Those Participating in the Service this Evening and Members of the Commission:

Mr. Stan Baston, Elder
Cayce ARP Church, Cayce

Mr. Rick Bradley, Elder
Centennial ARP Church, Columbia

The Rev. Bryan Bult
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

The Rev. Dr. Dale Ralph Davis
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia (retired)

The Rev. David Henderson
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

The Rev. Sean Henderson
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

The Rev. David Lauten
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

The Rev. Dr. Mark E. Ross
Erskine Theological Seminary

Mr. Mark Sloan, Elder
Grace ARP Church, Elgin

The Rev. Josh Squires
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

Mr. Kenneth Wingate, Elder
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

Catawba Presbytery ministers, official church representatives, and students of theology are reminded to register on the sign-up pages located in the Narthex.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the installation of the Rev. Dr. Neil C. Stewart.

Worship at First

Things to consider

- Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.
- Nurseries for children to the age of four are provided in the Education Building.
- A quiet room with a live video feed of the service is available in the Education Building, Room 113. There, mothers may attend to the needs of their children.

Special Announcements

- The Session extends its gratitude to the Presbytery of Catawba for its assistance in making this occasion possible, to the ministers and elders of the Installation Commission for their participation in this installation service, to the Women of the Church for providing the reception, and to our musicians for enriching the worship service.

Pastoral Staff

Dr. Neil C. Stewart, Senior Minister Elect

Rev. Bryan Bult, Associate Minister to Seniors
Rev. David Henderson, Associate Minister of Discipleship
Rev. Sean Henderson, Associate Minister of Missions
Rev. David Lauten, Senior Associate Minister of Congregational Care
Rev. Josh Squires, Associate Minister of Counseling

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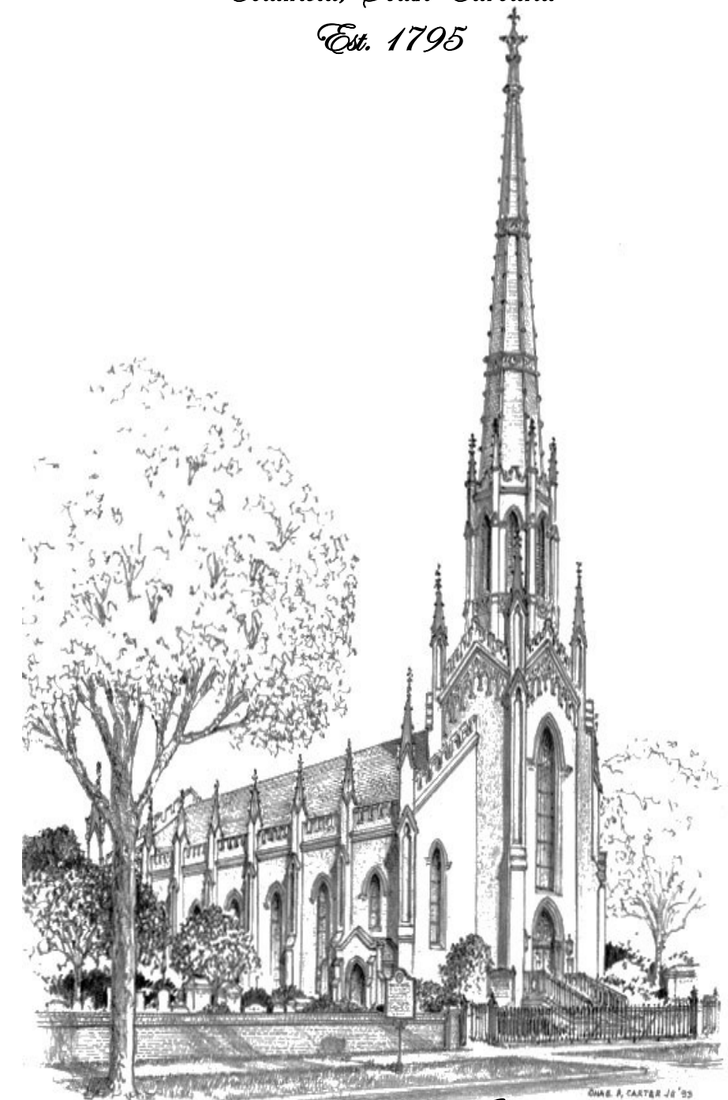
The First Presbyterian Church

Columbia, South Carolina

Est. 1795



A Service for the Worship of God

Conducted by the Presbytery of Catawba, ARP

for the Installation of

Dr. Neil Christopher Stewart

January 21, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

Service of Installation

6:00 p.m.

And you shall speak my words to them...

(Ezekiel 2:7)

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

VOLUNTARY: *Bicinium on DUKE STREET* Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The service will now proceed without further announcements.

CALL TO ORDER Rev. Bryan Bult

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. David Henderson

Cherubs and Club Children, please leave during the following hymn.

+ **HYMN 441:** *Jesus Shall Reign* DUKE STREET

+ **PRAYER OF INVOCATION** Rev. Josh Squires

READING OF OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

Rev. Sean Henderson

PRESENTATION OF EVENING OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: *Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem* LYNGHAM

Please open your Trinity Hymnal to #271 and join the choir on the final stanza.

Sing, choirs of new Jerusalem,
Your sweetest notes employ,
Your sweetest notes employ
The paschal victory to hymn
In songs of holy joy,
In songs of holy joy,
In songs of holy joy!

