



reformation
presbyterian church

December 2, 2018

A Congregation of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

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. Finally, worship is defined by God, not our imaginations. All that we do in worship (e.g. singing, praying, affirming our faith, preaching, etc.) comes from God's word. He promises to meet with us as we praise him in these ways.

Call to worship: God calls his people into his holy and loving presence in worship. As we worship we are blessed with the joy of the Lord. Today he graciously invites all people to worship through faith in Christ.

Prayer of invocation: Invocation means "to call upon." 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.

WELCOME TO REFORMATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christ-centered · Gospel-driven · Kingdom-focused

First Sunday of Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS — (see page 11)

Rev. Matt Lucas

MOMENT OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tom and Sue Shoger

CALL TO WORSHIP — Matthew 2:2

Elder Jim Miller

"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

HYMN OF ADORATION — *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Trinity Hymnal #194 (vv. 1, 3-5)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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, for ever. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH — *The Heidelberg Catechism #44*

Elder: Why does the creed add, “He descended to hell?”

People: **To assure me in times of personal crisis and temptation that Christ my Lord, by suffering unspeakable anguish, pain, and terror of soul, especially on the cross but also earlier, has delivered me from the anguish and torment of hell.**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE — *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

Trinity Hymnal #211 (v. 1)

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray;
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

CHILDREN’S HYMN — *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!*

Trinity Hymnal #198 (vv. 1, 2)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near,
The Savior of the world is here.

A helper just he comes to thee,
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.

WORSHIP THROUGH OFFERINGS

Affirmation of our faith:

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

Worship through singing:

God delights in hearing his people sing. As we sing our faith, we give praise to God and he transforms our hearts so that we are more like His Son.

Children’s Sermon:

Please come forward for the children’s sermon as we sing the last verse of the hymn. The children’s sermon makes the Bible accessible to young children. **Parents:** You are welcome to accompany your child to the stage. Afterwards, children 2-3 years of age may be dismissed to the nursery. Please gather in the narthex and a deacon will lead you to the nursery.

Worship through offerings: All that we have comes from God and he shares generously with us; His greatest gift is his Son Jesus Christ. We worship him by giving to the work of proclaiming his gospel by word and deed.

Doxology: Doxology means “praise.” We praise God because of his generosity to us.

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 live for his 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.

Sermons available at
www.refpres.org

MUSICAL OFFERING — *Joy to the World*

Music: G. F. Handel | Arranged: John Carter
© 1987 in Carlos for Piano by Hope Publishing Company

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.

SERMON — *“They Are Weak, But He Is Strong”*

Rev. Matt Lucas

Genesis 3:1-7, 14-15 (pew Bible pages 2-3)

Matthew 4:1-11 (pew Bible page 809)

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

Confession of sin: Our sin isn't just about breaking rules, it's about hurting our relationship with a loving God who gave up his Son to save us. Grace softens our hard hearts so that we freely confess our sins during a time of silent confession. We also confess our sins together as the people of God have always done in worship.

Notes about partaking:

We come forward in groups around the table to receive the bread and wine as a church family. We eat and drink as we receive the bread and cup. If you are physically unable to come forward to receive communion, an elder will bring a tray to you.

We serve a mixed tray of wine and grape juice. The outer ring contains grape juice while the inner rings contain wine.

In addition to the bread, there are wafers available on the trays that are gluten, wheat, yeast, dairy, egg, soy, nut, and corn free.

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Trinity Hymnal #498 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, you alone are mighty in battle against your enemies;
you alone have won victory over Satan, our accuser.
Yet we are weak and often fail in times of temptation.
Please forgive our sins and our desire for sin.
We plead for your strength to overcome temptation.
Fill us with a love for righteousness. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON — Revelation 12:10

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God."

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMNS FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus, I Come

Words by William True Sleeper | Music by Greg Thompson

© 2000 Greg Thompson Music

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Trinity Hymnal #499

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.

Words of assurance: God uses his word to convict our conscience of sin, but he also assures us that we are forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ and dearly loved.

Participating in the Lord's

Supper: The Lord's Supper is the family meal of Christians in which Jesus, as the host, offers himself and all the blessings of salvation to his people. All who forsake their sin and 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 of the Supper. However, if you are not a Christian, or not prepared to partake of this meal (*see 1 Corinthians 10:16-22; 11:27-29; Matthew 5:23-24*), we encourage you to remain in your pew and spend this time seeking God in prayer.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Words: Charles Wesley | Music: Greg Thompson

© 2000 Greg Thompson Music.

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
'Till life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
Receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
Help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
In the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name,
I'm unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am;
Thou full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;
To all eternity.

Here Is Love

Words: William Rees & William Edwards | Music: Robert Lowry

Public Domain

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
Loving-kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten
Throughout heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
Fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
Poured incessant from above,
And heav'n's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me, all Thy love accepting,
Love Thee, ever all my days;
Let me seek Thy kingdom only,
And my life be to Thy praise;
Thou alone shalt be my glory,
Nothing in the world I see;
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me,
Thou Thyself hast set me free.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me
By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;
And Thy grace my need is meeting,
As I trust in Thee, my Lord.
Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring
Thy great love and power on me,
Without measure, full and boundless,
Drawing out my heart to Thee.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Trinity Hymnal #196 (v. 1)

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Please gather your children promptly after the service.

