

First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

March 23, 2025

CCLI License #399806

Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Miss Anna Huttar

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jonathan Williams

(tithes and offerings may be placed in the plate as you exit Worship)

ENTERING WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 33:1-3

¹Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. ²Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! ³Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

***Song of Praise**

Red trinity Hymnal #290

“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”

*1 Hail the day that sees him rise Alleluia!
to his throne beyond the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heav'n. Alleluia!*

*3 See, he lifts his hands above! Alleluia!
See, he shows the prints of love! Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow Alleluia!
blessings on his church below. Alleluia!*

*2 There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
he has conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
take the King of glory in! Alleluia!*

*4 Lord, beyond our mortal sight, Alleluia!
raise our hearts to reach thy height; Alleluia!
there thy face unclouded see, Alleluia!
find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee! Alleluia!*

APPROACHING GOD

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession 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, for ever. *Amen.*

***Assurance of Pardon**

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways”, declares the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts”.

***Confession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic** and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

***Doxology**

Red Trinity Hymnal #731

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Children’s Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

MEANS OF GRACE

***Psalm 119**

Red Trinity Hymnal #59

“Forever Settled In the Heavens”

*1 Forever settled in the heav'ns,
thy word, O Lord, shall firmly stand;
thy faithfulness shall never fail;
the earth abides at thy command.*

*3 I should have perished in my woe
had not I loved thy law divine;
that law I never can forget;
O save me, Lord, for I am thine.*

*2 Thy word and works unmoved remain,
thine ev'ry purpose to fulfil;
all things are thine and thee obey,
and all as servants wait thy will.*

*4 The wicked would destroy my soul,
but in thy truth is refuge sure;
exceeding broad is thy command,
and in perfection shall endure.*

***Prayer for Illumination**

***Scripture Reading**

Pew Bible page 901

John 14:25-31

Sermon

“Comfort and Peace”

Prayer of Application

RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

***Hymn of Response**

Red Trinity Hymnal #693

“Blessed Assurance”

*1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.*

*2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]*

*Refrain:
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

*3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
[Refrain]*

***Free Offer of the Gospel**

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁴The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

LEAVING WORSHIP



Congregational Response

*May the peace of God our heav'nly Father, and the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit keep our hearts and minds within His love,
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign. From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain, Christ Eternal, the King of Kings.*

“Benediction” / Stuart Townend and Keith Getty / © 2005 Thank You Music

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
30 CARE	31	1	2 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
6	7	8	9 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
13 5:00 Diaconate	14	15 7:00 Session	16 6:00 Wednesday Family Night
20 EASTER/ COMMUNION 12:30 AE Circle	21  Bonclarcken Work Week	22 	23  6:00 Wednesday Family Night
27 MISSIONS	28 	29 	30 6:00 Wednesday Family Night

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8:30 LCHC 3:00 JL Circle	4	5 9:00 Church Work Day
10 8:30 LCHC +4H	11	12 2:30 Ladies Tea
17 8:30 LCHC 7:00 Maundy Thursday– Shiloh ARP	18 	19 8:00 Men’s Prayer Breakfast 11:00 Easter Egg Hunt
24  8:30 LCHC Showcase 	25 	26
1	2	3



ANNIVERSARIES

- 2– Kurt & Amanda Banholzer
- 7– Richard & Esther Shields
- 24– Philip & Stacey Pegram

BIRTHDAYS

- 1- Taylor Prete
- 2- Knox Rhyne
- 2- Clovis Steele
- 4- Hannah Powell
- 9- Collin Patterson
- 9- Walt Watford
- 12- Philip Pegram
- 15- Greta Cureton
- 15- Sarah Henley
- 17- Kayson Avant
- 23 -Athen Andersen
- 25 -Karen Welch
- 27 -Crystal Hardman
- 29 -Betty Avant

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 9:15** Officer meeting
- 10:00** Morning Worship
- 11:15** Sunday School
- 6:00** Evening Worship
- 7:00** Prayer meeting/ Youth group

Prayer Guide

March 23

Myra Sims - broken arm, Jean Hollis - blood clot, Benny Brazell - pain in neck, recovery; Mike & Pat Scruggs - respiratory issues; Nancy Ogburn - physical therapy for hand

March 16

JB Powell– Good neurosurgeon report , Nancy Ogburn– Surgery on finger

March 9

Benny Brazell– Recovery from surgery, Clovis Steele– Pain & fluid retention, Pat Scruggs– Respiratory issues, Upcoming Presbytery meeting

