**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**THE WESTMINSTER CHIMES**

**OPENING PRAYER** Karl Barth (1886 – 1968)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** WA EMIMMINO

*Come, O Holy Spirit, Come*

The Day of Pentecost is here:

**the day when the flames of faith dance in our hearts.**

*(All sing)* **Come, O****Holy Spirit, come; Come, almighty Spirit, come;**

**Come, come, come.**

The Day of Pentecost is here:

**the day when our babbling speech becomes the Good News for the world.**

*(All sing)* **Come, O****Holy Spirit, come; Come, almighty Spirit, come;**

**Come, come, come.**

The Day of Pentecost is here:

**the day when compassion is seared into our souls.**

*(All sing)* **Come, O****Holy Spirit, come; Come, almighty Spirit, come;**

**Come, come, come.**

The Day of Pentecost is here:

**let the people of God rejoice. Alleluia!**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 289** MUNICH

*On Pentecost They Gathered*

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, You poured Your Holy Spirit out upon the gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears and a new community of faith. We confess that we often hold back the force of Your Holy Spirit among us. We do not always listen for Your word of grace, speak the Good News of Your love or live as a people made one in Jesus. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of Your Holy Spirit and fill us with a flaming desire to be Your faithful people, doing Your will for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

*(Let us silently offer confessions that are individually ours to make.)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE** SWEET SPIRIT

*There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* (stanza 1)

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

*Please take a moment to find the Friendship Folder in your pew rack and sign so we know who was worshiping with us today. If you are new, please leave an address, email address, or phone number if you'd like to learn more about the life of our congregation.*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** April Lewis, Volunteer Coordinator

Presbyterian Community Center

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

*Come, Holy Spirit* John L. Bell

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Genesis 11:1-9 (p. 8 in the pew Bible)

The grass withers and the flowers fade but the word of the Lord stands forever. **Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S TIME** The Rev. Isabella Fagiani

*Children’s Worship follows immediately after the children’s sermon. Children ages 4 through 1st Grade may leave for Children’s Worship, an age-appropriate service.*

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Acts 2:1-21 (p. 992 in the pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley

Joining

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1911)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,**

**everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,**

**sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,**

**and binds us together with all believers**

**in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit**

**who inspired the prophets and apostles**

**rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,**

**engages us through the Word proclaimed,**

**claims us in the waters of baptism,**

**feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,**

**and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world**

**the Spirit gives us courage**

**to pray without ceasing,**

**to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,**

**to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,**

**to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,**

**and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**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.**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 292** WAIRUA TAPU

*As the Wind Song*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

*Gifts for the offering can be made by placing your offering in the plate as it is passed or by scanning the QR Code on the back of your bulletin with your smartphone. Visit* [*rcpres.org*](http://rcpres.org/) *and click “Give Now” to learn more.*

**OFFERTORY** Sanctuary Choir

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit* William Dawson

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray. Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray. Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke, out of God’s mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all around me, it looked so fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine. Jordan River, chilly and cold, it chills the body but not the soul. There is but one train upon this track it runs to heaven and then right back.

**\*DOXOLOGY** LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures high and low. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**WORKGROUP UPDATE** Marty Trussell

Facilities & Finances

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN 287** NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA

*Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*

**\*CHARGE & BLESSING**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 591** HALLE, HALLE

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

Choir will sing the first time through, the congregation join in for the second and third time.

**\*POSTLUDE** Dillon J. Swanson, organ

*Choral Varie sur le theme Veni Creator,* Op. 4Maurice Duruflé

**TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Acolyte: Cora Goad

Crucifer: Lydia Goad

Ushers: David Kazner, Katelyn Burton, Mark Currie, and Jim Davis

Children’s Worship: Rebecca Whaley

Flowers arranged by Dawn Long

**MINISTRY MESSAGES**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Susan Ard, Marvin & Roena Barbre, Sandy Barksdale (Bev Stroud’s sister), Dawn Blakeman, Jackie Blakeman, Collie Family (friends of Paul Kessel), Beverly Day and family (friend of Camilla and Johnsey Cabaniss), Donna Dorr (sister of Paula Mitchell), Cameron & Susie Hutto, Cheryl Gilliland, John Knaus (brother of Clare Arnold), Susan Lindstrom, Geraldine Loving (mother of Bruce Loving), Megan Mallare (friend of Kathy Grove), Melissa Martin (friend of Lisa Boylan), Rusty McCown, Louise Morris, Amy Starr Redwine, Robin Scott, Pat Wade, Niki Yost (daughter of Bill and Judy Snyder), and all caregivers.

Leigh Sackett is on vacation through June 14 and will be in worship on Sunday, June 15.

**ONLINE GIVING** If you prefer to give online you can either visit [rcpres.org](http://www.rcpres.org) and press the “Give Now” button on the homepage or scan the QR code with your smartphone to go directly to the donation page. This can be done as a one-time or an ongoing way to support our mission and ministry. 

**MISSION PARTNER SUPPORT** Each month, we designate all cash and coin to one of our local mission partners. For the month of June, we are supporting the Presbyterian Community Center (PCC). You can place your money in the offering plate or make an online gift using the QR code, noting that it is for Mission and making a note for PCC in the text box. As of June 1, we have collected $675.49 for the Presbyterian Community Center.

**PUMP-A-PINT SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE Tuesday, June 10, 1:30–5:30 PM.** Sign-ups online at [REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG](http://redcrossblood.org/) or contact Lillian Alexander at 540-632-8921 or email [alexanderlj@yahoo.com](mailto:alexanderlj@yahoo.com) to sign-up! A sign-up sheet is also available in the Gathering Area. Come for the snacks and fellowship, leave knowing you have saved three lives!