Benediction: A benediction is not a prayer, but 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.

GET CONNECTED

Community Groups

Weekly small group Bible studies in church members' homes will resume in January

Sundays – Brookland Manor, 6:00 pm - Contact: Skip Goldsmith, 828.808.1589

Mondays – Flat Rock, 6:30 pm - Contact: Doug Dolan, 301.384.4442

Tuesdays – Kirkside Hall, 4:00 pm - Contact: David Taylor, 757.375.5062

Wednesdays

Sylvan Heights, 6:15 pm - Contact: Zack Keuthan, 828.702.6807

5th Avenue, 6:30 pm - Contact: Gibbon Pender, 828.243.3908

Thursdays – Mills River, 7:00 pm - Contact: Robin Troy, 828.606.3995

Sunday School

Classes for all ages at Kirkside Hall (brick building next door), 9:15 am; nursery provided

12/2 Luke 18:1-8 (persistent widow) Jay Pratt

12/9 Luke 16:1-9 (dishonest manager) Matt Lucas

12/16 Matthew 13:24-30 (weeds) Jay Pratt

12/23 No SS (Christmas)

12/30 No SS (New Year's)

New Comers Lunches

All visitors are invited to be our guests for lunch following worship on the 2nd Sunday of January, February, March, September, October, and November in our fellowship hall (brick building next door).

Next Step

NEXT STEP is for people who want to learn more about RPC. We gather on a Friday evening and Saturday morning to talk about our vision, beliefs, and ministries. Participating in NEXT STEP does not require you to become a member of RPC, but it is helpful for making an informed decision about membership. If interested, please join us for our next session on March 8-9.

CONNECTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday	6:00 - 7:30 pm Youth Group
Monday	6:00 pm Joint Officers' Meeting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Flat Rock Community Group
Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 pm Kirkside Community Group
Saturday	8:00 - 9:30 am A.R.M (All RPC Men) Meeting @ Kirkside Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today’s Special Lord’s Supper Offering will go to the Deacon’s Fund.
2. This Saturday from 8-9:30am, All RPC Men (ARM), member or 1st time visitor, are invited to attend a gathering at Kirkside Hall. A light breakfast will be served, followed by a time of fellowship, sharing, and encouragement. Scriptures for review will be Hebrews 3:13, 10:24.
3. A Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday following worship. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect new officers and approve the budget for 2019.
4. The “Blessings in Boxes” tree is located in the Narthex. All instructions and labeling tags are in the ornament pack. Please remember to print your name and telephone number on the sign-up sheet. All gifts are due by next Sunday.
5. Next Sunday, Youth Group will be at the Lucas Home (102 Mary Place, Flat Rock, NC 28731) for the Youth Christmas Party. 5:30pm-7:30pm.
6. Join us on Sunday, December 16, at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary for our annual Christmas Program. A reception will follow in Kirkside Hall. If you would like to be part of the program, please contact Karen Kuykendall.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

December 2

Babies..... Brett & Pam Johnson
Walkers Eric & Sally Warren

December 9

Babies..... Ann Leigh & Karen Maier
Walkers Mary Keyzer & Madison Keyzer

USHERS

December

Front Entrance Stuart Miller & Gary Waldron
Rear Entrance..... Robin Troy

GET CONNECTED

(Place in offering plate)

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

I’D LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

- ARP Denomination
- Baptism
- Children’s Ministry
- Community Groups
- Membership
- Men’s Ministry
- Missions/Outreach
- Music Ministry
- Women’s Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Receive a call from a pastor

COMMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

(Continue on the back)

OFFICERS

Elders

* Skip Goldsmith
Rev. Zack Keuthan
Rev. Matt Lucas
Jim Miller IV
Michael Rhodes
David Taylor
* Joseph Warren

Deacons

Bob Coley
Doug Dolan
Mark Dugle
* Gibbon Pender
Jay Pratt
Glen Reid
Andrew Riddle
* Scott Russell
Eric Warren

*Currently Rotated off Session or Diaconate

Bold: Denotes Officer of the Month

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Senior Pastor..... Rev. Matt Lucas
Associate Pastor/Youth Rev. Zack Keuthan
Children’s Ministry Director Sallye Lucas
Custodian Michael Rhodes
Librarian Elly Keuthan
Music Director..... Karen Kuykendall
Musician..... Chris Zhang
Nursery Attendant..... Karen Maier
Office Administrator..... Beth Hill
Treasurer..... Karen O’Conner
Women’s Ministries Amy Troy

Reformation Presbyterian Church

120 7th Avenue W, Hendersonville, North Carolina 28792

828.698.3536 | office@refpres.org



@refpres



www.refpres.org