

# OAKLAND AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service for the Lord's Day  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 7, 2025

421 Oakland Avenue  
Rock Hill, SC 29730

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Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

For after-hours emergency contact, please call: (803)329-6276

The asterisk (\*) is an invitation to please stand as you are able.

**PRELUDE**

“Parting”  
Revelation Ringers

Barbara Werner

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey E. Bryan

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Dan Rogers

Living Waters for the World

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**\*GATHERING SONG #2**

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing;

help us to praise:

Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us,

Ancient of Days.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Ps. 124:8, Heb. 4 Rev. Letarshia C. Robinson

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

All: **who made heaven and earth.**

One: Seeing that we have a great high priest,  
that is passed into the heavens,  
Jesus the Son of God:

All: **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace,  
that we may obtain mercy,  
and find grace to help in time of need.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

**\*HYMN #396**

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

## **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, change what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name...

(Silent, individual prayers of confession).

In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**

## **\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GLORIA PATRI #582**      "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. **Amen.**

World without end, without end. **Amen.** (*three times*)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. **Amen.**

**Amen, amen.**

**PSALTER**                      Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (CEV)                      Forrest Vining

One: You have looked deep into my heart, LORD,  
and you know all about me.

All: You know when I am resting or when I am working,  
and from heaven you discover my thoughts.

One: You notice everything I do and everywhere I go.

All: Before I even speak a word, you know what I will say,  
and with your powerful arm you protect me from every side.

One: I can't understand all of this!

All: Such wonderful knowledge is far above me.

One: You are the one who put me together  
inside my mother's body,  
and I praise you because of the wonderful way you created me.

**All: Everything you do is marvelous!  
Of this I have no doubt.**

One: Nothing about me is hidden from you!

**All: I was secretly woven together out of human sight,  
but with your own eyes you saw my body being formed.**

One: Even before I was born, you had written in your book  
everything about me.

**All: Your thoughts are far beyond my understanding,  
much more than I could ever imagine.**

One: I try to count your thoughts,  
but they are more than the grains of sand on the beach.

**All: And when I awake, I will find you nearby.**

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

**“This is My Song”**

**Lloyd Larson**

## **CHILDREN’S TIME & PRESENTATION OF BIBLES**

*The nursery is available for birth to three-year-olds, in the Parlor. Following the Children’s Time, children (4-year-olds - 1<sup>st</sup> graders) are invited to go with their leaders to Kids’ Kirk (Scottish for “church”). They may be picked up in the Chapel. 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to remain in worship with their families.*

**\*HYMN #695**

**“Change My Heart, O God”**

**sing twice**

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:25-33

<sup>25</sup> Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## SERMON

“The Cost of Discipleship”

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 & 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.

## OFFERING

*The first Sunday of each month, the loose offering goes into the Compassionate Care Fund. This fund is used to assist those in need of financial aid. You may give your gifts to God during the offering by texting OAPC to 73256, through the Church Life mobile app, by mail, online, or in the office.*

## OFFERTORY

"I Believe"

Mark Miller

Duet: Robyn Brown, Bethany Haney

## \*DOXOLOGY #300

"We Are One in the Spirit," Verse 4

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### \*HYMN #700

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

### \*BENEDICTION

"May God Bless Us and Keep Us"

Katie Houts

Covenant Choir

May God bless us and keep us as we go on our way,  
For we know that God loves us and guides us ev'ry day.  
May we love and serve our family, our enemies, and our friends.  
May God bless us and keep us 'til we meet again.

## \*POSTLUDE

"Praise to the Lord"

Cynthia Goff

## NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

As the anniversary of 9/11 nears, today's special music offers a look to the past, to the present, and to the future. No matter where we were that day, we still live with the memory and endure the effects of that day.

The handbell music, "Parting," was written following the attack on the Twin Towers. As the composer slept on the West Coast, she was unaware that her father was dying in the impact zone on the East Coast. Sleeping, she didn't know that a parting was taking place. The song begins peacefully, becomes agitated, and resolves quietly.

The anthem "This Is My Song" speaks to the love we feel for our country and to the dreams we share. In these divided days, however, it reminds us that others around the globe also love their lands and dream just as we do, that we have much more in common than we have in differences.

The anthem "I Believe" sets to music a poem by an anonymous Jewish prisoner in a German concentration camp. Found written on the wall in the camp, its simple words are a consummate statement of hope and faith. Even in the darkest times, the sun still shines, love still lives, and God is still present. His spirit is heard in the quietness of the ending.

### OAPC STAFF

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## SESSION

### **Elders, the leadership of the church.**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>Clerk / Nominating</b>	Jeanne Pearson	Stephen Price
<b>Congregational Care</b>	Gale DiGiorgio	Debra Hess
<b>Faith Formation</b>	Gracie Magyar	Meredith Neely
<b>Fellowship</b>	Jamie Brannan	Jim Armour
<b>Finance</b>	Clarke Moore	Paul Lee
<b>Mission</b>	Kim Keel	Sue Williams
<b>Personnel</b>	Steve Vogel	Susan Van Zile
<b>Property</b>	Dennis Haire	J. Robert Hyman
<b>Worship</b>	Lucinda Sutton	Brittany Morgan

## DIACONATE

### **Deacons, the caring arm of the church.**

Laura Back	Ellen Barnard	Bradley Brown
Becky McGinnis	Robin Huffmon	Tony Jones
Carolyn Moore	Hall Rogers	Grace Lewis
Brenda Nicholson	Sally Shive	Stephen Marshall
Sandra Thomas	Robin Williams	Keith & Karen Morton



Bill Bradford*	Bob McCann*	Jonatha Vare*
Jo Grier	Clarkson McDow	Kim Wasson*
Caroline Hasselle	Mary Ann McDow	Sue Williams
Stephanie Hyatt*	Ann McKenzie	
Gloria Jones	Robin Perry*	
Alice Lavender	Becca Robinson	
Cindy Mayfield*	Jane Turner	*Stephen Leaders