

Weekly News at Paw Creek

September 17, 2020

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

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Sermon By Phone:

704-312-1343 - available Mondays by 11:00 am

From the Pastor...

Dear Paw Creek,

As the rain falls on this Thursday morning, we are reminded of the power of nature. These same clouds have upended lives along the Gulf coast, even as our neighbors far to the west struggle with fire and heat. Truly, we as God's beloved children are all brothers and sisters, bound together in our concern for one another and in our unceasing prayers for all of creation. I pray for you this day that you and your loved ones are safe and well, and I invite you to join in prayers for those whom we do not know. God surely weeps tender tears for us all and showers us with blessings.

As I mentioned last week, our church Session will hold its stated meeting for September this evening. Depending on their discussions and actions, there will most likely be news to share as we all grope our way forward into new realities for the fall and winter. We will have that news out to everyone as quickly as possible, early next week.

For now, let us remember these members of our church family in the struggles and joys of this day:

- As you know, Frank Dale died last Thursday with family present in the hospice facility at Presbyterian Hospital. Frank had graciously made a donation of his body for medical research, and his family will hold a private burial service at a future date when that becomes possible.
- Ernest Moore continues at home in hospice care with family and wonderful care givers in attendance. Please remember them all this week as he comes to the close of his 98 year journey in God's service.
- We have a number of friends who are making their way forward into healing after successful surgery: Debbie McCord had a knee replacement last Thursday; Gene Pegram had a procedure for a back injury the same day; Tonya Gross had ankle surgery on Monday. All are at home, sore but healing, and we pray with them for speedy recoveries.
- Susan McDonald is likewise doing well after her cardiac procedure; she
 has been cleared to drive and return to work this week.
- After a doctor's consultation on Monday, Johnny Small has chosen to forego hip surgery, and will continue with care and support at home.

We are always grateful to have one another, and our prayers, and God's good care to watch over us. May we feel God's presence drawing us together throughout this week ahead.

Blessings, Elliott

Service for the Lord's Day Paw Creek Presbyterian Church • September 20, 2020

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit are in our midst. Thanks be to God!

Prelude Give Thanks arr. Mark Hayes

Call to Worship Psalm 105

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.

Sing to the LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.

Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Hymn 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays; stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.

Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.

Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.

Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and the human family in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Homily

Life Together - the Rejoicing

Offertory

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. Brian Buda

Prayers of God's People

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

Hymn 719

Come, Labor On

Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain while all around us waves the golden grain?

And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work, today."

Come, labor on. Claim the high calling angels cannot share; to young and old the Gospel gladness bear. Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly. The night draws nigh.

Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky, till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie, and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

arr. Jason Tonioli

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

P.O.BOX 64 Paw Creek, NC 28130-0064

 Seek
 Matthew 6:33

 Serve
 1 Samuel 12:24

 Praise
 Psalm 111:1

 Love Christ!
 1 John 4:12

Lord, we thank you for...

Have a Prayer Request? To put someone on our prayer chain, obtain permission from the person or family involved, then call: Judy Smith (704) 392-2892 -or- Ann Cashion (704) 301-0126

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

Surprise Birthday Parade

There will be a surprise Drive By Parade for Hoyt Johnston this Saturday, September 19th at 4:30 to celebrate his 89th Birthday. We would love for everyone to join in the fun



1332 Plumcrest Drive in Oakdale

Upcoming Sermon Titles

Sunday, September 20

Matthew 20: 1-16 "Life Together: The Rejoicing"

Sunday, September 27

Matthew 21: 23-32 "The Will of the Father"

Sunday, October 4

Matthew 21: 33-46 "Fruits of the Kingdom"

Sunday, October 11

Matthew 22: 1-14 "Invitation to the Banquet"