

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW.

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

JUNE 11, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY

LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE

**Please sign the attendance pad and pass it to everyone on the pew.
Once the last person has signed, please fold it in half and put it in the offering plate.**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR		Martha Starling
PRELUDE	<i>“Priere A Notre-Dame”</i>	LÉON BOËLLMAN
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Greg Sanderson
ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT		Jenny Keefe
CALL TO WORSHIP¹		Greg Sanderson

L: Return to the One Holy God who calls you to steadfast love.

C: The Lord desires love, not sacrifice. Return to the One who heals and binds, revives, and raises up.

L: The Lord desires knowledge, not burnt offerings.

C: We rejoice in the name of the One who favors all creation with light and life. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER²		Greg Sanderson
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Holy God, creator of the universe, author of faith itself, infuse your people with trust so that as you have given life to your people throughout the ages, we too might know the true healing that comes from your steadfast word, through Christ Jesus, our Savior. **Amen.**

PSALTER NO.767-68	<i>Response 2</i>	<i>Psalm 33</i>	Greg Sanderson
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OLD TESTAMENT READING	Genesis 12:1-9
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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 882		Greg Sanderson
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*GLORIA PATRI NO. 70		MEINKE
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*HYMN NO. 261	<i>“Lord Of The Dance”</i>	LORD OF THE DANCE
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MORNING PRAYER³		Pastor Debra
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God calls us to offer up the world’s concerns in petition for others. Let us therefore pray for the church, the world, and those in need saying, hear us, O God; your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, sovereign God: you do not abandon what you have created but continue to make your grace known among us. We thank you for those you have chosen to speak your healing and reconciling grace in this age and we pray for the faith to receive. Hear us, O God;

For your mercy is great.

Blessed are you caring God: you hear the cries of the poor, you see the tears of all who mourn, you know the pain of those in anguish, and you come to the side of the lonely. Call your church to compassion and service. Hear us O God;

For your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, God of peace: you call us to make warfare cease and to place our trust in the One who bears us up. Give comfort and courage to all suffering in war torn regions and in places of needless violence. Raise up peacemakers among all peoples and confound those who place their hope in weapons. Hear us O God;

For your mercy is great.

¹ Long. Kimberly Bracken, Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2, Westminster, John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky, 2014, pg. 25

² Ibid, pg. 31.

³ Ibid, pgs 48-49

Blessed are you, God of justice: you desire for us to all be one in you. Erase prejudice and class divisions, bring strength to those who are persecuted, and heal those who believe that destruction is the path of righteousness. Hear us O God;

For your mercy is great.

Blessed Lord, turn us to your ways. Make us bold and increase our passion for good. Inspire us to mighty witnesses for Jesus like the saints that have gone before us. Hear us O God;

For your mercy is great.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, all who suffer from illnesses of body, mind, or spirit, our shut-ins and those on our prayer list and those we lift up to you now in the silence of our hearts. We pray that your will for them and for us may be fulfilled. Hear us O God;

For your mercy is great. Amen.

ANTHEM

“In Remembrance Of Me”

BURYL RED

In remembrance of Me eat this bread. In remembrance of Me drink this wine. In remembrance of Me pray for the time. When God's own will is done. In remembrance of Me heal the sick. In remembrance of Me feed the poor. In remembrance of Me open the door. And let your brother in let Him in. Take eat and be comforted. Drink and remember too. That this is My body. And precious blood shed for you shed for you. In remembrance of Me search for truth. In remembrance of Me always love. In remembrance of Me don't look above. But in your heart. Look in your heart for God. Do this in remembrance of Me.

OFFERTORY

“Dove Of Peace”

ADAPTED

***DOXOLOGY NO. 95**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Debra

***HYMN NO. 617**

“I Come With Joy”

DOVE OF PEACE

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:14-20

Pastor Debra

SERMON

A Power Filled Meal

Pastor Debra

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor Debra

INVITATION⁴

Christ our Lord invites to his table to feast with him all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore let us confess our sins before God and one another.

CONFESSION⁵

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON⁶

P: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

⁴ United Methodist Book of Worship, © 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House, pg. 35.

⁵ Ibid, pg.25

⁶ Ibid, pg 35.

