

Worship for the Lord's Day

September 27, 2009

10:00 AM

An asterisk * indicates standing, as you are able.
The congregation's responses are in **bold italics**.

The Church is Gathered

Welcome The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Announcements Please see the bulletin insert for all announcements.

Prelude *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* arr. Lani Smith

In order to prepare for worship, you are invited to pray silently during the prelude.

Choral Introit *When All Thy Mercies, O My God* Crüger

To Praise God's Name

Call to Worship based on Psalm 134

Behold, bless the Lord,
all you servants of the Lord,
who by night stand in the house of the Lord!

***We will bless the Lord and praise our God,
because he stands with us day and night.***

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary,
and bless the Lord!

***We will lift up our hands in the sanctuary,
(all the people lift up their hands)
and bless the Lord!***

The Lord who made heaven and earth,
bless you from Zion!

***We receive God's blessing,
and wait upon our Lord. Amen.***

* **Hymn** *Come Sing to God*

Hymnal #181

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious Lord, you have created us and wondrously made us. We are reflections of your image and we long to be like you: loving, just and caring. But sometimes we do not mirror your image. There are times when we are anything but: loving, just and caring. We have a tendency to focus on our own desires and our own issues. We have a hard time thinking about the needs of others when we are so wrapped up in our own needs. We want security and we want continuity, so we shy away from anything that puts our security at risk or reeks of change. Help us to understand that only You, the Creator and Sustainer of Life, do not change. Forgive us for our narrow vision and enable us to be more like You. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

* **Song of Praise** *Gloria Patri* **Hymnal #579**

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.

Response Forgiveness is ours in Jesus Christ. ***Thanks be to God!***

Choral Anthem *For His Own* D. Peterson

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ is with you. ***And also with you.***

To Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading *Esther 7:1-6; 9-10* **p.431**

Message for Children

After the children's message all children through the 2nd grade are invited to depart for Children's Church.

New Testament Readings *James 5:13-20* **p.1056**
Mark 9:38-50 **p.877**

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God!***

Sermon *Authors of our Own Destruction*

To Thank God

* **Hymn** *Christ of the Upward Way* **Hymnal #344**

* **Profession of Faith** *Apostles' Creed* **Hymnal p.14**

Prayers by and for the People · The Lord's Prayer

Offering *A Blessing* Franklin Ritter

During the offertory, you are invited to offer silent prayers of gratitude.

* **Song of Thanksgiving** *Doxology* **Hymnal #592**

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**

To Depart to Serve God

* **Hymn** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* **Hymnal #404**

* **Charge and Benediction**

* **Congregational Amen** **Hymnal #537**
(verse 2)

Postlude *Ancient of Days* arr. Robert J. Hughes

Announcements

The **Lay Readers** today are **Stephanie & Jackson Moehlenkamp**.

The **Adult Study Group** will meet this evening, beginning at 5:30 PM instead of 6:00 PM. The group will meet the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Books may be purchased through the church office.

There will be a called **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday October 4, immediately after worship for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee.

The **Property Committee** will have a maintenance workday Saturday, October 3, from 8 AM to 12 Noon. Please sign up on the bulletin board by the church office if you are able the help.

Our church has the honor of hosting the annual **Altavista Area Church Leadership Summit** October 4, at 5:00 PM. Sponsored by the Altavista Area Ministerial Association, this is an evening of worship and learning designed for leaders in our local congregations. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hall by the office.

The final **Communion Class** for young children and their parents will be next Sunday, October 4, at 9:00 AM at the church.

The **Presbytery of The Peaks** plans a **Fall Leadership Event** on October 17, 9 AM to 3 PM. The leadership of all of the Churches in Peaks Presbytery is invited to gather at Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, VA. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Richard Boyce, and there will be numerous workshops designed to assist congregations to develop their ministries. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board in the hall by the office.

You are invited to a celebration of **Frannie's House** on Sunday, October 11, from 12 noon to 2 PM at 519 8th Street, Altavista. Come share a blessing of the home by the Rev. Karen Joy Kelly and an update on planned renovations of the house and gifts received to date.

