

**February 18, 2024**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (inspired by Psalm 25)

O God, in you we trust.

**Lead us in your truth and teach us,**  
for you are the God of our salvation;  
**for you we wait, for you we worship.**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**HYMN 626**

*As the Deer*

**PRAYER**

**OPENING MUSIC** *I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger*

arr. Tammy Waldrop  
Starmount Ringers

**SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, as we begin this Lenten wilderness journey, we confess our neglect of you and our faith. We make idols of nation, money and power. We build walls instead of better relationships. We fail to follow Jesus to the poor, the destitute, the stranger. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our faith so we can leave this wilderness season in right relationship with you. Amen.**

(silent prayers)

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE**

**RESPONSE**

**HYMN 695**

*Change My Heart, O God*

**CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION**

**\*HYMN 167**

*Forty Days and Forty Nights*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 25: 1 - 10

**SERMON**

*"Tide and Tempter"*  
Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

**ANTHEM**

*Near the Cross*  
arr. Brian Childers  
Starmount Ringers

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

Tiffany Dumas

Director of the YWCA Family Shelter

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary. Gifts may also be made online at [starmountpres.org](http://starmountpres.org).

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church, USA)

**The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.**

**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 339**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

**BENEDICTION**

**\*Please stand in body or spirit**

Our printed liturgy today is from Presbyterian Outlook written by Teri McDowell Ott.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of these blessings in my life; daughter, Katie F. Waynick (2/14), grand daughter, Caroline Waynick (1/23), grandson, James F. Waynick (3/1), son-in-law, James S. Waynick (3/3) and mother-in-law, Virginia Frederick's 99th! birthday (2/12) by Regina Frederick.

**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 be aware of text and email scams** that appear to be sent from Charlie, or other members of the church staff, requesting immediate response or requesting the purchase of gift cards, etc. We will not communicate with you in that manner. **If you do receive** any form of communication from a member of the Starmount Staff that appears to be suspicious you can always **call the office to ask if it is legitimate.**

Today we will have a guest speaker during the Invitation to Generosity. **Tiffany Dumas**, the **Director of the YWCA Family Shelter** will also stay after worship for a more in-depth session in Room 319.

Join Starmount for a **volunteer day at Backpack Beginnings** on **February 23**, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. For questions, contact Cilie Sutton.

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** after worship next **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**. This will serve as the Annual Meeting of the congregation.

**Launching this Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> - Lenten Small Group Study:** We will meet on Tuesdays at 12:15, in person or online on **Feb. 20, 27, March 5, 12 & 19**. This study is inspired by the book "Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms" by Elizabeth F. Caldwell. Reading the book is not required to participate, but if you would like to purchase the book, look for the link in the weekly email. If you would like to attend the class via zoom, contact the church office for a link.

**Plan to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Bach's Lunch, "Lenten Concert Series"** which will be held at 12:15 pm in the Sanctuary **on Wednesdays during Lent; March 6, 13, 20, & 27. We will be providing lunch** following the concerts this year! If you would like to help with lunch, please contact Jinny Buchanan at [jinnybug@mindspring.com](mailto:jinnybug@mindspring.com). See your weekly email for details of performers.

**2024 Women's Retreat at Montreat Conference Center - March 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Further details and registration information can be found in your weekly emails.

**Homework Helpers** meets 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](mailto:laura@starmountpres.org)) for more information!

**Volunteers needed for Sunday morning nursery care.** Starmount 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](mailto:cindy@starmountpres.org).

**Starmount Summer Mission Trip:** Mark your calendars! **July 14<sup>th</sup> through July 20<sup>th</sup>.** Intergeneration for all ages. We will be traveling to Craven County, New Bern, NC this summer to work in the community. More information will be shared in the coming months. If you have questions, please contact Neil Huffman.

**Plastic recycling--back by popular demand!** The Earth Care Team has decided to continue our plastic recycling collection project. We must now collect 1000 lbs. over a year to get another bench. Now we're NOT encouraging increasing your use of plastic. Hopefully this project increased our awareness of how much single-use plastic we do use. But when you must use it, we can at least keep it out of the landfill. So let your friends and neighbors know to keep collecting. Thanks for your dedication to this project and look for our bench to be dedicated and to appear outside soon!

**Sign up for flowers** – Add your name to the sign-up calendar in the Narthex. Use the dry erase pen that is next to the calendar, email Jinny Buchanan at [jinnybug@mindspring.com](mailto:jinnybug@mindspring.com) or call 336-549-4674.

### **Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff**

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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](http://starmountpres.org)  
(336) 299-8131



**Welcome to Sunday Worship**  
**February 18, 2024 · 10:00 a.m.**