



J. J. WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Vacation Bible School Sunday
July 21, 2024 * 10:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude *This Little Light of Mine* arr. Randall Hartsell
Welcome and Announcements Rev. Cassie Alston
Introit *Surely the Presence* Lanny Wolfe
Call to Worship *Gen. 28:16-17*

Surely the Lord is in this place!
This is the house of God.

Gathering Prayer

Rock of Israel and cornerstone of our common life, you are not bound by our visions, our structures, our doctrine. We cannot predict your coming or going, yet you have given us your story, your family, your work to do. Meet us here. Shape us for service in your world, for we carry the name of Jesus and live by the power of your breath. **Amen.**

***Hymn No. 99** *When Morning Gilds the Skies* LAUDES DOMINI

Call to Confession *1 Tim. 1:14-15*

The grace of God overflows for us through Jesus Christ who came into the world to save sinners. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness *Ps. 103:17*

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

Word

Special Music Children of Vacation Bible School

Time with Children Rev. Cassie Alston

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, you love us with the tenderness and zeal of a parent. Move now in our hearts. Speak to us in your Word, for we long to join creation's praise and to shine with the mercy and love of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Psalms 139

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take wings of the morning and settle in the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me,

even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Scripture: *Genesis 28:10-19*

Sermon *In This Place* Rev. Cassie Alston

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed* Hymnal, p. 14

***Hymn No. 805 (Gloria Patri)** *Glory Be to the Father* GRETOREX

***Hymn No. 52** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE

The Invitation to the Offering *Gen. 28:14*

God blesses us that we might carry that blessing into the world. Let us give our lives and our possessions with grateful hearts.

Offertory *Jesus Loves Me* arr. Fred Bock
(Based on Clair de Lune)

***Hymn No. 809 (Doxology)** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**
God of mystery and grace, you have met us and blessed us with such abundant promise. In gratitude we offer our treasure and our hearts to you. We pray that you would use us, for we come in the name of Jesus and by the movement of your Spirit in this place. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sending

***Hymn No. 539 (v. 1)** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* HOUSTON

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Jesus Loves the Little Children* arr. Mark Hayes

***Please stand as you are able.**

Announcements

Welcome to worship!

All who worship here are joyfully welcomed into our midst! To our visitors, we offer a special welcome and invite you to join us again soon. Please fill out the blue card in your pew and place it in the offering plate when passed.

Thank you to everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School!

Thank you, Vacation Bible School volunteers! Camp Firelight was wonderful! Campers sang songs, made crafts, played games, enjoyed dinner and snacks, and learned Bible stories about how we can trust in God. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped make VBS such a joyful, meaningful time!

Let's pray together!

J.J. White Memorial is a praying church, and you are invited to gather with church family and friends for prayer. Beginning in August, small groups will meet regularly to pray. Please indicate your interest in participating in a prayer group by signing the interest indicator on the front pew. You can also email or text Rev. Alston. Let's pray together!

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance: 56

Offering: \$7,675.00

Upcoming Events at J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Wednesday, 7/24	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
Thursday, 7/25	5:00-7:00 PM	Nutty Knitters (Ewell Martin Room)
Sunday, 7/28	10:30 AM	Worship (Rev. Chris Richardson)
Sunday, 8/4	10:30 AM	Worship (Communion and MICA Sunday)

Questions for Reflection:

How has your understanding of the relationship between vulnerability and trust changed over time?

What experiences of God's grace do you need to acknowledge and anoint?

Household Prayer: Morning

In whatever shelter I wake this morning I know this place is holy because you meet me here. As I wash my body and prepare for this day, I remember baptismal waters and the claim upon my life. Wherever darkness looms, Sovereign God, traffic in mercy this day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As darkness spreads over the land, I trust that you move in it. As I yield the night to sleep and dreams, I pray you would remake me into a bold servant, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Long, Kimberly Bracken, ed. *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year B, vol. 1*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014, p. 120-121.)

Sanctuary Flowers: The sanctuary flowers are given by Lee and Stephen Williams in loving memory of Libby DeCoux Simo.

J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

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Church office open **Monday – Friday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**