

# The Worship of the Lord

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023

## Gathering Music

### Chiming of the Trinity

*(Worship begins with the Voluntary. Please use this time to enjoy the sacred music and to prepare your heart and mind for an encounter with God.)*

### Voluntary

*Blessed Assurance*

Clyde Patterson  
arr. John Ness Beck

### Greeting & Announcements

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr.

### Recognition of Mothers

### Epistle Reading: I Peter 2:2-10

ANDREAS (c. seventh century AD),

#### ***Unjust Suffering Is Still Meaningful:***

*Once again, Peter exhorts us not to grieve over unjust suffering, if that is God's will for us. He teaches us that we suffer for the specific purpose of being trained for what we are meant to be according to the mercy of God.*

CATENA OF ANDREAS.

### Call to Worship

Come and hear the good news—

Christ is Risen!

***He is Risen Indeed!***

Blessed is our God, the maker of the world,  
giver of life and breath!

In God we live, move, and have our being!

Let the sound of God's praise be heard!

All: ***Sing of His Excelling Love!***

### \*Hymn of Praise

*(208) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

BEECHER

### Psalter Reading: Psalm 66:8-20

Jack Sieber

### An 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.*

### \*Offertory Hymn

*(15) Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

### \*Offertory Prayer

Sandra Manning

*(Offering plates are placed in the Narthex where you may give as you feel led.)*

### \*An Easter Doxology

LAST UNS ERFREUEN

### A Time with Children

*(Children preschool-3rd grade are invited to Children's Church)*

### Congregational Chorus

*(457) Lord, Be Glorified*

BE GLORIFIED

### Joys/Concerns of the Community

Rev. Byrd

### Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

### A Call to Prayer

Let us pray for those who are confused by life,  
and fear there is no Spirit of truth anywhere.

Let us pray for those who are too arrogant,  
who think only they are worthy of truth.

Let us pray for those sad and suffering,  
who fear that despair is the truth.

Let us pray for the very healthy and proud,  
who imagine truth only favors the strong.

Let us pray for the dying and those who love them,  
who fear that death is the ultimate truth.

Let us pray for those who today find faith in Christ,  
and in so doing find the TRUTH.

Let us pray...

### Pastoral Prayer

### Worship Through Music

*Beautiful Saviour*

Susan Frazier

att. Tom Fettke

### Sharing in God's Word

Rev. Byrd

#### ***How Then Shall We Live: How Shall I Live Knowing I Will Die?***

Emphasis Text: Acts 17:22-31

### \*Hymn of Commitment

*(330) Amazing Grace*  
(stanzas 1 and 5)

NEW BRITIAN

### \*Expressions of Decisions

### \*Sending Forth

ORIGEN OF ALEXANDRIA (c. 185 – 254 AD), ***God's Nearness:***

*You are near, Lord, and all your commandments are truth." God says elsewhere, "I am a God who is near and not a God who is far away, says the Lord." For the power of God is everywhere according to the word of creation and providence. Knowing this,*

*Paul, addressing the Greeks as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, says, "We do not seek God far from us, for in him we live and move and are," and "the Spirit of the Lord has filled the earth." He is thus, for his part, close, but if we ourselves make no effort, though he be close, to draw near to him, we will not enjoy his nearness. For this reason, sinners are far from God: "Behold, those who distance themselves from you perish. PALESTINIAN CATENA ON PSALM 118.151.*

Go now into the world.

Search for the God who is not far from each one of us.

Offer to all who ask an account of the hope that is in you.

Keep your conscience clear

as you live the commandments in love.

