

Peace Presbyterian Church

August 7, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.; 9th Sunday After Pentecost

Join us in person in our sanctuary or online via Zoom!

Here's how to join the Zoom call, starting at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday:

Option #1--Go to this web address <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83806982875>

Option #2--Call into the meeting on any telephone line Dial 1-646-558-8656.

When prompted, enter the meeting ID which is **838 0698 2875** and then hit the # key.

Pause for a moment and when the voice asks for your participant number, hit just the # key to join. (you do not need any additional numbers)

Weekly Group Prayer Opportunities Resume in August!

Prayer Group: Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Midday Prayer Service: Wednesdays at Noon, in the Sanctuary or Online via Zoom.

Meeting ID is 980 5593 4305

Happy Hour

Did you know that we still have a group that meets on Zoom to check in and share fellowship on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.? Come to Happy Hour using Zoom Meeting ID 937 2097 1265

Family Game Night – Join us on Friday, August 12 from 6-8 p.m. for board and card games in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite game or share one of ours. Friends and neighbors are welcome to join us for this casual evening. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Pastor Becky's Overview of the Bible Dinner and Class

Wednesday, August 17; 5:45-8:00 p.m.

Dinner: 5:45-6:25 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (order a boxed dinner from Panera for \$12 or bring your own).

Class: 6:30-8:00 in the Sanctuary and on Zoom

To sign up for the class and/or order dinner, contact the church at 910-488-3211 or fill out this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/wV3MoyKyehS9rBFd6>

Interested in making and sharing music at church?

Come to an organizational meeting to explore a new praise ensemble ministry.

This is for **adults, teenagers, and children** who **play any instrument, want to learn handbells, enjoy singing solos or with a group** or want to be involved behind the scenes with **sound support and set up**.

When: Tuesday, August 23 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Pizza and beverages will be provided for participants who RSVP by emailing Pastor Becky at pastor@peacepcnc.org or calling the church office (910) 488-3211.

All skill levels and ages welcome. Come learn more!

Back to School Blessing

On Sunday, August 28, we will have our Back-to-School Blessing at Peace. All of our students (all ages and grades), faculty, staff, and educators from any school, college, or university will be recognized and prayed for during a special time in the service. If you won't be with us in person, or if you have loved ones headed back to school that you'd like us to pray for, please send information to pastor@peacepcnc.org.

Volunteers Needed - We are inviting volunteers to sign up for staffing the nursery in August and September. You will find the date sheet with information on the table near the offering plate.

The dates are: August 14, 21, 28, September: 4, 11, 18, 25. Thank you for considering it!

Sunday, July 31 Attendance: 36 total (24 in person, 12 on zoom)

Offering for July 31: \$825.00

Total Receipts as of 7/31/2022: \$79,303.38

Total Offering for July: \$14,131.80

Total Expenses as of 7/31/2022: \$82,260.58

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Becky Durham

PRELUDE

Richard Butler

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsively) (based on Psalm 33:12-22)

ONE: The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

ALL: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

ONE: In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

ALL: May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, for we put our trust in you.

*OPENING HYMN

“Morning Has Broken”

Richard Butler

Presbyterian Blue Hymnal #469, all verses

*Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God’s recreation of the new day!*

*Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dew-fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Becky Durham

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Rev. Becky Durham

God of Love, when your children suffer, are displaced, persecuted, or worse your heart is saddened, you cry out for justice. When apathy dulls our hearts and we do not speak out, forgive us. When we are slow to respond and lives are lost, forgive us. When our trust in you falters and we forget the wisdom of scripture, forgive us. Renew and strengthen us, Lord. Give us a heart for justice and a prophetic voice, that this world might see your love in action through our lives and words.

(silent reflection and confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Responsively)

Rev. Becky Durham

ONE: Though fear should beset us; though danger causes us to close up our doors; though troubles assail and lead us away from the ways of grace; only one thing is necessary: just turn back to God’s promise of grace.

