From the Pastor...

Sunday Worship via Livestream only on January 31

Dear Paw Creek,

Our period of pulling back from in-person worship continues this Sunday with the livestream service at 11:00 am. We hope and pray on so many levels that this reversal will be short-lived: as an indication that virus spread and hospitalizations have been slowed down in Mecklenburg; as an indication that vaccinations are reaching more and more people; and of course so that we can resume our limited in-person worship for those who chose to participate. The County’s directive ends next Tuesday and our task force and Session will evaluate the information provided at that time as we make decisions for February and beyond. We will have the word out to everyone as quickly as possible.

Even while we are on this lockdown, your Session met last Thursday via Zoom to hold its first stated meeting of the new year. In that meeting, Session elected its officers and committee leaders for 2021:

- Clerk of Session ......................................................Debbie Taylor
- Church Treasurer ..................................................Danny McClure
- MAC Team Chair ..................................................Grady Cathey
- Christian Education Chair ....................................Barbara Ullem
- Congregational Care Chair .................................Karen Cathey
- Fellowship Chair ..................................................Sam McCord
- Outreach Chair ....................................................Grady Cathey
- Worship Chair .....................................................Debbie Taylor
- Administration Co-chair ....................................Eddie McArver
- Administration Co-chair ....................................Peggy Harrington
- Finance Chair ....................................................Mary Ellen Edwards
- Property Chair .....................................................Dickie Chapman
- Cemetery Committee Chair .......................Phillip McCord
- Cemetery Committee Treasurer ...........................Brian Gross
- Endowment Committee Chair & Treasurer ..........Peggy Harrington

From the Pastor...
Although much of our church programming has been curtailed, there is still much work to be done in each of these committee areas, and our elders will be busy with their committees throughout the coming months. Here’s a quick run-down of some of the work that is going on:

- MAC Team (Mission and Coordination) will meet every-other month beginning in February to help committee leaders work together as we look ahead to reopening activities later in the year
- Christian Education oversees the very active and currently remote “Children Connecting with Christ” program
- Congregational Care is staying in touch with shut-ins and overseeing care of families in times of illness and bereavement
- Fellowship will be offering more outdoor gatherings for the congregation as warmer weather returns
- Outreach helps all of us identify ways to support neighbors deeply affected by the financial crisis of the pandemic
- Worship has kept our Sunday morning services going throughout the months of lockdown, and will be meeting later this week to plan for meaningful ways to observe the seasons of Lent and Easter
- Administration is preparing for annual consultations and evaluations of church staff
- Finance will be working on budget planning for 2021
- Property has continued very actively throughout the pandemic, keeping our buildings and grounds in good shape for our return in the months ahead

One other important action at last week’s Session meeting was the decision to defer the Annual Congregational Meeting until the spring. Once the weather warms up, we will schedule an outdoor meeting like the one we held in October, and will coordinate with the Fellowship Committee for a fun event that will allow us time to catch up with church friends in a safe setting. Look for more details in the weeks ahead.

Our prayer list is blessedly light this week, so let’s use our prayer time to remember those whose needs are known to God, and to offer thanks and seek safekeeping for the heroes who tend to our health and well-being. And let us pray God’s support for the spread of vaccination and the protection of us all in the weeks ahead.

Blessings,

Elliott
Service for the Lord’s Day  
Paw Creek Presbyterian Church • January 31, 2021  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Via Live Stream - Facebook and YouTube links at pawcreekpc.org

Preparatory Music  
Your Name  
Paul Baloche and Glenn Packlam

Welcome  
*Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*  
*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Prelude  
*I Need Thee Every Hour*  
arr. Jerry Carraway

Call to Worship  
Psalm 111

Hallelujah!  
Let us give thanks to the LORD with our whole hearts.  
Great are the deeds of the LORD!  
Full of majesty and splendor is the work of the LORD.  
Gracious and full of compassion is the LORD.  
The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
the praise of the LORD endures forever.

Hymn 394  
“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

*Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;  
Holy Zion’s help forever, and our confidence alone.*

*To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;  
come, with all your loving kindness; hear your people as we pray,  
and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.*

*Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain;  
what they gain from you, forever, with the blessed to retain;  
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.*

Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you have shown us in Christ that your love is never-ending. We pray you to enable us to love you with all our hearts and to love one another as Christ loved us. And give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that by our words and deeds the world may see the promise of your kingdom. For it is revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.
Scripture Reading

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Hymn 181

“Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit”

“Silence! Frenzied, unclean spirit,” cried God’s healing, Holy One.
“Cease your ranting! Flesh can’t bear it. Flee as night before the sun."
At Christ’s voice the demon trembled, from its victim madly rushed,
while the crowd that was assembled stood in wonder, stunned, and hushed.

Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit, in our mind and in our heart.
Speak your word that when we hear it all our demons shall depart.
Clear our thought and calm our feeling; still the fractured, warring soul.
By the power of your healing make us faithful, true, and whole.

Sermon

Come to Destroy?

Offertory

How Great Thou Art

Arr. Jason Tonioli

Offerings for God’s work through Paw Creek Church are gratefully received in the baskets by the entrance and exits to the sanctuary, or by mail to the church office.

Prayers of God’s People

Beginning with announcements and prayer concerns; and concluding with The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn 379

“We Shall Overcome”

We shall overcome; we shall overcome; we shall overcome someday.
O, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday!
We shall live in peace . . .
God will see us through . . .

Charge and Benediction

Organ Postlude

Praise To the Lord, the Almighty

Arr. Anne Krentz

Elliott Hipp, Pastor • Mark Burleson, Pianist • Patrick McCarthy, Director of Music/Soloist
Clint Shaw, Video and Streaming • Worship Committee, Arrangements
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Lord, we thank you for...

Seek ........................... Matthew 6:33
Serve ....................... 1 Samuel 12:24
Praise ......................... Psalm 111:1
Love Christ! .................. 1 John 4:12

Have a Prayer Request? To put someone on our prayer chain, obtain permission from the person or family involved, then contact either Joy Tyler (phone captain - (704) 399-8040) -or- Ann Cashion (email captain - acatlake@gmail.com)

Know someone Who Needs a Visit? Please contact the Church Office or Rev. Elliott Hipp (704) 392-0329

Online Giving
Paw Creek has now implemented Online Giving for the convenience of church members and our friends who worship with us. Please go to our website at www.pawcreekpc.org and follow the link on the home page.

Once you click on this link, you will be directed to set up an account. You may make this gift as a one time transaction, or you can set up recurring payments. You may use your bank account information to create this payment, or you may use your debit or credit card. (If you use your debit or credit card, you will also be given the option to add the transaction fee to your payment if you choose to do so)

For those who like to use mobile apps, you can download the app: Give+ and search for Paw Creek Presbyterian Church. Once you have created an account, it will save Paw Creek as your default Church.

Upcoming Sermon Titles

**Sunday, January 31**
Mark 1: 21-28
“Come to Destroy?”

**Sunday, February 7**
Celebration of the Lord’s Supper
Mark 1: 29-39
“Message to Share”

**Sunday, February 14**
Mark 2: 1-12
“Jesus Saw Their Faith”

**Sunday, February 21**
1st Sunday in Lent
Genesis 9: 8-17
“The Bow in the Clouds”