



Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost



SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

11:00 AM

To our visitors and guests: WELCOME!

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we welcome you to Butner Presbyterian Church. We hope that you will feel comfortable and fulfilled, and that you will be strengthened to meet the challenges of your daily lives. If you are looking for a faith family and would like to join our church, speak with the pastor or an elder.

† Please stand, as you are able **Bold- Spoken/sung by entire congregation**

Gathering Playlist

Winans Phase 2, We Got Next

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

Opening Sentences *Susan Mazzara*

Prayer of the Day *Susan*

Greetings and Announcements *Michelle Osborne*

† *Welcome One Another* *Michelle*

† *Call to Confession* *Michelle*

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord will not always accuse, nor will God be angered forever. God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. Trusting this promise, we boldly confess our sin to God and before one another.

† *Prayer of Confession* *Unison*

Lord Christ, you declare: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. You instruct us to forgive seventy-seven times, to remember God's grace toward us and extend it to one another. Despite your clear word to refrain from judging others, we pronounce others guilty and unworthy of our compassion. We quarrel over opinions and

sow division when you call us to cultivate relationships and demonstrate our unity in Christ. Instead of responding to your grace with gratitude, we attempt to limit the love you command us to share. Forgive our hard-heartedness. Expand our circles of concern. Enliven our communities with your boundary breaking, reconciling Spirit. Amen.

A Moment for Silent Reflection

† *Assurance of Pardon*

Michelle

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is the Lord's steadfast love toward those who fear God; as far as the east is from the west, so far the Lord removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the God has compassion for those who fear the Lord. Friends, believe the good news, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Prayer for Illumination

Michelle

Lord, we come to this time overwhelmed with distractions, consumed with busyness, occupied by worries and unsure of what to do next. And yet, we are here, yearning for a word from you, wanting a sense of your presence, seeking your wisdom for this time and place. Send your Spirit to focus our attention and hone our hearing in order that we might hear what you are saying to your church. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

Michelle

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, for-

give the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks Be to God

† Gospel Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

Susan

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks Be to God

Sermon

"Who Shall Stand?"

Susan

Meditation Music

"Who Shall Be Able to Stand" <https://youtu.be/htVWnXGAuMs>

Neville Peter

When the king returns to claim his own and we see the son of man,
When the Earth shakes like a rolling stone who shall be able to stand.
When all the islands disappear and the sea turns to dry land,
when all confidence gives way to fear who shall be able to stand?

Are your hands clean is your heart pure are you faithful to all of
his commands? Are you one with him, are you freed from sin
are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? At the trumpet sound
will you be found ready and able to stand? Who shall be able to
stand?

Who will endure his all-consuming fire; only the righteous can.
For righteousness is what our God requires. Who shall be able to
stand?

Are your hands clean is your heart pure are you faithful to all of
his commands? Are you one with him, are you freed from sin
are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? At the trumpet sound
will you be found ready and able to stand? Who shall be able to
stand?

† *Affirmation of Faith*

Unison

From The Confession of Belhar

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the
communion of saints called from the entire human family.**

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted; that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

Sharing Joys and Prayer Concerns
Prayers of the People

Susan
Susan

WE RESPOND WITH THANKSGIVING

Offering
Offering Music
“Make Us One”

Susan

<https://youtu.be/69tQzr-60Bs>

Jesus Culture

†*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord’s Prayer*

(unison)

Generous God, we worry that we cannot possibly give you what you deserve, that despite our desire to be faithful, we will fail and fall short. In your grace, you remind us that we need not, that we cannot, repay you for your mercy and goodness toward us, but that you accept and use whatever we offer in gratitude. Bless these gifts given as a symbol of our loyalty and love for you as we pray the prayer our Lord taught us:

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.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE THE LORD

†*Charge and Benediction*

Susan

“O Happy Day”

https://youtu.be/wv5n_eCGkvM

Ray Charles and the Voices of Jubilation

Announcements

Butner Church Council meets today at 2:00 by Zoom. We are always happy to welcome new folks to help us serve the community. Join us at Zoom link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83269886869>

BCC Food Pantry News: Most needed food pantry items this week: jars of unsweetened applesauce; canned potatoes; “complete” pancake mix (just add water); pancake syrup

To make monetary donation to the food pantry, make checks payable to “Butner Church Council,” memo “food pantry.”

Mail checks to Butner Presbyterian Church, Attn: Michael McFadden, P.O. Box 121, Butner, NC 27509.

Visit the Butner Church Council on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/Butner-Church-Council-103176674832490>

Joys and Concerns

If you have updates to joys and concerns, please email Susan at susan@butnerpres.org or let an elder know. You can also reach Susan by phone at 919-656-1097 for prayer concerns or pastoral support.

New Prayer Requests:

- Pat Oakley, brain surgery on Monday, September 14

Last Week’s Prayer List:

- Family and friends of Barbara Radley, who died on September 6
- Michael Ellis, son of Brenda and Mike Ellis
- Kevin’s co-worker, Kim, cardiac blockage
- Michael McFadden’s family, for peace and harmony as they prepare to celebrate their mom’s birthday
- Jeffery’s brother-in-law, John Jones, and his sister and brother-in-law, Jackie and David
- Susan’s mom as she moves into a new home at Abbotswood
- All who are grieving the loss of family members to COVID-19
- Our nation as we struggle with social, racial, and civil unrest

September Birthdays

7 Betty Miller

23 Jeffery Elliott

Do you have a birthday in September? Let us know and we will add you to the list!



Butner Presbyterian Church

310 16th Street, P.O. Box 121, Butner, NC 27509

Phone: 919-575-6850

Email: susan@butnerpres.org

Web: www.butnerpresbyterianchurch.org