C: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING⁷

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is a right, good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. Once we were no people, but now we are your people. Once we received no mercy but now, we have received your mercy. When we turned away, and our loved failed, your love remained steadfast. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sing: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. *Musical Setting C UMH, page 21.*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ. He is your chosen cornerstone upon which you are building your spiritual house here on earth. Yet to many his way of love was and is a stumbling stone threatening their comfortable and sinful ways. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat, all of you. This is my body, which is given from you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said, "Drink from this, all of you. This is the blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Sing: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. *Musical Setting C UMH, page 22.*

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ redeemed by his blood that all might come to know his saving grace.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your holy church all honor and glory is yours almighty God now and forever.

Sing: Amen, a-men, a-men. *Musical Setting C UMH, page 22.*

LORD'S PRAYER

Now with the confidence of the children of God we are bold to pray:

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save

⁷ O'Donnell, Michael J, OSL, Lift Up Your Hearts Year A, OSL Publications, Akron, Ohio, 1999, pgs. 76-77.

us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND PRESENTATION OF THE CUP

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

Eternal Father, we give thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Through this sacrament help us to know him who died and rose for us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Holy Spirit to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 140

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Debra

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE NO.

“Go Gently, Go Lightly”

CARLTON YOUNG

Go gently, go lightly, go safe in the Spirit, live simply, don't carry much more than you need: go trusting God's goodness, go spreading God's kindness, stay centered on Jesus and where he will lead. Go singing, go bringing the gifts of the Spirit, go hopefully searching for things that are true: in living, in loving, whatever befalls you, God keep you, God bless you in all that you do.

*POSTLUDE

“Improvisation On Faithfulness”

**If you are able, please stand.*

OUR PRAYER LIST – Our President, our Congress, all Governors, Mayors, State, County, and Local employees, all health care workers, EMT's, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jim Bennett, Scott Tomberlin, Mary Snookie Lomas, Shep Straughn, Betty Thrailkill, Bill Eutsler, Jr., Mary Burr, Jody Reid, Martha Griggs, Steve Humphries, Katie Chapman, Thomas McKinnon, Zenda Rushing, Joy Blackman, The Spahn Family (Friends of Jenny Rushing Outen), Curtis Jones, The Elmore Family, The Holloman Family, Meredith Creech, and Jimmy Duffy. **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
in memory of Susan Eschenfelder
by her mother Faye, her sister Ellen, and her daughter Amy Eschenfelder.*

Announcement:

Today is Pastor Debra's last day preaching at First United Methodist Church of Cheraw. Mark and Pastor Debra will move out of the parsonage on June 16th. Pastor Debra will be working in the office or remotely until her final day as Pastor on June 28th. If you need pastoral care during this time, do not hesitate to contact Pastor Debra on her cell phone 843-537-3132.



THE CONNECTION

The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for
Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.

www.cherawfirstumc.org

Volume 20,
Issue 25
June 11, 2023

A few words from the pastor...

It is with mixed emotions that I write my final article for The Connection. I am so glad that the Lord brought Mark and I to Cheraw. We have always loved the charming small town of Cheraw and the Sandhills area. We fell in love with the people here our very first week. The entire Cheraw community has embraced us, and we will dearly miss the many friends we have made here. There is sadness that this chapter in our lives, as a ministry team ends. As we begin a new chapter in our lives there is anticipation. As I shared with you in March, when it was announced that I would be retiring, I have loved being your pastor and will continue to love all of you.

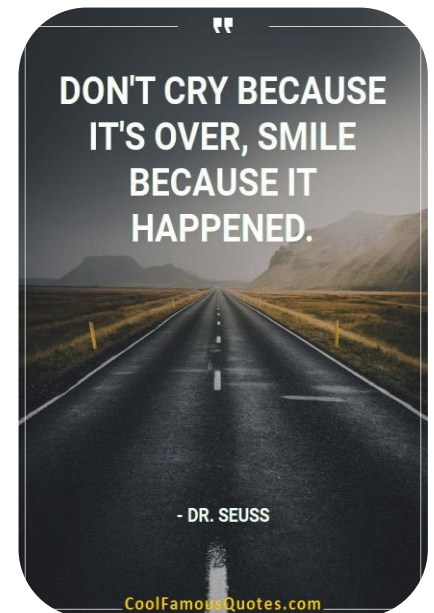
Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us that “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.” The season, for Mark and I to be in ministry with the people of Cheraw and for me as a Full Elder in the South Carolina Annual Conference, is drawing to a close. June 28th is the time for me to leave and time for your new Pastor to begin. It is a time for saying, “see you later”, remembering the wonderful times we have had together, and rejoicing that we were blessed to be travelers together for this segment of our spiritual journeys.

