

MORNING WORSHIP

October 26, 2025

Half past Ten O' Clock

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

*When the organ begins, please prepare for worship through silent prayer and meditation.
Following the service, greet one another with joy and affection!*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

+WELCOME AND NOTICES

PRELUDE

Jazz Ensemble

Will Campbell, saxophone; Hazel McKinley, piano; Ron Brendle, bass; Rick Dior, drums

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: All who exalt themselves will be humbled.

People: But all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Leader: We humble ourselves before our God.

People: Ready to hear and receive God's truth.

+*HYMN 450

"Be Thou My Vision"
verse 3, Jazz Ensemble only

SLANE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, Your truth is so often sharp and unsettling. We confess the ways we skirt the hard edges of Your Word, turn up the volume on lesser noises, and lean into the comfort of our own certainty rather than submit to the discomfort of Your challenge. You send us messengers, and we sidestep them; You challenge us, and we defend ourselves. Again and again, Holy God, we resist what we do not want to hear. And yet You keep calling. Have mercy on us. Interrupt our evasions. Soften what pride has hardened in us. Let us hear and receive Your truth. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Immediately following the Baptism, children age five through second grade are invited to Children's Worship.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR Alexander Theodore Tucker Zimmer V

Roger Mills, Assisting Elder

+Invitation to Baptism

The Meaning of Baptism

Questions to the Parents and Congregation

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

Prayer and the Act of Baptism

The Apostles' Creed

Greeting a Child of God

Leader: Alexander Theodore Tucker Zimmer V is now identified as a child of God in Christ's Church. Through Baptism, God has put His seal upon Alexander to share with us all the benefits of Christ's sacrifice. Let us be supportive of Ted and Janette as they nurture Alexander and assist him to be a faithful disciple.

People: **With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Alexander into Christ's Church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage and support you, to share the good news of God's love with you, and to celebrate with you God's unfolding blessings.**

*HYMN 475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
verse 2, Jazz Ensemble only

NETTLETON

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 18:9-14, pew Bible pg. 955

SERMON

"Two Men Went Up to the Temple to Pray"

Margo Fraga

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

Caroline Thompson

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"We Are One"

Brian Tate

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*LITANY OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Leader: Holy God, Maker of gardens and grower of grace, You scatter seeds of hope in every season.

People: **We come with open hands, ready to plant what You have given.**

Leader: You take what is small; a seed, a word, a gesture, and shape it into abundance.

People: **We trust Your Spirit to bring growth where we can only imagine possibility.**

Leader: These pledges, offerings, and promises of time and care,
they are only a portion of the abundance You have handed to us.

People: **Still, we press them into Your care and set them down where they might become more.**

Leader: As we give, we remember Your faithfulness through every season - how You have turned
dry ground into gardens.

People: **Let these gifts take root in love and bear fruit in hope. May they find their way into
the broken places to comfort the weary and strengthen the weak.**

Leader: Holy God, bless the seeds we plant today; our gifts, hopes, and trust in Your renewing Spirit.
Nurture them into branches of love, reaching out to shelter and sharing Your grace.

People: **In gratitude and awe, we dedicate ourselves and these gifts to Your service. Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 735

"I Need Thee Every Hour"
verse 3, Jazz Ensemble only

NEED

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Jazz Ensemble

*Those who are able please stand.

+Ushers may seat late worshipers.

SELWYN AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES ALL WHO VISIT

Selwyn Avenue is glad you are with us this morning. We welcome all visitors, celebrating God's creativity in human diversity. We'd like to stay in touch with you! Please take a moment to fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate. Please ask an usher if you need help locating the nursery, restrooms, changing tables, or large print hymnals.

Membership is by one of three paths: 1) profession of faith in Jesus Christ (for those who have never been part of a Christian church); 2) re-affirmation of faith (for those who formerly were part of a congregation but have not been involved in recent times - for example, you were baptized and/or confirmed but moved and never engaged with a new congregation); or 3) transfer of membership from another congregation (your membership is with another church). New members and prospective members are invited to participate in Orientation Classes, which are scheduled several times a year, and are a wonderful way to meet others and learn about our church and all the opportunities here. We always stand ready to be in communication with you about your particular situation. The contact information for all staff members is in the bulletin each week.

WORSHIP BAGS FOR 4 YRS. - 5TH GRADE Age-appropriate activities for readers and non-readers to encourage their participation in following along in worship are available in the narthex. Please return the bag to the basket after worship.

SAPC STAFF INFORMATION		
Position	Name	E-mail address
Pastor	Lori Archer Raible	lorir@selwynpres.org
Associate Pastor for CEF/Congregational Life	Margo Fraga	margor@selwynpres.org
Associate Pastor for Mission and Youth	Brian Daoust	briandsapc@gmail.com
Director of Children and Families	Karley Wilke-Nadler	karleywn@gmail.com
Parish Associate	Lisa McLennan	lisamclennan5@gmail.com
Director of Music	Fred Spano	fps7363@gmail.com
Organist	Gay Pappin	gpappin@gmail.com
Church Administrator	Marsha Cooper	marshac@selwynpres.org
Administrative Assistant	Kris Seek	office@selwynpres.org
Church Accountant	Tonya Moore	tonya@tmooreaccounting.com
Accounting Administrative Assistant	Reba Hardaway	rebah@selwynpres.org
Communications Specialist	Jennifer Dixon	jennifer@capstonebrandingmedia.com
Weekend Facilities	Dwight Jones	djones8345@aol.com
Director of Child Development Center	Beth Sharpe	bsharpe@selwynprescdc.com
Resident Pastor at QHPC	Allyson Anderson	allyson.qhpc@gmail.com
SAPC SESSION		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Rich Bonnell, Lori Burbank, Tate Hackman, Marybet Hudson, Todd Muldrew, Walker Owens, Adam Piacentino, Denise Pineno, Evan Sauda, Elizabeth Stearns, Caroline Thompson, Tina Weinberg; Youth Elder-Sarah Pineno	Mile Bellamy, Michelle Bentley, Lee Bobbitt, Jeremy Caskey, Mike DeAmicis, Zach Houston, Catherine Miller, Sally Moore, Becky Muth, Cathy Sheely, Janet Stephens, Karey Tom	Mike Bolewitz, Katie Cumbus, Lindsay Haynie, Sebastian Marth, Roger Mills, Martha Rand, Erin Salzlein, Rebecca Thompson, Ted Zimmer