**BIBLE & MUSIC CAMP: *Once Upon a Parable***

July 23-31, 2025 at RCPC, registration deadline: June 30

Jesus was a storyteller! Jesus engaged the crowds with tales meant to teach, amuse, puzzle, inspire, and sometimes even irritate. Two thousand years later, his stories still captivate audiences and draw people close to God. Unlike fairy tales, where the king reigns over the people, Jesus, our King, walks alongside us. He tells us stories of a man who cares for an injured stranger, a father who welcomes his wayward son home, a banquet where everyone is invited and welcomed, and a tiny seed of faith that grows and grows with God’s love! Bible and Music Camp will celebrate these stories of God’s love through music, dance, storytelling, puppetry, and play! The structure of Bible and Music Camp contains half-day & full-day programming schedules to allow for the participation of a variety of age groups. More information, fees, and registration info online at rcpres.org/biblemusiccamp

**BIBLE & MUSIC CAMP SHEPHERDS** The job of a Shepherd at Bible and Music Camp is to nurture the group you are shepherding by leading them to their different activities, assisting the leader of that activity, and helping and encouraging the children as they worship, sing, learn, create, and play. You are not alone as a shepherd! Each group has at least 3 shepherds. The beauty of this job is that your essential task is to engage with the wonderful young people of our church! You will be blessed by getting to know these children. We hope you will sign up to shepherd them along in their faith! Sign up online at tinyurl.com/BMC2025Shepherds

**CHURCH ON MILL MOUNTAIN** Our worship service on Sunday, June 15, will be at Mill Mountain at 10:00 AM, with a potluck brunch at the picnic shelter to follow. The Fellowship Committee will provide coffee, juice, water, and biscuit sandwiches from Scratch Biscuit. We invite all the great RCPC cooks (and we know there are many of you) to bring your best homemade breakfast/lunch (BRUNCH) recipes because they are always grabbed up first. Scratch Biscuit will be provided as fill-ins, and you can also bring fresh fruit, homemade bread, etc. Since RCPC prides itself on “going green,” we urge each of you to bring your personal water bottle as well as a chair for the service, meal, and time of fellowship. If you are unable to join us on Mill Mountain, a shortened service will be available at 8:00 AM in the Chapel.

**WORK GROUP UPDATES AND Q&A SESSIONS** In the summer months, each of our four Work Groups of elders and deacons will offer a brief update on their planning processes for the strategic goals of RCPC. We would love your reflections and thoughts on these presentations from each group. After worship on the Sundays listed below, there will be a time for questions in the Fellowship Hall with the members of that Work Group. They can clarify matters, answer questions about their process, and hear what helpful insights each person in our church has to offer. **June 8**: Facilities & Finances. **June 22**: Volunteer Opportunities. **July 20**: Strategic Mission. **August 3**: Community Connection

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES - On the Way: A Covenantal God and a Troublesome Family** (June 15 - August 24) In the summer months when people are on the road, we will be “on the way” with Abraham. The Abraham story marks a turning point in scripture, where God chooses to work through a specific family instead of through the creation as a whole (Garden, Flood, Babel, etc). This family, however, meets no standards of righteous behavior. What they do show us how struggling people can still live in trust, repent of wrongdoing, fail terribly, and yet still be precious to God. This journeying story is one of grace where we are reminded of God’s radical call, freedom, and mercy.

**BOOK STUDY: *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths***

This summer, you are invited to join in a 9-week book study Bruce Feiler’s *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths.* “Both immediate and timeless, *Abraham* tells the powerful story of one man’s search for the shared ancestor of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Traveling through war zones, braving violence at religious sites, and seeking out faith leaders, Bruce Feiler uncovers the defining yet divisive role that Abraham plays for half the world’s believers. Provocative and uplifting, *Abraham* offers a thoughtful and inspiring vision of unity that redefines what we think about our neighbors, our future, and ourselves.” The book will be taught in rotation by Andrew Whaley, Isabella Fagiani, and Leigh Sackett with guests from the Jewish and Muslim faiths sharing from their traditions as well. Opportunities to join will be on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM and Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM. You can sign up in the Gathering Area or through the link in the This Week.

**ALL CHURCH ORCHESTRA - SUMMER 2025** This summer we are including a new "All Church Orchestra" opportunity on the fourth Sundays of July and August. This pick-up ensemble is for instrumentalists who are 7th graders through adults who play string, woodwind, or brass instruments. Dates: Sunday, July 27th (Rehearsal on Wednesday, July 23 at 6:00 PM) and Sunday, August 24th (Rehearsal on Wednesday, August 20 at 6:00 PM). Contact Dillon Swanson ([dillon@rcpres.org](mailto:dillon@rcpres.org)) if you have any questions.

**THIS WEEK AT RCPC**

A white bird on a mesh

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Sunday, June 8**

10:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

11:00 AM Workgroup Q&A: Facilities and Finances

11:00 AM Youth Group Canoe Float

11:15 AM Earth Care Committee

**Monday, June 9**

**Tuesday, June 10**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:30 PM Pump-A-Pint Blood Drive

4:00 PM Small Group: Dixon

**Wednesday, June 11**

6:30 PM Summer Book Study

**Thursday, June 12**

10:00 AM Summer Book Study

5:30 PM Justice, Equity, & Belonging Committee

**Friday, June 13**

**Saturday, June 14**

**Sunday, June 15**

8:00 AM Worship – Chapel

10:00 AM Worship – Mill Mountain

Montreat Worship & Music Conference

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR GROUPS**

Centering Prayer at St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church: Monday, 10:00 AM

AA-Primary Purpose: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 AM

Tai Chi: Tuesday & Thursday, 5:30 PM

Hip Sober Chicks: Thursday, 6:30 PM

Al-Anon: Friday, 11:45 AM