March 2

Phil & Marilyn Baer– Mission trip to Mexico, Sheryl Huey– Foot and leg issues, Kenneth Rabon (Sheryl Huey’s nephew)- Cancer, Mike & Pat Scruggs– Recovery at home, Family of Doug Blackmon, Family of Phillip Robinson (Shiloh ARP)

Chronic Illnesses

Tanya McCree

Nursing Home/ Shut Ins

Pat McEachern, Charles Montgomery, Richard Robinson, Clovis Steele

Missionaries

Phil Baer, Rebekah Carson, Justin & Gillian Brickey

Church Planters

King’s Church (Columbia), Arsenal Hill (Columbia)

COMMITTEES and CHAIRMEN

Fellowship– Sam Prete	Outreach– Richard Crawford	Discipleship– Stewart Screpetis
Missions- Sam Huey	Worship– David Pokopac	Building– Doug Patterson
Grounds– TBD	Safety– Walt Watford	Internal Needs– Debbie Dickson

Sermon Notes

Comfort and Union– John 14:25-31

1. The Peace of the Comforter

2. A Lasting Peace

3. Peace with God

Announcements

VISITOR INFORMATION Welcome to First ARP Church. If you are a first time visitor, we would like to have a record of your visit with us. Please fill out an attendance card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.

PRAYER REQUESTS The reverse side of our attendance card is for all prayer requests. Members and visitors are encouraged to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate as you exit Worship.

CHURCH WORK DAY A work day for the church has been scheduled for Saturday, April 5. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board if you plan to help with projects around the church./

LADIES TEA 1st Lancaster Women's Ministries will host a Ladies Tea on Saturday, April 12 at 2:30 PM. All ladies of the church are encouraged to attend and bring a friend. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

SIGN UP GENIUS We have begun using Sign Up Genius to coordinate meals for church members. There is now a link on our website for those interested in providing these meals. In order to restrict access from the general public, this page is password protected. This password will be shared at our joint Sunday School class today. On the Website Links page, select Sign Up Genius, enter the password, and select the person you would like to provide with a meal. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

BONCLARKEN WORK WEEK Every year, members from congregations throughout the ARP denomination volunteer time to help with the upkeep of Bonclarken conference Center. This year's work week will be held April 21-24. If you are interested in participating, contact Corinne Brackett for more information and volunteer applications.

SAVE THE DATE We will hold an Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 19 at 11AM. Plan to invite family, friends and neighbors to this outreach and fellowship opportunity. Check here for more details as they are finalized.

SHOEBOX ITEM OF THE MONTH Our March focus is small flashlights with batteries, sewing kits, fabric, nail files, small mirrors, bandanas, clothespins, and cotton or nylon rope. Donations can be placed in the box at the side entrance.

Financials

March 16, 2025	
Attendance– AM	58/4
Attendance– PM	26/1
General Fund	\$2,647
Total GF contributions this month	\$12,292
Missions Fund	\$20
Gideons International	\$385

ONLINE GIVING If you would like to make contributions online, visit our website at **FirstARPLancaster.org/Giving** to make a one time or repeating contribution. Contact the church office with any questions. If you prefer to download the VancoMobile app, search for “First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church” and use the invite code TPVK5P.

HOPE FOOD PANTRY There is no updated needs list for the HOPE food pantry, but please bring pantry items to place on the shelves near the Fellowship Hall. Remember to avoid glass containers and oversized family portions.

Volunteers

Childcare **March 23**

10:00

Nursery

Debbie Dickson

Toddlers

Joan Watford/ Mallory Screpetis

11:00

Nursery

Dell Ghent

Toddlers

Susan Cauthen/ Gene Hunter

Elementary

Suzanne Lever/ Alaina Patterson

March 30

Nursery

Lynn Moore

Toddlers

Miranda Bohler/ Taylor Prete

Nursery

Corinne Brackett

Toddlers

Susan Cauthen/ Mott Henley

Elementary

Debby Hegler/ Alaina Patterson

Officers

March

David Pokopac

Stewart Screpetis

Richard Shields

Glenn Rhyne

April

Sam Huey

Richard Crawford

Jim Davis

Susan Cauthen

Staff

Pastor- Rev. Jonathan Williams

Secretary-Mrs. Stacy Pokopac

2025

2026

2027

Elders

Butch Ghent-VM

Sam Huey- C

Richard Crawford

Sam Prete

David Pokopac

Stewart Screpetis

Deacons

Susan Cauthen- S

Richard Shields- C

Debbie Dickson

Doug Patterson

Jim Davis-VC

Glenn Rhyne

An Associate Reformed Family Serving God, Lancaster, and the World

701 North Main Street, Lancaster SC 29720/ PO Box 864, Lancaster, SC 29721

803.285.1578/ onahill@comporium.net

<http://www.firstarplancaster.org>