

Morning Worship
June 24, 2018
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Gather in God's Name

Greeting Rev. Dr. Alan Arnold
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude *How Firm A Foundation*

Held

Choral Introit *God Is Here Today*

*Call to Worship

Karen Tillman

Small as a mustard seed and lofty as a cedar:

The kingdom of God is growing.

While we sleep and rise night and day:

The kingdom of God is growing.

The low are brought high; the high are brought low:

The kingdom of God is growing,

its large branches are home to all kinds of people!

Let us worship God; let us pray:

*Prayer of the Day

God, you are the gardener of all creation. You planted this world with the seeds of your love and grow them with your faithfulness. We are your harvest; we find our meaning and sustenance in you. May our minds listen to your calling, may our hearts be attuned to your will, may our feet follow you in the world, through Jesus, the Word become flesh. Amen.

*Hymn 36 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Call to Confession

When we gather to worship God, we remember that we are God's people, but we have often preferred our way instead of God's. Trusting God's power to make us new persons in Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, the parable of the mustard seed teaches us that a little faith can produce great work in your kingdom. Yet we are too timid to bear the fruit of your righteousness, for we walk by sight and not by faith.

Forgive us, Lord; we do not uphold the poor or the oppressed. We do not advocate for the powerless or the voiceless. We do not sacrifice ourselves for the needs of our neighbors. Renew us with the love of Christ so that we live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who became the seed of your righteousness in us. Amen. (Time for silent confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness (2 Cor. 5:6-10, 14-17)

We who walk by faith and not by sight believe the good news – if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Praise be to God for the mercy and grace that forgives our sins. Friends, declare the good news of your salvation,

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Holy Interruption *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

We Receive God's Word

Children's Sermon

Karen Tillman

Preschool-Kindergarten age children are dismissed to the Pray n' Play program held in the room beside the church nursery in the main Church building. Children who are in the 1st grade and higher should return to their seats in the congregation.

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson Mark 4:26-34

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Alan Arnold

“Blessed Weeds”

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn 771 *What Is the World Like*

* Declaration of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

**Gloria Patri* (hymn 581)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

Prayers of the People (concluding with the 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.

Offering Invitation

Offertory *O God Beyond All Praising*

Cherwein

* Praise of God *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

**We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee**

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart in God's Name

* Hymn 684 *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

* Benediction and Sending

* Choral Response *Amen*

* Postlude *Voluntary on “Jesus Shall Reign”*

Dickson

The **flowers** are placed in the sanctuary today in loving memory of Ruth and Dan Tillman by Mr. & Mrs. Dan Tillman.

Usher/Greeter Team for June

David Nagel and Ashley Driggers

Prayer List as of June 24, 2018

Benny Moore

Dee Pierce

Gerry Rogers

Pam Chapman

Residents at Presbyterian Communities of SC

Artha Sompayrac – Summerville

B. J. Moore - Summerville

Copies of the **extended prayer list** (which includes non-members) can be obtained by calling the church office.

To be a good steward of God's blessings, please help “**fill the wagon**” for the McArn Community Ministry. The red wagon will be in the narthex every Sunday. Thanks for your generosity!

First Presbyterian Church

Cheraw, South Carolina

Our Vision

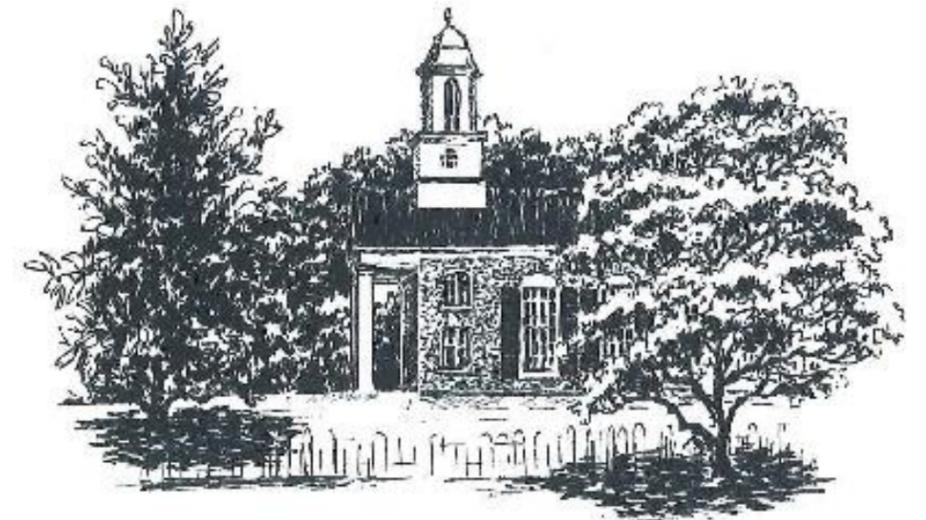
**Rooted by God's Grace,
Growing in the Spirit,
Reaching Out with Christ's Love**

The Church This Week (6/24/2018)

Today 11:00 a.m. Worship
Tues. 8-10 a.m. One Fifty Ate Bakery
Sun. 11:00 a.m. Worship

Nursery/Pray N' Play

June 24 Becky Childers



Our Mission

**By the Grace of God, we are rooted in Christ through love.
We grow in the Spirit by worshipping, by studying,
and by cultivating relationships with Christ and others.
As stewards of God's gifts and affirming our faith
in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,
we share God's Mission of reaching out
with Christ's Love.**

Rev. Dr. Alan Arnold
Stated Supply

Missionaries

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent Hare *Haiti*
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Smith *Germany/Russia*

The Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Alan Arnold, Pastor
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper
Mrs. Mary Gullledge, Mrs. Debra Jewart, Nursery

Mr. Mac McCall, DCE & Director of Choirs
Mrs. Barbara C. Dickson, Church Organist
Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO
Mrs. Debra Jewart, MMO

First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 552, 300 Market Street
Cheraw, SC 29520

church tel. 537-7474

www.cherawfpc.org

Email: info@firstprescheraw.org