And may God greet your prayers with constant love;

May Christ Jesus give you life through his own life;

And may the Spirit of truth abide with you and within you, always.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

***In the name of Christ. Amen.***

### \*Response

*(178) He Is Lord*

HE IS LORD

(refrain)

### \*Chiming of the Trinity

### Postlude

Karen Sawyer

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

*\*Congregation stands, who are able*

All scripture readings are from *The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.*

## **The Ministry of Worship**

The Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr., Pastor

Susan Frazier, Worship Leader

Karen Sawyer, Church Musician

Clyde Patterson, Organist

## **Today**

**Deacons:** Jack Sieber & Sandra Manning

**Children's Church:** Ashely Winstead

**Nursery:** Paula Strickland

**Member Prayer Request:**

|                 |                |                     |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Tim Bartholomew | Family of      | Eric Jeffreys       |
| Martha Crowell  | Rachel Ervin   | Sue Jenkins         |
| Doodle Daniels  | Sharon Flowers | Donald & Pat Parker |
|                 | Weedie Hayes   | Melba White         |

**Prayer On Behalf of Members:**

|                  |                     |                       |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Harrison Barnett | Linda Frazier       | Donnie Manning        |
| Gerald Butler    | Rudy Frazier        | Royce Pittman         |
| Pam Butler       | Joel Freeman        | Maryanne Davis Powell |
| John Byrd        | Sarah George        | Vickie Sanders        |
| Veda Byrd        | Gerald Hale         | David Sawyer          |
| Brenda Caldwell  | Allen Hinnant       | Carl & Kathy Smith    |
| Faye Carter      | Julie Johnson Baker | Rudy Viverette        |
| John Chamblee    | Vickie Hyde Jones   | Robert Ward           |
| Debbie Edwards   | Linda Keen          | Trudy Womack          |
|                  | J.R. McPherson      |                       |

*In an effort to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the prayer list for a two week period. If you wish for a name to remain longer than two weeks, please contact the church office.*

**Nan Strickland Flower Ministry to Homebound:**

Donations to this ongoing ministry should be designated as Missions/Flower Ministry.

The next opportunity to assist with flower arranging and delivery is **Friday, May 26, 2023 at 10 a.m.** in the fellowship hall.

**Homebound & Nursing Home Ministry:**

|                  |               |               |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Wilbur Batchelor | Beulah Hudson | Pat Parker    |
| Patsy Carty      | Annie Jackson | Edith Skinner |
| Martha Crowell   | Bill Joyner   | Reba Turner   |
| Doris Fisher     | June Joyner   | Melba White   |
| Weedie Hayes     | Donald Parker |               |

**Card Ministry to the Homebound:**

Each week, we rotate the names of two homebound members as part of our Card Ministry Outreach. Please consider sending a card or handwritten note to the following two members:

**Patsy Carty:**

**Martha Crowell:**

We appreciate you reaching out to members who are no longer able to worship with us in person!

**2023 Financial Summary for 19 Weeks**

Financial information is not shared online.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS**  
 The flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of my loving mother, Christine Vick, by Brenda Brown.



*Happy Mother's Day!*  
 Today we recognize those women who are mothers or have been like mothers. Please accept a small token of acknowledgment from NBC for the role you have played in the lives of those around you.



*Thank you!*  
 A heartfelt thank you to the NBC Family for the meals and prayers after my surgery and as I recovered. Your care for me means so much. ~ Sharon Flowers



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023**  
 JUNE 5-8 ~ 9 A.M. - 12 P.M. | K - 5TH GRADE

Craft items needed: plastic grocery bags & 12 oz or smaller glass jars with lids. Please place items on the desk in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed in all areas ~ snacks, crafts, leaders, and more! Contact Blaine to help.

|  |                             |  |  |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|
|  | <b>May Mission Emphasis</b> | <b>Urgent Need Items:</b>  | Donations can be made through May 28 in the laundry baskets in the Fellowship Hall or Narthex. |
|  |                             | laundry detergent<br>swiffer items<br>cleaning supplies<br>Clorox wipes<br>glass cleaner<br>wrapped snacks |  |

*Item of the Month* **May**

**Canned Ham, Dried Beans & Canned Greens**




How Then Shall We Live:  
 How Shall I Live Knowing I Will Die?