

HEALTH CONCERNS

Donna Bowman (recovering from cataract surg.)
Donna Carmichael (Vertigo)
Deryel Clark (heart issues—resident at Spring Arbor of Greensboro)
Lucy Dillon (health issues)
Faye Hodges (resident at Kerner Ridge, Phone No. 336-817-5989)
Bernie Krecklow (resident at Brookdale Lawndale Park, 336-286-3432)
Kae Mattingly (home recovering from a stroke)
Judy Maxwell (health issues)
Fran McKinney (undergoing treatment for recurrence of cancer)
Dottie Roudabush (in Forsyth Medical Center with blood clots in both lungs—Room 6117)
Millie Vernon (health issues)
Rodgers White (health issues)

Bolen Isaac Bunch (broken collarbone); Marie Spainhour (broken leg); Steve Martin (recurrence of cancer);
Ron Smith (cancer); Carmen Spoon (dementia); Lila Bolen (cancer); Amy Ikerd (health issues);
Marie Tuttle (breast cancer); Cindy Strickland (diabetes & health issues); Carol Carroll (health issues)
Bowman Stephanie Piraino (daughter—cancerous thyroid removed and undergoing treatment)
Budkey Killean Phillipp (injured right leg in hit-and-run motorcycle accident—leg completely turned around
and knee will have to be rebuilt); Richard Hedgecock (bone cancer)
Butler **Mary & Rodney Robinson** (very sick with COVID); **Dan Payne** (cancer)
Downing Steve Miller (Shari's brother—cancer)
Kerr Roger Kerr (Kerry's cousin—health issues); Kelly Kerr (Kerry's brother—Stage 4 prostate cancer);
Marla Kerr-Lawson (Kerry's sister—dialysis)
Mattingly Lisa Tuttle (stage 4 emphysema)
Murray George Murray (recovering at home from procedure to fix two subdural hematomas)
Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—primary progressive aphasia)
Roudabush Tim Roudabush (Dottie's son—was hospitalized with seizures—now home but still being monitored
for seizures); Dottie's daughter-in-law's mother (bladder cancer)
G. Sharp Larry Mabe (neighbor—cancer); Joyce Wyramon (neighbor—cancer)
S. Sharp Maria Gomes (friend of Spence & Paulo)
Tincher JoAngie Semonco (breast cancer—surg. 12/19)
Unknown Kara S. (cancer treatment—healing)

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Watts Kent Watts (Ellen's son—doing well after stent surgery on 8/8)

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Bolen Catherine Bolen (diagnosed with ALS)
S. Sharp Tyler Carter (nephew—safe travel home from Kosovo)
Vernon Prayers for family members



First Presbyterian Church

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 • Fax: (336) 993-5526 • www.fpckernersville.org

Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Stan Stigall, Music Director

September 3, 2023—Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Why have we gathered on this holy day? What has drawn us to this time and place?

All: We have been drawn to a flame burning here. We sense the glory of God in this place.

One: God calls us to this time of worship. The place where we are standing is holy ground.

All: Give thanks to God, sing praises. Give attention to the voice of God.

One: Out of a burning bush, God spoke to Moses. In the rhythms of worship, God speaks to us.

All: We will listen for God's message to us. Surely God's strength will supply our needs. Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 761

“Called as Partner's in Christ's Service”

BEECHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we have wavered in our faith in the midst of suffering, and we have not persevered in prayer. We have claimed to be wiser than we are, and have even tried to correct you. We make excuses for ourselves rather than listening for your direction and heeding your call. Our days are so filled with the busyness of this world that we cannot see you at work among us. We are so weighed down by our own concerns that we have no energy to serve you. Send your cleansing fire among us, forgiving God.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.)

Amen.

RESPONSE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God is ever willing to grant us forgiveness, but we cannot receive it if we are unwilling to be changed by it. As long as we focus on preserving our own lives, protecting our advantages, we will be lost. If we want to be Christ's followers, we will deny ourselves and take up the cross, not as a burden, but as the joyous symbol of loving and giving for all the right reasons. We will overcome evil with good. Friends, believe the good news...

All: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

(Please share a sign of peace with others.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Exodus 3:1-15

Matthew 16:21-28

SERMON

"Excuses, Excuses"

Rev. John Pruitt

SENDING

***HYMN NO. 829**

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

OLIVET

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

"The Apostles' Creed"

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN NO. 223**

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

HAMBURG

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Sep 3)

Greeters/Ushers: Ellen Watts, Nancy Bolen

Serving Next Sunday (Sep 10—Communion)

Greeters/Ushers: Tom Parker, Rusty Sudderth
Element Prep: Priscilla Henderson, Nancy Sharp
Assisting Elders: Nancy Sharp, Lynda Self, Mike Polinsky, Shari Downing

*You may stand in body or spirit.

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