For Judah's Lion burst his chains
And crushed the serpent's head,
And crushed the serpent's head;
Christ cries aloud through death's domains
To wake th'imprisoned dead,
To wake th'imprisoned dead,
To wake th'imprisoned dead.

Triumphant in his glory now—
To him all pow'r is giv'n,
To him all pow'r is giv'n;
To him in one communion bow
All saints in earth and heav'n,
All saints in earth and heav'n,
All saints in earth and heav'n.

Congregation, please stand and join in singing the final stanza.

All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit be
While endless ages run,
While endless ages run,
While endless ages run.

READING OF NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

Mr. Rick Bradley

SCRIPTURE LESSON Ezekiel 2:1-3:15
(Pew Bible page 693, Children's Bible page 878)

SERMON: Dr. Dale Ralph Davis

"A Less Than Thrilling Ministry"

+ **HYMN:** *All Glory Be to Christ* AULD LANG SYNE

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house in vain, its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn, all glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing; all glory be to Christ.

His will be done, his kingdom come on earth as is above;
Who is Himself our daily bread, praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price;
We'll take a cup of kindness, yet all glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing; all glory be to Christ.

When on the day the great I am, the faithful and the true,
The Lamb, who was for sinners slain is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us and be our steadfast light;
And we shall e'er his people be, all glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing; all glory be to Christ.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION Rev. Bryan Bult

RENEWAL OF ORDINATION VOWS

QUESTIONS OF INSTALLATION

THE DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

CHARGE TO THE MINISTER Dr. Mark Ross

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION Rev. David Lauten

INSTALLATION PRAYER Mr. Kenneth Wingate

+ **HYMN 660:** *O God Beyond All Praising* THAXTED

+ **BENEDICTION** Dr. Neil C. Stewart

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

The People's Prayer for Their Minister HAMBURG

With heavenly pow'r, O Lord, defend
Him whom we now to thee commend;
His person bless, his soul secure,
And make him to the end endure.

Gird him with all-sufficient grace;
Direct his feet in paths of peace:
Thy truth and faithfulness fulfill,
And help him to obey thy will.

VOLUNTARY: *Prelude on THAXTED* William H. Bates

The Women of The First Presbyterian Church
invite the congregation
to a reception honoring
The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Neil C. Stewart
on the occasion of his installation on
Sunday, January 21, 2024
in the Family Life Center
immediately following the evening worship service.

INSTALLATION SERVICE
6:00 P.M.

And you shall speak my words to them...

(Ezekiel 2:7)

VOLUNTARY*:* ***Bicinium on DUKE STREET***
Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO ORDER

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN: ***Jesus Shall Reign***

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown his head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
The pris'ner leaps to lose his chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

READING OF OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

OFFERTORY: *Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem*

Sing, choirs of new Jerusalem,
Your sweetest notes employ,
Your sweetest notes employ
The paschal victory to hymn
In songs of holy joy,
In songs of holy joy,
In songs of holy joy!

For Judah's Lion burst his chains

And crushed the serpent's head,
And crushed the serpent's head;
Christ cries aloud through death's domains
To wake th'imprisoned dead,
To wake th'imprisoned dead,
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Triumphant in his glory now—
To him all pow'r is giv'n,
To him all pow'r is giv'n;
To him in one communion bow
All saints in earth and heav'n,
All saints in earth and heav'n,
All saints in earth and heav'n.

Congregation, please stand and join in singing the final stanza.

All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit be
While endless ages run,
While endless ages run,
While endless ages run.

READING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

SCRIPTURE LESSON Ezekial 2:1-3:15

IAnd he said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.” And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God.’ And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them. And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions. Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house. And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house.

“But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.” And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of

lamentation and mourning and woe.
And he said to me, “Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.” So I opened my mouth, and he gave me this scroll to eat. And he said to me, “Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it.” Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.
And he said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with my words to them. For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel— not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me: because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart. Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. Like emery harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.” Moreover, he said to me, “Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. And go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ whether they hear or refuse to hear.”

Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me the voice of a great earthquake: "Blessed be the glory of the Lord from its place!" It was the sound of the wings of the living creatures as they touched one another, and the sound of the wheels beside them, and the sound of a great earthquake. The Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness in the heat of my spirit, the hand of the Lord being strong upon me. And I came to the exiles at Tel-abib, who were dwelling by the Chebar canal, and I sat where they were dwelling. And I sat there overwhelmed among them seven days.

SERMON: Dr. Dale Ralph Davis
"A Less Than Thrilling Ministry"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN: ***All Glory Be to Christ***

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house in vain,
its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain,
tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn, all glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing;
all glory be to Christ.

His will be done, his kingdom come
on earth as is above;
Who is Himself our daily bread,
praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price;
We'll take a cup of kindness,
yet all glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing;
all glory be to Christ.

When on the day the great I am,
the faithful and the true,
The Lamb, who was for sinners slain
is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us
and be our steadfast light;
And we shall e'er his people be, all glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing;
all glory be to Christ.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

CHARGE TO THE MINISTER

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

INSTALLATION PRAYER

HYMN: ***O God Beyond All Praising***

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessing without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor
may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

With heavenly pow'r, O Lord, defend
Him whom we now to thee commend;

His person bless, his soul secure,
And make him to the end endure.

Gird him with all-sufficient grace;
Direct his feet in paths of peace:
Thy truth and faithfulness fulfill,
And help him to obey thy will. With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon us from above.

POSTLUDE*: Prelude on THAXTED*

William H. Bates