

CALL TO WORSHIP

When we pass through the waters,

God is there with us.

When we suffer and feel hopeless,

God is there with us.

When we are joyful and celebratory,

God is there with us.

Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,

God is there with us, always.

Come, let us worship together with Emmanuel,

God with us.

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 842

The Lord Is My Light

PRAYER**OPENING MUSIC****SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith. Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and instead fall into despair and gloom. Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now, not just the hope of resurrection for the future. We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. Amen.

(silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 695

Change My Heart, O God

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 775**

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 27

SERMON

"Seek God's Face"

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

We Are Singing for the Lord is Our Light

arr. Hal H. Hopson

OUR LIFE TOGETHER**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

Libbi Gundaker

Staff Appreciation

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary. Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From The Confession of 1967)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful, fragile disciples.

In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of life and society, and God's victory over all that is wrong. With an urgency born of this hope, we apply ourselves to our present tasks, ever striving for a better world.

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 841**

God Is My Strong Salvation

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

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 or call 336-549-4674.

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 Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** after worship today, **February 25th**. This will serve as the Annual Meeting of the congregation.

Connect Survey- Last Chance to Participate!! The survey link will remain open until Thursday, Feb. 29. Or you can fill out a hard copy located in the Narthex after the Congregational Meeting today. It only takes 5 minutes! Thank you.

Spring Forward – The Connections Ministry invites you to hang around after worship **Sunday, March 10th** for **Coffee & Donuts!**

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.**

Lenten Small Group Study: We will meet on Tuesdays at 12:15, in person or online; **Feb. 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.

The 40th Annual Bach's Lunch, "Lenten Concert Series" 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. See your weekly email for details of performers.

Starmount Summer Mission Trip: The Summer Mission Trip is scheduled for **July 14 through July 20th**. If you are interested in the trip or would like to get more information, there will be a meeting after Church on **March 3** to answer your questions. If you cannot attend the meeting, you can contact Neil Huffman.

Sponsor a Tuesday in March for Staff Appreciation Month. Consider some creative ways to show our staff how much they mean to us. Follow up with Libbi Gundaker at elgundaker@hotmail.com to let Personnel know how you would like to participate. Even if it's a little note of thanks, let's support those that help keep the church going behind the scenes!

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

Easter Lilies – This Easter, honor or remember someone special by purchasing an Easter Lily for \$17.50 per plant or by making a donation to either the Susan White Helping Hands Fund or to our Mission Ministry. Order forms can be found on the Gathering Space desk or in your weekly email. All forms and donations must be in by **Sunday, March 17**, and all lilies will be in the Sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, March 31**.

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) 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.

Plastic recycling--back by popular demand! The Earth Care Team has decided to continue our plastic recycling collection project. So let your friends and neighbors know to keep collecting. Thanks for your dedication to this project and look for our bench to appear outside soon!

Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY) activity for March - 4th – Burrito Buddies – Come to Qdoba @ Friendly for dinner. Laura will be there from 6-7:30!

10th – Lunch & Bible Study – Gather after worship for lunch and conversation!

17th – SPY! – Meet for dinner, a game, and some learning about Holy Week which is coming up.



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
February 25, 2024 · 10:00 a.m.