



Faith - Family - Fellowship

Order of Worship
Agape Worship Service
July 6, 2025

Video

Words of Welcome - State of the Church	Jay Barnes, Chair of the Administrative Council	
Prayer of Transformation	Charles Cathey, Lay Servant	
Call to Worship **	Jesus Messiah	Congregation & Praise Team
Song of Faith **	My God Can	Congregation & Praise Team
Affirmation of Faith	Shawn Boykin, Lay Leader	
Words of Wisdom	Joshua 1:1-9	Melinda Wood, Executive Council
Song of Hope	It Is Well	Praise Team (solo)
New Doxology / Blessing of the Offering	Josh Coley	
New Members Reception		
Prayers of the Church / The Lord's Prayer	Jim Vaughn, Lay Minister	
Word of God	Acts 1:1-11	Cindy Harper
Spiritual Vitamin	"Right Here, Right Now"	Pastor Robert
Sacrament of Holy Communion	Pastor Tim, Pastor Bill & Pastor Randy	
Song of Love **	Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus	Congregation & Praise Team
SPPRC Update	Al Beaty, SPPRC Search Committee Chair	
Election of Church Leadership	Myra Ripley, Executive Council Secretary	
KMC Trustee Update	Joe Mauney	
Going Forth / Blessing of the Meal		

** Congregation remains standing

Prayer of Transformation

Christian transformation is the process of becoming more like Christ through spiritual renewal and growth. It is deeply rooted in biblical teachings and involves a change in heart, mind, and actions. As we come together as a body of Christ this day allow the presence of God to bring forth an awakening to the depth of His loving spirit that dwells within each of us.

Lay Servant: Please join me in today's Prayer of Transformation.

People: Lord Jesus, I am your witness.
 I receive your righteousness and release my sinfulness.
 I receive your wholeness and release my brokenness.
 I receive your fullness and release my emptiness.
 I receive your peace and release my anxiety.
 I receive your joy and release my despair.
 I receive your healing and release my sickness.
 I receive your love and release my selfishness.
 I receive your readiness and release my resistance.

Lay Servant: Lord, may we open up our hearts, minds, and souls to your presence in our lives. As living examples of a church that matters, allow us to be gracious in our love to all people in our words, our thoughts, and our deeds.

People: May we ever be reminded that we as your church will;
 Glorify God, Commit to Christ, Teach the Truth, Fellowship through Faith,
 and Love the Least, Lost and Lonely.

Lay Servant & People:

 Come Holy Spirit transform my heart, mind, soul, and strength so that my
 consecration becomes your demonstration; that our lives become your sanctuary.
 For the glory of God our Father, amen.

Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed has a fascinating history! While its roots trace back to early Christianity, the precise text evolved over centuries. The creed is believed to have developed from an earlier statement of faith known as the **Old Roman Creed**, which was in use as early as the second century. The earliest written form of this creed is found in a letter that Marcellus of Ancyra wrote in Greek to Julius, the bishop of Rome, about AD 341. **In it, he recounted the viewpoint that the apostles wrote the creed together after Pentecost, before leaving Jerusalem to preach.**

The creed serves as a concise summary of Christian beliefs, affirming foundational doctrines such as:

- The Trinity: Belief in God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Christ's Life and Work: His conception, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.
- Salvation and Eternal Life: The forgiveness of sins and the hope of resurrection.

It is not just a doctrinal statement but also a confession of faith.

Please join me today as we affirm our faith in the triune God.

Lay Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Lay Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Lay Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Words of Wisdom - Joshua 1:1-9

Allow these words from the book of Joshua to give you confidence. Realize that whatever, wherever, and whenever God comes calling, He will instill within your very soul the courage to follow that path He has placed before you!

Now it happened after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying, "Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise to take his place, cross over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel. I have given you every place on which the sole of your foot treads, just as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness of Arabia in the south and this Lebanon in the north, even as far as the great river, the river Euphrates in the east, all the land of the Canaan, and as far as the Mediterranean Sea toward the west shall be your territory. No man will be able to stand before you to oppose you as long as you live. Just as I was with Moses, so will I be with you; I will not fail you or abandon you. Be strong *and* confident and courageous, for you will give this people as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers' ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do everything in accordance with the entire law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may prosper *and* be successful wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall read and meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything in accordance with all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will be successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be terrified or intimidated, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

O Lord, you have given us the gift of your Word.

People: May we ever protect and keep it pure. Amen.

Word of God - Acts 1:1-11

Jesus' last recorded words have come to be known as the Great Commission: "You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth". The Book of Acts, written by the Apostle Luke, is the story of the men and women who took that commission seriously and began to spread the news of a risen Savior to the most remote corners of the known world. Their journeys took them into places that some never returned from. It took great resolve and courage to venture into such places not withstanding what lay ahead.

Allow today's reading to absolutely open your heart, mind and soul to the idea that God wants you to be His witness today, here in Summerville, South Carolina.

Theophilus, I first wrote to you, about all that Jesus did and taught from the very first until he was taken up to heaven. But before he was taken up, he gave orders to the apostles he had chosen with the help of the Holy Spirit. For 40 days after Jesus had suffered and died, he proved in many ways that he had been raised from death. He appeared to his apostles and spoke to them about God's kingdom. While he was still with them, he said:

Don't leave Jerusalem yet. Wait here for the Father to give you the Holy Spirit, just as I told you he has promised to do. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

While the apostles were still with Jesus, they asked him, "Lord, are you now going to give Israel its own king again?"

Jesus said to them, "You don't need to know the time of those events that only the Father controls. But the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world." After Jesus had said this and while they were watching, he was taken up into a cloud. They could not see him, but as he went up, they kept looking up into the sky.

Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. They said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way you have seen him go."

This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.