



— We Are Sent in Christ’s Name —

***BENEDICTION**

Recognize that you are not alone, and you are not alone. Be strengthened by others, by those around you, by those who—though very different from you—recognize that there is a need for you to serve in this world. Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do so that those to whom love is a stranger will find in you generous friends. Go into the world, blessed by the guidance of God, the humility of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE “The Joy of the Lord”—Music by Twila Paris

As you leave
Second, live each
day by leaving a
meaningful legacy
for your life: be
rich toward God.

For those desiring childcare, the nursery is available during the service for children five years of age and younger. In addition, there is a “family room” available at the back of the sanctuary.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a prayer request form (found in the friendship register) and place it in the offering plate. We will include your request in the bulletin for a month, unless you request for us to leave it in longer.

2019 SPC SESSION AND MINISTRY TEAMS

Larry Hull, Clerk of Session

DISCIPLESHIP

Marie Finch, Sandy Simmermon
Ben Foster, Ann Byrd Porter, &
Donna Bortell

MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP

Elisabeth Sawyer, Philip Ndahi,
& Rich Voter

ADMINISTRATION

Rob Courtois, Dave Horner,
Kathy Stark, & Tom Cherry

STAFF

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Isaac Thomas, Pastor of Music, Outreach, and Technology

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Katie White, Director of Administration, Families, & Youth

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Amanda Besso & Katrina Wansink, Nursery

Tom Libbey, Facility Manager; Helen Pribesh, Parish Cook; Barbara Watson, Housekeeper

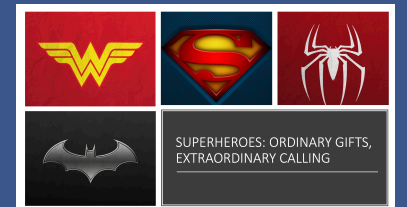
Our pastor since 2010, Dr. Craig Wansink received his Ph.D. in New Testament from Yale University, after having graduated from seminary in Chicago, and having studied at universities in Japan, Jordan, Germany, and Israel. Since 1993 he has been a Professor of Religious Studies at Virginia Wesleyan University, where he also serves as the Joan P. and Macon F. Brock, Jr. Director of the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom. Craig is married to Nancy Chapman, and his two children — Katrina and Teddy—are college students.

Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, our Covenant Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Spiritual Formation, received her M.Div. from Union Presbyterian Seminary. Catherine also serves as the chaplain for University Presbyterian Ministries at Old Dominion University. She and her husband, Chuck, live in Norfolk with their three children, Whitley, Hart, and Alden.

Isaac Thomas, our Pastor of Music, Outreach, and Technology, joined the SPC staff in 2014. He received his education at John Brown University and the University of Texas at Arlington. He is a published composer and has served as conductor for contemporary Christian recording artists Twila Paris and Fernando Ortega. He is a graduate of Dubuque Theological Seminary via the Commissioned Lay Pastor program. Additionally, in 2017 he completed a six-week piano course through The Juilliard School under the instruction of Dr. Michael Shinn, Chair of Keyboard Studies.

SUPER HEROES: ORDINARY GIFTS, EXTRAORDINARY CALLING

“YOU TAUGHT ME HOW TO LIVE”: BATMAN’S
ORIGIN AND OUR CALLING TO COMMUNITY



Second Presbyterian Church, August 18, 2019



“Community is love you can see and smell and touch... Community is the invitation to be a mess when you need to be. Community is the joyful embrace of your complicated story. Community is the e-mail or phone call or text message that says, ‘I’m thinking about you, even when you are away.’ And community is the grace-filled invitation to always return to a place, no matter how wrecked you might be. And if community is grace-with-a-heartbeat... the biggest barrier to community will be you. Because in order to receive the grace of authentic community, we will have to believe we are worthy of receiving it.”

—Kelly Flanagan

Whether we are old or young, whether we are first-time or longtime worshipers, whether we come full of doubts or confidence, joy, or sorrow, in this place we all are family, because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. Welcome!

“A Christian community should do as Jesus did: propose and not impose. Its attraction must lie in the radiance cast by the love of brothers.”
—Jean Vanier

“Christian community is the place where we keep the flame of hope alive among us and take it seriously so that it can grow and become stronger in us.”
—Henri Nouwen

— *We Gather in God’s Name* —

GATHERING MUSIC

Peggy Troyer, piano

WELCOME

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**
The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.
Greet your neighbor with the peace of Christ.

RINGING THE CHIMES

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

PRELUDE “*Where He Leads Me*”—Music by Twila Paris

OPENING PRAYER

God of grace, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

***HYMN (See Insert)** “*We Will Glorify*”—Words and Music by Twila Paris

***CONFESSION OF SIN**
Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to a lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your Spirit. This we pray in Jesus’ powerful name. Amen.

***MUSICAL RESPONSE # 621 (Refrain)** “*Give Me a Clean Heart*”
—Words: Anonymous; Music by George Whelpton
Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee. Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee. For I’m not worthy of all these blessings. Give me a clean heart, Lord, and I’ll follow Thee.

***WORDS OF GRACE**
If you repent and believe in God’s redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God’s promises and begin anew your life with God and all people in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

— *We Hear the Word* —

TIME OF DISCOVERY #768 “*Halle, Halle, Halle*”—Traditional Caribbean Song
Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!
Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah! Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

VOCAL SOLO “*I Will Listen*”—Words and Music by Twila Paris
Featuring Lori Crouch, soloist
Hard as it seems, standing in dreams, where is the dreamer now? Wonder if I wanted to try, would I remember how? I don’t know the way to go from here, but I know that I have made my choice. And this is where I stand until He moves me on, and I will listen to His voice. This is the faith, patience to wait when there is nothing clear. Nothing to see, still we believe Jesus is very near. I can not imagine what will come, but I’ve already made my choice. And this is where I stand until He moves me on, and I will listen to His voice. Could it be that He is only waiting there to see if I will learn to love the dreams that He has dreamed for me? Can’t imagine what the future holds, but I’ve already made my choice. And this is where I stand until He moves me on, and I will listen to His voice.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	(page 617; large print, page 757)
	Hebrews 10:24-25	(page 224; large print, page 272)

SERMON “You Taught Me How to Live”: Batman’s Origin and Our Calling to Community
—Dr. Craig Wansink

HYMN # 256 “*They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*”

— *We Respond to God’s Word* —

MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: THE SHARING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS
(During the offering, please sign the Ritual of Friendship pad in the pew and pass it to your neighbor.)

OFFERTORY “*He is Exalted*”—Music by Twila Paris; Arranged by Wayne Oquin

***THE DOXOLOGY # 881** “*Use These Gifts*”—Words and Music by Ken Medema
Use these gifts to lift the lowly. Use these gifts to raise the humble.
Use these gifts to feed the hungry. Guide us on your way.
Use these gifts to show the nations what it means to find salvation.
Use these gifts and those who give them. Make us yours, O God, we pray.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***HYMN # 248 (vv. 1, 2, 3, & 4)** “*We Are Your People*”

“God’s ultimate purpose for humanity is to call together a community whose life will reflect his own.”
—Jeremy Begbie

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”
—Hebrew 10:24-25