Recently, a friend sent me a Dr. Seuss proverb, “Don’t cry because it is over. Smile because it happened!” There is a time for sadness and tears but God with God’s grace, mercy, and love we will wipe away our tears and bring to us peace even at this bittersweet time. We have grown in our love and service for God and neighbor together; we have survived COVID-19 and the shut down and reopening of the church together; we restarted regular fellowship events like the Joy Club, ministries like UMYF, Women in Faith, and United Methodist Men, mission projects like Operation Christmas Child and Shepherd’s Child, and all types of worship services.

Mark and I will be moving to our home in Blythewood. Mark is not retiring and will work remotely and in his office in Florence. I will be spending time with my Dad and Step-mom in Valley, Alabama. Our new address is 205 Winding Oak Way, Blythewood, South Carolina 29016 and our phone numbers will stay the same. Know that Mark and I will always treasure this time in the wilderness of a pandemic and the emergence from that wilderness by the grace of God that we have shared with you here. We will miss you all and we will always love you.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Debra




Covered Dish Luncheon
TODAY AFTER WORSHIP
In honor of
Pastor Debra Armstrong

Jenny Keefe, SPPRC Chair

PARSONAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY
JUNE 20TH
 AT 11:00 AM

417 KERSHAW STREET



TUESDAY, JUNE 20TH

A LIMITED NUMBER OF \$85.00 VALUED COUPONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE. COUPONS WILL BE AWARDED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

APPOINTMENT TIMES:
 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

JUNE 6TH SUCCESS



1 PINT CAN SAVE 3 LIVES




72 LIVES SAVED




The United Women in Faith will meet Tuesday, June 13th at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be completing our DSS Project, focusing on items for the older youth.

SEEKING A MORE EXCELLENT WAY



2023 South Carolina Annual Conference
 June 4-7 | Florence Center

“Breathe and Believe, Hewing Hope”



The SC Annual Conference met in person for the first time since 2019. Pastor Debra and Jenny Keefe attended the Conference as the delegates of First United Methodist Church of Cheraw. Thousands of delegates worshipped together and conducted the business of the Annual Conference with grace, dignity, and respect. The 2024 budget was passed; retired clergy recognized; new pastors commissioned, licensed, and ordained; health and pension benefits were set for 2024; reports from the commission and committees of the Conference were received; resolutions passed on the death penalty, gun violence, the closure of churches (including 113 churches separating from the United Methodist Church), and more. Jenny Keefe will provide a report in The Connection next week with more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)
11:00 a.m. Worship
NOON Covered Dish Luncheon

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (NETC)

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
11:00 a.m. United Women in Faith, Planning
Mats for the Homeless (Kinsey Mulloy Classroom)
3:00 P.M. United Women in Faith Meeting
LAST MEETING before SUMMER BREAK

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)
11:00 a.m. Worship

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open
Noon Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice
CARILLION CHOIR is on SUMMER BREAK

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office Open

Weekly Amount Needed: \$5,928.83
Amount Needed to Date: \$137,373.09
Sunday School Attendance June 4: 41
FUMC Food Pantry Item: Ramen Noodles
Greeters: David & Jean McLean
Acolyte: Penny Quick
Nursery Workers: Michelle Rohde
Sound System Operator: Holly Miles

Received week of May 7: \$ 3,942.94
Amount Received to Date: \$ 99,621.77
Worship Attendance June 4: 68
McCarn Food Bank Item: Rice Krispy Treats
Head Usher: Heath Ruffner
Liturgist Next Week: Joey Mills
Flowers Next Sunday: OPEN
Video Technician: Bryson Hunter

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHERAW STAFF

Reverend Debra Armstrong, Pastor (fumcpastor1@gmail.com) O: 843-537-7002 C: 843-253-3132
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