



PARK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Welcome & Announcements

Carleton Philbrick

Welcome from the Pastor

*Call to Worship

Carleton Philbrick

We come in joy, remembering we are created in your image, O Holy One.

We come in joy, remembering that together we are your body, O Lord.

We come in joy, celebrating your presence among us.

We come in joy, celebrating your presence throughout all creation.

We come in joy!

Alleluia! Amen!

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Wendell Phillips

God of the faithful in every time and place: today you have called us into your church to be one body in Jesus Christ. You have freely given us the gifts we need to serve others in your name. Grant now that we may take up our role, to support one another, and to seek the greatest gift of all, which is love. Bind us together with all your people throughout the world, in the power of your Spirit of unity. Amen.

*Opening Song of Praise

#664

“Morning Has Broken”

Call to Confession

Wendell Phillips

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God of all people, we confess our lack of unity with our sisters and brothers in this world. We have closed our ears to voices of the oppressed, and persecuted, because they speak in languages other than our own. We lack the vision to recognize that people, living in places we call foreign, are as surely your children as we are. We cling to the pride of nation and construct walls to keep others out, as if we have the power to pick and choose our neighbors.

Gracious God, forgive our arrogance, and renew a right spirit within us, a spirit of compassion, understanding, and humility, in the unity of your Holy Spirit and the grace of Christ our Lord. Now hear the silent prayers of our hearts as we confess our secret sins that burden our hearts...

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, proclaim with me the glorious news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

#581

*Passing the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

Wendell Phillips

Bless us, O God, with ears to hear your truth, vision to discern your path, and feet ready to move into action, responding to your call. Inspire us as we hear your Word read and proclaimed. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Wendell Phillips

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was, in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:23-32

Pastor Carl McCormack

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, **“I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?”** And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, **“Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?”** They said, **“The first.”** Jesus said to them, **“Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.**

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“From Word To Action”

Rev. Carl McCormack

*Affirmation of Faith (adapted from the Confession of Belhar)
We believe in the triune God, Father Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe that God is the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged. We believe that God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry. We believe that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind. We believe that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows, and blocks the path of the ungodly. We believe in the one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and glory forever and ever.

*Song of Affirmation #340 “This Is My Song”

Prayers of the People

Stewardship Moment

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
 Invitation to the Table
 Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Words of Institution

Serving the People of God

Prayer after Communion

*Song of Joyful Dedication #475 *“Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”*

Charge & Benediction

Postlude
Assisting in Worship:
Carl McCormack, Pastor
Carleton Philbrick, as Liturgist
Cindy Witherspoon-Allen, as Greeter
Jo Murry, as Pianist

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost—October 1, 2023

World Communion Sunday

9:45am—Pastor Carl—the Bible in 90 Days—Parlor

11am—Worship Service—Pastor Carl McCormack

Monday, October 2, 2023

10:30am—Monday Morning Prayer Group—Conference Room

6:30pm—AR Scottish Dance Society

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

10am—Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team

7pm—Woodworkers—Steen Hall

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

4:30—Handbell Choir

Friday, October 6, 2023

7pm—AR Country Dance Society

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost—October 8, 2023

9:45am—Pastor Carl—the Bible in 90 Days—Parlor

11am—Worship Service—Pastor Carl McCormack

• PRAYER NOTES

Recent: Jack McCollum, Diana McCray, Grady Nixon, Betty Brown Powell,

Continued Prayers: Patt Bond, Pat Clark, Donna Ellis, Bill Jones, Ginny Jones, Jesse Macom-Teague, Ann McCollum, Luke Peters, Wendell Phillips, LaVonne Smith,

Prayers For Friends Of The Church: Riley Carter, Dana Chadwick, Lynn Chadwick, Charles Clark, Darnell Clark, Jeff Connor, Susan Gibbes; Constance Hughes, Margret Hutson, Pam Johnson, Travis Kasper, Terri McMaster, Barbara Monroe, Tom Murry, Stephanie Phillips, Liam Pierce, Elizabeth Pollard, Jennifer Willen,

Prayers For Those In Home Confinement: John Atterbury, Ann Cother, Bunn Falls (Johnson County Health & Rehab), Clarksville, Steve Pollard (AR State VA Home), David Rennie, Ann Woods.

Prayers For Those In Grief: For the family of Betty Jean Moore, who passed away Saturday, September 16.

For those who are still mourning the loss of a loved one.

*Please contact the church office if you need someone placed on or taken off the prayer notes. Thank you.