

Announcements

LIFE Groups | LIFE Groups meet this afternoon in homes around the area. If you are not yet a part of a LIFE Group, please contact Crystal Twibell (crystal@firstprespooler.com) so she can help you get connected with a group.

The group that met at the Gleasons will be hosted by Kyle and Amy going forward. This week only you will meet at the church at 5pm, but after this week, you will meet at the McClellans. Dinner is provided.

LIFE Group Start Times/Locations:

Campbell - 1pm @ the Campbells

Davis - 12:30ish @ the Chastains

Harden - 6pm at the Hardens

Rincon - 5pm @ the Larsons

McClellan - 5pm @ the church

VBS Applications are Open! | VBS will be June 1-5 from 9am-noon, for rising PreK-5th Grade. If you know that you'd like to attend, letting us know early helps us plan more effectively. Huge thanks to those of you who have already signed up!

See postcard for a QR code for student registration in the bulletin. **VBS is open to the community, so please feel free to share these with friends.** You can also access both student and volunteer applications at fpcpooler.org. If you click on the VBS graphic, it will take you to the page with both applications.

Lilies for Easter | We are once again decorating the sanctuary with lilies this Easter. If you would like to donate a lily in honor or memory of someone, you can fill out the insert in the bulletin or scan the QR code to the right.

Youth Game Night | There will be a youth game night this Friday, March 13th at 5pm. See Graham or Jamie Douglas for details.

Church Work Day | This Saturday, starting at 9am, we will be helping the Jarrett's with some yard work. Their address is 117 Oakcrest Dr. W., Savannah. Please contact Jeff Christopher (jefferyc353@gmail.com) with any questions.

"Spring Breeze" Church App Update | All month, staff will be on hand after the worship service (by the "Welcome" wall) to help set up our church app, update photos, answer questions, etc. We would love if everyone had an updated photo, so we will also have a photographer on hand.

Communicants Class | From April 12 to May 24 our 3rd - 5th grade will be going through the curriculum *Preparing for the Table*, during Sunday School in order to foster a conversation about church membership. If you have any questions, you can see our Children's Ministry director, Annie Lamson. We hope to also have a summer class for the youth, which will be announced once all the details are confirmed.

A Service of Praise and Worship of Almighty God on the Lord's Day
March 8, 2026

Call to Worship: Psalm 97:1-2, 8-9

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!
Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
Zion hears and is glad,
and the daughters of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.
For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

Hymn of Praise: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Trinity Hymnal #521

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. **[Refrain]**

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found:
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. **[Refrain]**

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far
than tongue or pen can ever tell;
it goes beyond the highest star,
and reaches to the lowest hell;
the guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled,
and pardoned from his sin.

Refrain:

**O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure:
the saints' and angels' song!**

When years of time shall pass away
and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
when men who here refuse to pray,
on rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so pure shall still endure,
all measureless and strong;
redeeming grace to Adam's race—
the saints' and angels' song. **[Refrain]**

Could we with ink the ocean fill
and were the skies of parchment made,
were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill
and ev'ry man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above
would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole,
tho' stretched from sky to sky. **[Refrain]**

Prayer of Invocation & 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.

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Questions 26

What do you believe when you say: *I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?*

That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and all that is in them, and who still upholds and governs them by his eternal counsel and providence, is, for the sake of Christ his Son, my God and my Father.

In him I trust so completely as to have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul, and will also turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this life of sorrow. He is able to do so as almighty God, and willing also as a faithful Father.

The Gloria Patri

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.

Corporate Confession of Sin:

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses.

You alone know how often we have sinned, in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, and in forgetting your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased you.

Teach us to hate our errors; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins, for the sake of your dear Son. And help us, we pray, to live in your light and walk in your ways; according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace: 1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Tithes and Offerings: 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Offertory: What Wondrous Love is This

Trinity Hymnal # 261

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

Doxology

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

Pastoral Prayer

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 6:1-7

(p. 571 of Pew Bible)

[1] In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. [2] Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. [3] And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

[4] And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. [5] And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

[6] Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. [7] And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks Be to God!*

Hymn of Preparation: How Deep the Father's Love for Us
Trinity Hymnal #605

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son,
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away;
As wounds which marred the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything:
No gifts, no power, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Preaching of God's Word: Ephesians 1:15-23

(Page 976 of the pew Bible)

[15] For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, [18] having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might [20] that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. [22] And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,

Closing Hymn: In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live,

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Benediction

Sermon Notes
The Great Intercession (Pt. 1)
Ephesians 1:15–23

[15] For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, [18] having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might [20] that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. [22] And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Big Idea: The hope of the believer is the engine of daily life.

- I. Keep the melodic line in mind: *The Triune God glorifies Himself through the transformed walk of His people.*

- II. What characterizes the people of God? (vv. 16, 18).
 - a. Faith (v. 16).

 - b. Love (v. 16).

 - c. Hope (v. 18).

 - d. A Pauline special (vv. 3-14; 15-23).

- III. How do we lay hold of this hope? (vv. 17-18c).

- IV. Live rightly in our reality (vv. 18d-23).
 - a. Hope drives ethics (vv. 18d-19).

 - b. We are always under the rule and power and dominion of Christ (vv. 19-23).

LIFE Group Discussion Questions

1. What stood out/piqued your interest in today's text/sermon?
2. What three identifying attributes does Paul say ought to characterize God's people?
3. In what ways or areas of your life are you tempted to divorce faith and intellect?
4. Why is it important that this prayer is on behalf of God's people?
5. Is there an area of your life in which you're tempted to buy the lie that Jesus is not Lord (i.e.: "Preacher, there's business and then there's church. The two have naught to do with one another.")?

Some matters for prayer:

- * Pray for the upcoming officer's training.
- * Pray for the searches related to our two staff positions (Assistant Pastor/Music Director).
- * Pray for the covenant children who will be going through our upcoming communicant's class. Pray for the middle school/high school kids who will do so this summer.
- * Pray for those sick, or grieving.
- * Pray for our Missions Committee and Session as we seek to expand our missions giving and involvement.