Schedules

Ushers, October	Sue Ferguson, Vika Henderson Doug & Anne Hecht
Greeters, October	Jerry & Janet Sodders
Lay Reader, October 4	Jane Strebel
Lay Reader, October 11	Doug Hecht
Nursery, October 4	Anne & Erika Mabry
Nursery, October 11	Lynn Copes
CC Teacher, Oct.	Martha Moore
CC Assistant, Oct. 4	Kelly deBernard
Youth Group Helper, Oct. 4	Lynn Copes
Youth Meal Preparer Oct. 4	Dori Baker
Communion servers, Oct. 4	Kelly & Kevin deBernard David, Anne, & Allison Mabry Chip, Jenny & Holly Roark

Daily Scripture Readings

Theme: *Good Stewards* Psalm 3

MONDAY	1 Corinthians 4:1-7	THURSDAY	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4
TUESDAY	1 Corinthians 4:8-13	FRIDAY	Luke 12:35-40
WEDNESDAY	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	SATURDAY	Luke 12:41-48

Weekly Calendar

Sun., Sept. 27	Adult Sunday School Worship/Children's Church Youth Group Meeting Adult Study Group	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM 5:30 PM
Wed., Sept. 30	Prayer Fellowship - Pastor's Study Second Helping Lunch Choir Practice	9:30 AM 11:00-12:30 PM 6:00 PM
Sun., Oct. 4	Adult Sunday School Worship/Communion Children's Church Congregational Meeting Youth Group Meeting@ Dori Baker's Home	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM

Joys and Concerns for Prayer 9/27/09

- Pastor Bob Button and his ministries
- The session and the staff
- Standing Nominating Committee
- Help to grow in the grace and knowledge of God, and to share the Good News with others this year.
- Those who are lonely and those in need
- Financial uncertainty and the unemployed
- Nancy Cummings, (Ellen Ragsdale's sister) health concerns
- Hospice patients and caregivers.
- Health (Gary Alley, Barbie Andrews, Cayla Coalson, Mollie Cofflin, Tim Coleman, Dianne Emmett, Dante Erk, Tim Fenn, Sue Ferguson, Steve Graham, Diane Janiak, Barbara Hare, Elizabeth Hawkins, John Hawkins, Doug Hecht, Marie Hoffman, Tim Howdysshell, Mary Bennett Humphreys, Brenda Hunt, Hannah Johnson, Ralph Liebchen, Phil and Carol Wills McCartney. Betty Sue Moehlenkamp, Darnell Moorman, Conner Niblett, Bob and Ellen Ragsdale, Charles Thomas, John Trotti, John Tuck, Heath Tuttle, Kathy Woodall)
- Leaders in the town, county, state, country and world.
- Military and their family (Robert Kinard, Jeremy Larkin, Grant Martin, Joshua Wright)
- Our church mission projects.
- Missionaries: John and Julie Farmer with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, John and Beth Muehleisen with World Gospel Mission, and Paul and Reinhild Sydnor with the International Teams. (Their newsletters are posted on the bulletin board.)
- Residents in retirement homes and residential care (Thelma Blanchard, Joseph Eller, Francis Harvey, Ruth Knight, Wilmoth McClelland, Martin Strebel, Roy Tucker, Margaret Young)

People to Contact at APC

Session (Active Elders)

Barbie Andrews
Ministry Beyond the Congregation

Ron Coleman
Ministry Beyond the Congregation

Kelly deBernard
Ministry Within the Congregation

Bill Ferguson
Property & The Men of the Church

Rob Gilliam
Ministry Support

Sang-il Lee
Christian Education

David Mabry
Property & The Men of the Church

Jennifer McCrickard
Ministry Within the Congregation,

Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Worship & Nominating

Caroline Peerman
Worship

Jenny Roark
Christian Education

Robert E. (Bob) Button
Moderator of Session

Staff

Rev. Robert E. (Bob) Button
Interim Pastor

Carolyn Doss
Church Secretary

Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Choir Director

Dot Hogan
Organist

Preston Andrews
Treasurer

John Erb
Clerk of Session, Presbytery Delegate

Shannon Moorman
Nursery Attendant

Other Contacts

Sue Ferguson
Link Newsletter Editor

Sally Sease
Women's Circles

Alline Rogers
Meal Coordinator

Annie Shelton
Nursery Coordinator

Janet Soddors
Prayer Fellowship Request

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