



FLETCHER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 19, 2025

A Mission Congregation of the
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

WELCOME TO FLETCHER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Christ-centered community
exploring, embracing, and expressing
the love of the Father, the grace of Jesus,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.*

How We Worship: Each church has its own worship style, but worship is more than style. It begins with a heart for God through faith in Christ. It is also a dialogue between God and his people; He speaks, and we respond. God promises to meet with us as we praise him in these ways.

Welcome & Announcements

Preparing for Worship

Call to Worship – Psalm 100:1-5

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
Know that the Lord, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Hymn of Adoration – *Come Thou Fount*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's redeeming love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Call to Worship: God calls people to seek his face and invites them into his presence. Today, God calls you to worship him. The call to worship reminds us that God is the center of all things, and as we worship God, he graciously reorients and rearranges us.

Worship through Singing: God delights to hear his people sing. As we give praise to God through songs of faith, he transforms our hearts so that we are more like His Son.

Words: Robert Robinson (1758) **Music:** Alfred Gentry, Public Domain

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Prayer for God's Presence

Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer for God's

Presence: Even as God calls us to worship, we call upon God to fill our hearts with his Spirit, to assure us that we belong to him, and to help us worship him in Spirit and truth. We sometimes call this an invocation, which means "to call upon."

Affirmation of Faith:

Believing in God's truth sets us free from the lies of Satan, the world, and our sinful hearts. We affirm our faith each Sunday in order to worship God, strengthen our faith, and encourage one another.

The word *catholic* means "universal."

Words and Music: Keith and Kristyn Getty; Stuart Townsend (2009) | Thank You Music; Getty Music Publishing (ASCAP)

Response of Praise – *By Faith*

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

Chorus:

We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
'Til the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth *(Chorus)*

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name *(Chorus)*

Joining of New Members

Tyler & Tiffany Blohm, Agnes, Beckett, & Windsor
Judy Dukes
Shaun & Melissa Dukes, Malaya & Lilly
Ben & Melissa Ingelse, Brayden, Addison, Tucker, & Charlotte
[Zack] & Elly Keuthan, Calvin, Owen, & Phoebe
Amy Kirsch
Steve & Michelle Ortiz, Isaac & Joshua
[Eddie] & Marty Reed
Bethany Phillis
Morgan & Sarah Scott, Charlotte
Sheri Sullivan
Joseph & Leah Vanderpool

Joining of New Members:

God joins those who believe in Jesus together as brothers and sisters in his household. We promise to love each other for Jesus' sake. This includes a commitment to speak the truth in love to each other, bear with each other, forgive, serve, and encourage each other.

Membership Vows

- (1) Do you confess that you are a sinner in the sight of God; that you deserve His punishment; that you are unable to save yourself; and that you are without hope of salvation except for God's love and mercy?
- (2) Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of sinners; and do you receive and trust in Him alone for your salvation?
- (3) Do you accept the Bible, comprised of the Old and New Testaments, as the written Word of God; and that it is the only perfect rule of faith and how to live?
- (4) Do you promise to trust in the guidance and strength of the Holy Spirit so that you can live all of life as a Christian, following the example set by Jesus Christ?
- (5) Do you promise to exercise faithful stewardship of God's resources entrusted to you for the furtherance of God's Kingdom and purposes?
- (6) Will you be supportive of the doctrines and principles of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and, as the Holy Spirit enables you, seek to understand and embrace them as founded on Scripture?
- (7) In loving obedience, do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of this church, promising to seek the peace, purity, and prosperity of this congregation as long as you are a member of it?

Sacrament of Baptism

Sarah Elisabeth Scott
Charlotte Elisabeth Scott

Baptismal Vows

- (1) Do you renew the vows which you made when you received the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior and entered into the full communion of this Church?
- (2) Do you acknowledge that your child is a sinner in need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and of the Holy Spirit?
- (3) Do you claim God's covenant promises on this child's behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for this child's salvation, as you do for your own?
- (4) Do you now covenant and promise in humble reliance on the grace of God to bring up your child to love God and to serve Him, to the end that your child may come to commit his or her life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Question for Congregation: Do you the members of this congregation undertake with these parents the covenant responsibility for the Christian nurture of this child?

Vows: The Bible encourages the making and renewing of vows as an act of worship (Ps. 65:1). Vows are an act of faith. You must believe God and respond by committing to him. You must also believe that God can give you the grace you need to keep your vows. It is fitting, for example, that when ordained into church office, joining the church, or when entering into marriage, that vows be taken in public. We must remember that vows are made to God, and in the name of God. We must endeavor to keep our vows so that we honor God's name.

Baptism: Jesus commands everyone who believes in him to be baptized (Matt. 28:19-20). As a sign it represents our union with Christ, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and resulting regeneration, adoption, cleansing from sin, and resurrection, as well as our membership into the church, the body of Christ. As a seal, or guarantee, baptism confirms the promise of God in the covenant of grace to save sinners by faith.