ALL: Gratefully, we know that in this moment we have asked and in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Richard Butler

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be! World without end, Amen, Amen!*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Becky Durham

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Becky Durham

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Becky Durham

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 glory forever. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 11:1-3; 8-16

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." ¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Becky Durham

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ecclesiastes 7:1-22 Rev. Becky Durham

¹A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death, than the day of birth. ²It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of everyone, and the living will lay it to heart. ³Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of countenance the heart is made glad. ⁴The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. ⁵It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise than to hear the song of fools. ⁶For like the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of fools; this also is vanity. ⁷Surely oppression makes the wise foolish, and a bribe corrupts the heart. ⁸Better is the end of a thing than its beginning; the patient in spirit are better than the proud in spirit. ⁹Do not be quick to anger, for anger lodges in the bosom of fools. ¹⁰Do not say, "Why were the former days better than these?" For it is not from wisdom that you ask this. ¹¹Wisdom is as good as an inheritance, an advantage to those who see the sun. ¹²For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to the one who possesses it. ¹³Consider the work of God; who can make straight what he has made crooked? ¹⁴In the day of prosperity, be joyful, and in the day of adversity, consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that mortals may not find out anything that comes after them. ¹⁵In my vain life I have seen everything; there are righteous people who perish in their righteousness, and there are wicked people who prolong their life in their evildoing. ¹⁶Do not be too righteous, and do not act too wise; why should you destroy yourself? ¹⁷Do not be too wicked, and do not be a fool; why should you die before your time? ¹⁸It is good that you should take hold of the one without letting go of the other, for the one who fears God shall succeed with both. ¹⁹Wisdom gives strength to the wise more than ten rulers who are in a city. ²⁰Surely there is no one on earth so righteous as to do good without ever sinning. ²¹Do not give heed to everything that people say, or you may hear your servant cursing you; ²²your heart knows that many times you have yourself cursed others.

Pastor: The word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God**

1. Wise People Live with the End in Mind
2. Wise People Stop Yearning for the Past
3. Wise People Trust God in the Present
4. Wise People Accept They Are Not in Control of the Future

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Nicene Creed)**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE “I Need Thee Every Hour”**

Nancy Miller

Annie Sherwood Hawks (1835-1918) & Robert Lowry; Celebration Hymnal #638

*I need Thee every hour most gracious Lord
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford
I need thee oh I need thee every hour I need Thee
Oh bless me now my Savior I come to Thee*

*I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!
I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!*

*I need Thee every hour stay Thou nearby
Temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh
I need thee oh I need thee every hour I need Thee
Oh bless me now my Savior I come to Thee*

*I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!
I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!*

I need Thee every hour in joy or in pain

*Come quickly and abide, or life is vain
I need thee oh I need thee every hour I need Thee
Oh bless me now my Savior I come to Thee*

*I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!
I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!*

*I need Thee every hour most Holy One
Oh make me Thine indeed thou blessed Son
I need thee oh I need thee every hour I need Thee
Oh bless me now my Savior I come to Thee
Oh bless me now my Savior I come to Thee*

*I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!
I need Thee, I need Thee, I need Thee every hour!*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Liturgy adapted from the work of Thom Shuman, lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ONE: May the God of faith be with you!

ALL: May God be with you as well!

ONE: Let us open our hearts in trust.

ALL: God fills them with grace in every moment.

ONE: Join together in singing songs of thanksgiving.

ALL: We lift our voices in glad adoration to our God.

When there was only the emptiness of chaos, God of our hearts, you dared to imagine that from things unseen might come wonders to behold...*(the prayer continues)*

...With those who have faith which astounds us, with those who long to see your beloved Community, we join our voices in praise and wonder:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

ONE: By grace, you set aside glory to become one of us, Christ of creation, so we might be filled with compassion we can share with others.

By faith, you told stories of servants, of prodigals, of children, so we could see ourselves as who God longs us to be.

By trust, you dared to let death wrap its cold arms around you, so we might be released into the comforting embrace of resurrection's hope.

By grace, we come to this Table.

By hope, we tell the story of Jesus.

By faith, we share the mystery of salvation:

ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

INVOCATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

COMMUNION IS SHARED

(Pastor Becky will invite us all, in person and online, to take communion together.)

INVITATION TO RESPOND WITH GENEROSITY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN** ***“Spirit, Open My Heart”

Ruth Duck; Irish Melody; Glory to God Hymnal #692

Chorus:

Spirit, open my heart

To the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love

In receiving and in giving.

Spirit open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart

With a heart that's kind and tender.

All my coldness and fear

To your grace I now surrender. (Chorus)

Write your love upon my heart

As my law, my goal, my story.

In each thought, word, and deed,

May my living bring you glory. (Chorus)

May I weep with those who weep;

Share the joy of sister, brother.

In the welcome of Christ,

May we welcome one another. (Chorus)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Rev. Becky Durham

Rev. Becky Durham

Richard Butler

Rev. Becky Durham

***Congregation Standing**