

# WORSHIP IN JULY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GREENSBORO

July 28, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

VOLUNTARY: *I Love Thee, My Lord*

George Shearing (1919-2011)

*John Alexander, organ*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Bussell

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Newton Cowan

Leader: Sing joyful songs to God, our Savior!

All: **Remember the Lord, who set us free.**

Leader: Blow the trumpet; sound the tambourine!

All: **Remember the Lord, the God of life.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: No 35 – *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

*Text: Joachim Neander / Music: Stralsund Erneueren Gesangbuch*



# 35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly  
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so  
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his  
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -  
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

### \* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Newton Cowan

**God of freedom, have mercy on us.**

**We enjoy idle pleasures  
and pursue lives of leisure  
while others stoop to serve us  
and struggle to support themselves.**

**We enact rules and regulations  
that benefit the wealthy  
at the expense of basic needs—  
human health and daily bread.**

**Forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you  
and to seek the liberation of all;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*A brief silence is observed for personal confession.*

### \* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \* THE PEACE

**Leader:** Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

### \* PASSING OF THE PEACE



\* RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE OF PARDON: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

Text: Henry van Dyke / Music: Ludwig von Beethoven

Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus Which the morn-ing  
stars be-gan; Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us,  
Join-ing all in heav-en's plan. Ev-er sing-ing,  
march we on-ward, Vic-tors in the midst of strife,  
Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 2/2. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is a simple, joyful melody. The lyrics are: "Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus Which the morn-ing stars be-gan; Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, Join-ing all in heav-en's plan. Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, Vic-tors in the midst of strife, Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life."



## THE WORD OF GOD

THE WORD READ: *Philippians 4:4-9*

David Witherspoon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

A Moment for Children of All Ages

Lisa Witherspoon

THE WORD READ: *Psalms 100*

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Joy in Worship*

Matt Bussell

## How Can I Keep from Singing?

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

## Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 821 – *My Life Flows On*

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING  
*Text: Robert Lowry / Music: Robert Lowry*

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Newton Cowan

**We trust in God,  
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.  
In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image  
male and female, of every race and people,  
to live as one community.  
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.  
Ignoring God's commandments,  
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,  
accept lies as truth,  
exploit neighbor and nature,  
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.  
We deserve God's condemnation.  
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.  
In everlasting love,  
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people  
to bless all families of the earth.  
Hearing their cry,  
God delivered the children of Israel  
from the house of bondage.  
Loving us still,  
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.  
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,  
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,  
God is faithful still. Amen.**  
*– A Brief Statement of Faith*



*[concluding with 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.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.*

OFFERTORY: *There Is a Happy Land*

George Shearing (1919-2011)

*John Alexander, organ*

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Text: Thomas Ken / Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise  
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-



lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Newton Cowan

\* BENEDICTION

Matt Bussell

\* HYMN OF SENDING: No 37 – *Let All Things Now Living*

ASH GROVE

*Text: Katherine K. Davis / Music: Welsh folk melody*

POSTLUDE: Carillon

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

*John Alexander, organ*



### Today's Worship Leaders

*Matt Bussell*, Associate Pastor for Mission and Outreach  
*Newton Cowan*, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
*Lisa Witherspoon*, Director of Children & Youth Ministry  
*David Witherspoon*, Lay Reader  
*John Alexander*, Director of Music

\* *Let us rise in body or spirit*

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## 37

## Let All Things Now Living

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing  
 2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,

to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;  
 the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,  
 the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains,

by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.  
 the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony G E Am D  
 God's ban - ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,  
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;

Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).

G Em D A7 D

a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:  
with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,

G D G Am D

till shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished,  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing:

G C G D G

as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.  
We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship  
is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

We seek to be God's changemakers for good in the world.  
FPC is a Matthew 25 church, and our creation care and hunger  
ministries have been recognized by the Presbyterian Church USA.



**TAKING ATTENDANCE:** The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone, you can pick up a physical copy of an attendance card as you enter the Life

Center or Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.

**NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED** for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

#### WHAT TO DO – UNWELLNESS AND MEDICAL

**EMERGENCIES:** If during the service you or someone who is with you begins to feel unwell, or is having a medical emergency; or if you notice someone else having a medical event; please contact the closest usher, who can assist in the situation.

**USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED:** contact Anne Albert, [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336.478.4711.



**PASTOR ON CALL:** When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

**FIND FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA –** Members are sharing great photos, comments and more! Follow and Like us on **Facebook**  (search "First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro"), **YouTube**  ("fpcgreensboro") and **Instagram**  ("1stpresgo") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed.

**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM FOR JULY:** We will have a single service in the sanctuary at 10 am, with various musical styles, for the four Sundays of July. Join us after the service for lemonade on the Greene Street lawn! We will resume summer choir and dual services in August.

**THE LITURGICAL COLOR GREEN** seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the season of "Ordinary Time." This season is a time of spiritual growth when the scriptures about Jesus' preaching, teaching and healings are read and proclaimed.

**ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS:** The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gloria Cowan by Newton, Carrie, Mary Mac and Ellie Cowan.

**WAYS TO GIVE:** In addition to the in-person offering, you may also give by mail, web, app, or text. Scan the QR code (*right*) to give online. You can also go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text](https://fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text) to download the FellowshipOne Giving mobile app (Apple  or Android ) and for instructions for giving via text. You may also mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401. Go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give](https://fpcgreensboro.org/give) for more ways to give.



**FOR MORE INFO ON CHURCH SCHOOL, UPCOMING SERVICES, AND OTHER EVENTS •** Check out the "Coming Up" insert in your bulletin • Subscribe to our e-news and Sunday preview emails at [fpcgreensboro.org/connect](https://fpcgreensboro.org/connect) • Visit [fpcgreensboro.org/events](https://fpcgreensboro.org/events).

**INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY READER THIS FALL?** Please email Bubba Judy ([bjudy@beesonhardware.com](mailto:bjudy@beesonhardware.com)) or Anne Albert ([aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org)).

#### IN MEMORIAM

Linda Irene King Crabtree  
July 19, 2024



# COMING UP

A T F I R S T P R E S B Y T E R I A N

See our full calendar at [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](http://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG)

**FAITHACTION BACKPACK DRIVE:** Help FaithAction gather school supplies & backpacks for about 75 students. Use the QR code (right) for more info, to sign up, and to see complete lists of needs. *Please bring backpacks to the Welcome Center before Wednesday, July 31.*



## THIS WEEK, JULY 29-AUGUST 3

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL & KIDS DISCIPLE CLUB

**CAMP**, 9 am to noon July 29-August 1. Ages 3-second grade will learn about God's gigantic love, and rising 3rd- to 5th-graders will serve in the community at KDC Compassion Camp. Keep our children and volunteers in your prayers.

### MONDAY, JULY 29

- **LECTIO DIVINA:** Prayerful pondering of selected writings, 11 am on Zoom. Contact David Partington, [DCPSBW197@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DCPSBW197@GMAIL.COM).

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

- **FOOD DRIVE-BY:** 11 am to 1 pm in front of Redhead Hall. Drop off canned and nonperishable food for Urban Ministry. Take a turn as a greeter! Pick a date here: [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](http://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP)

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

- **YOGA:** 4:25-5:30 pm in the Virginia Gilmer Room (love offering accepted, not required). For all levels!
- **INTERCESSORY COMMUNAL PRAYER** for our church and community, 5:30-6:15 on Zoom. *Also September 5.* Contact Yolanda Baxter ([YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](mailto:YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG)) for the link.

### SCOTLAND PILGRIMAGE: 10 SPACES LEFT!

*The early bird rate for FPC family & friends*

*is \$5,651 until August 1. The trip is*

*April 29 through May 10, 2025.*

Info: Donna Chase, [DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](mailto:DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG).

## NEXT SUNDAY

- **JILL PREACHES**, and we resume our two-service (9 am Rejoice! and 11 am Sanctuary) schedule.
- **SUMMER CHOIR RETURNS**, continues through August. Sing with the choir! Meet in the chancel at 10 am to rehearse, sing at 11 am.
- **NEW ADULT STUDIES BEGIN:**
  - *Loving Our Enemies in An Election Year:* Led by Tim Hanlin in Redhead Hall. **AUGUST 4:** How can we love our enemies when we don't even like them? **AUGUST 11:** Doesn't loving our enemies get in the way of winning an election? **AUGUST 18:** Isn't doing good to those who hate us the complete opposite of justice? **AUGUST 25:** Why would we do something so completely unreasonable and illogical?
  - *Matthew 25 and Us:* **AUGUST 4** will feature *FPC's Journey on Race* documentary. For the rest of the month, hear from our teams and community representatives involved in Earth Care. *Come as You Are Summer Elective Class*, 10 am, Garden Room.



**SMITH ELEVATOR UPDATE:** The elevator is getting new electronic safe edges, controller & wiring. Work should be completed by August 31.

**Your support makes a difference!** Make a pledge or gift to the campaign. Just point your camera phone at the QR Code and tap the link that pops up, or contact Finance Director Christine Ciaccio, 336-478-4750 OR [CCIACCIO@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](mailto:CCIACCIO@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG).



## MORE IN AUGUST

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

- **STEPUP GREENSBORO LUNCH & LEARN:** Learn more about our ministry partner which helps people find jobs and build stable lives. Noon-1 pm in Redhead Hall. Casual lunch served; please let them know if you plan to come, 336-676-5871, ext. 310. *Also offered October 23.*

### MONDAY, AUGUST 12

- **POP UP PICNIC FOR YOUNG FAMILIES:** 5:30 pm, Country Park Shelter #2. BYO family picnic dinner and join us for relaxed fun!

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

- **RSVP DEADLINE FOR FORK & FAITH** Fellowship lunch for women. Lunch is August 21 at noon in Mullin Life Center. RSVP to Dolly Jennings, [DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM) or 336-854-2663.

### AUGUST 25

**One worship service at 11 am, with ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS**

**Back-to-School Blessing during worship**

**Fellowship potluck afterward in the Life Center!**

*Church provides fried chicken; you bring sides & desserts!*

Youth Parent meeting, 6:30 pm at the Abrahams' home. Contact Lisa ([LWITHERSPOON@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](mailto:LWITHERSPOON@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG)) or Phae ([PSMITH@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](mailto:PSMITH@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG)) for info

## LOOKING BACK – AND AHEAD



Dr. John Redhead, our senior pastor 1945-1970, shared this story from one of the many weddings he performed.

Before air conditioning was added, it was so hot in the sanctuary that when one bridegroom was asked the big question he responded:

***"I wilt!"***

"When I proposed to the officers that we air-condition our sanctuary they approved and got busy and raised the funds," he wrote.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- FALL Family Fellowship and Youth Kickoff events

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH Sunday School begin; Kids Disciple Club Kickoff

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- NEIL'S MEALS: *Sgn-up and more info to come.*

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

- REGISTRATION OPENS FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT, being held January 25 & 26 at Grandover.

## FPC's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kickoff!

**October 3**

**Adult Mix & Mingle at the Julian Price House**

**October 6**

- Celebratory worship
- All-Church Birthday Picnic
- CROP Walk