras, Kris Kattmann, Greg Rehtin and Leslie Webb.

During the service **today, October 8**, we welcome Frank Twum-Barimah for an interview style sermon. Frank will share a portion of his life story as well as describe his new effort to bring quality education to Ghana through the Orange Feather Community School.

CROP Walk Sunday is today, October 8, 2023. WEAR YOUR WALKING SHOES TO CHURCH because 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.

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!

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.

Prayground – Sunday, October 15, we will have a prayground space for children to learn & play during worship, multiple children's times during the service, and elements chosen to engage children. The nursery will still be available for families with children 2 and under if you choose.

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

October 8 – CROP Walk, stay after worship at 10 am to walk the arboretum with your church family. Laura will have donuts to share!

October 15 – Sermon Talk-Back, meet after church to debrief and explore the themes of the sermon of the day. Lunch will be provided!

October 20 - 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

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.

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 8, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.**