Words: Samuel J. Stone
(1866) | **Music:** Brian Moss,
Public Domain

Hymn of Christian Unity – *The Church's One Foundation* (v. 1, 2, 4, 5)

The church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one over all the earth;
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

The church shall never perish,
Her dear Lord to defend
To guide, sustain and cherish,
Is with her to the end
Though there be those that hate her,
And false sons in her pale
Against a foe or traitor,
She ever shall prevail

'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore;
'Til, with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blessed,
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

Sermon – “What Are We Doing Here?”

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Notes

Sermon: The Bible teaches us how to know Jesus and experience his saving work. The sermon is for proclaiming Jesus and how we can trust in him for salvation and practice his ways for our good and God's glory. For those who receive the Bible as the word of God, it is profitable to teach us, rebuke our sins, build us up in his grace, and train us in righteousness.

Words: B. F. White
(1844) | **Music:** Beach
Spring, Public Domain

Hymn of Preparation for the Lord's Supper – *Come Ye Sinners*

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore!
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love and power.
He is able, He is able, He is willing, doubt no more!
He is able, He is able, He is willing, doubt no more!

Come ye weary, heavy laden,
Bruised and broken by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all.
Not the righteous, Not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call.
Not the righteous, Not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience let you linger,
Nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness he requires
Is to feel your need of him.
This he gives you, This he gives you, 'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.
This he gives you, This he gives you, 'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The incarnate God ascending,
Pleads the merit of His blood;
Venture on Him, venture wholly;
Let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, None but Jesus, Can do helpless sinners good.
None but Jesus, None but Jesus, Can do helpless sinners good.

Confession of Sin: Our sin isn't just about breaking rules, it's about hurting our relationship with God. The Holy Spirit softens our hard hearts so that we can own our sin. We give space for confessing our sins together as God's people and for silently personalizing a confession of sin.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Jesus tells us to go and make disciples.
Together: **Forgive us for the ways we resist going and making disciples.**

Individually: *Confess silently any way you resist going and making disciples.*

Leader: Jesus desires us to observe all that he has have commanded.

Together: **Jesus, forgive us for failing to practice your ways.**
Individually: *Confess silently any way you feel you are failing to follow the ways of Jesus.*

Leader: Jesus says he is always with us.

Together: **Forgive us for we often doubt that you are with us.**
Individually: *Confess silently any way or area that you doubt Jesus is with you or his people.*

Words of Assurance – 1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation and Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Prayers of Reflection

For those partaking

Help me to believe there is no condemnation for those in Jesus. Help me to sense once again your mercy is greater than my sin, your welcome greater than my shame, and your power greater than my weakness.

For those not partaking

If you have not yet embraced Jesus by faith, but are exploring, if you do not belong to a church, or if your brother or sister has something against you, use this time to ask God to help you.

Prayer for truth: Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Please open me to the reality of who you are. Give me faith that I may believe you are the savior I need.

Prayer for belonging: Jesus, it seems unnecessary or scary to identify with a church. Help me understand why you want me to belong to a church and the strength to commit with others who identify with you.

Prayer for reconciliation: Jesus, you say blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God. As your child, help me make peace.

Words of Assurance: God speaks to confront us, but he also speaks words of grace to assure us that we are forgiven in Jesus and dearly loved.

The Lord's Supper: The Lord's Supper is a family meal in which Jesus, as the host, offers himself and all the blessings of salvation to his people. All who trust in Christ, who are baptized members of a gospel church, who are at peace with God and their neighbor, and who seek strength to live faithfully unto God are invited to partake. However, if you have not yet embraced Jesus by faith or are not prepared to partake of this meal, we encourage you to keep exploring without taking the bread and wine until you are ready to profess faith in Jesus.

Notes about Partaking:

We come forward in groups around the table to receive the bread and wine. We eat and drink as we receive the bread and cup. We serve both wine and grape juice (in labeled trays). All bread is free of gluten, soy, dairy, nuts, and peanuts. After coming to the table, we form a circle around the room as a sign of connection in Jesus. All are welcome to join the circle.

Doxology: Doxology means “praise.” We praise God because every good gift comes from him.

Benediction: A benediction is not a prayer. It is a pronouncement from God of his blessing and approval. God sends his people out to live in the strength of his blessing upon our lives.

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Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Benediction

Announcements

1. Our next service will be Sunday, February 9, at 10am at Fletcher Town Hall.
2. Core Team will meet this Wednesday at the Hunt home (108 Sycamore Drive, Flat Rock; within Bonclarken Conference Center) between 5:45ish-7:30pm. Potluck dinner and discussion.
3. We are planning to take the kids and youth ice skating in Greenville in a few weeks. If you would like to go, let us know so we can include you.
4. Restrooms are located in the hallway.
5. Kids and babies join us in the service and sometimes make joyful (or otherwise) noises - that's okay with us! There are clipboards, paper, and pencils for kids. Feel free to step out into the hallway if you need to reset during the service (kids or parents!).

If you are new to Fletcher Presbyterian Church and would like information or would like us to connect with you about questions you may have, scan the QR code below to share your contact information or use the sign-up on the back table.

