



CALDWELL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God Invites. We Welcome. All.

November 17, 2024

Ordinary Time

Eleven O'clock

Rev. Dr. John Cleghorn, Minister

Rev. Dr. Dorothy J. Killian, Interim Associate Minister

Rev. Justin Martin, Minister of Youth & Online Outreach

Smitty Flynn, Volunteer Choir Director

Anne Hunter Eidson, Minister of Music

Manley Roberts, Volunteer Pianist

Rev. Dr. Diane Mowrey, Parish Associate Minister

Service of the Worship of the Lord

(The congregation reads the words in bold-face type except for the headings.)

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Manley Roberts, piano

Processional

Caldwell Gospel Choir

Welcoming of Visitors and Announcements

Revs Dot Killian and John Cleghorn

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds

Call to Worship

Rev. John Cleghorn

God of the prophets, call to us today.

Call us into Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

God of the poets, remind us again how much You love us.

Sing to us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

God of the disciples, teach us how to follow You.

Teach us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

God of all creation, help us to know Your ways.

**We gather to hear Your call, to sing Your praise,
to pray and worship as the body of Christ.**

Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts

We Confess and Remember God's Mercy

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dot Killian

Together, we pray aloud before God and each other, saying:

God of the old and the new,

we want to embrace Your new way,

but we like the old just fine.

We repeat tired ideas and resist new possibilities.

We hold on to old grudges

and resist Your word of reconciliation and new life.

We are too afraid of the unknown to step out into something new.

Forgive us, loving Lord.

**Help us to see the way of Your new creation in our lives and our world,
that we might be reconciled to You and one another in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

In silence we continue to examine our hearts and minds before God.

We Remind Ourselves We Are Forgiven and Pass the Peace

In the name of Christ, we are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you.

**In the name of Christ, we receive God's gift of grace. May the peace of
Christ be also with you.**

*We share the peace of Christ with those around us by saying to one another, "The Peace
of Christ be with you," and by responding, "And also with you."*

Anthem: Gospel Choir

A Minute for Mission

Room In The Inn

Nancy Pugh

A Time With Our Children (*children come forward*)

Rev. Justin Martin

*Children (age 3 to 5th grade) go to Sunday School. First-time visitors with young children are
asked to walk with them to Sunday School, sign them in and see where their classes are located.
They will rejoin you in the sanctuary at the end of worship.*

Adults: May the Lord be with you there.

Children: May the Lord be with you here.

We Hear God's Word Read and Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination

Quentin McGill

New Testament Lesson

Mark 13:1-8

NT, p. 47

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Finding God Amidst the Rubble

Rev. Dot Killian

We Respond to the Word in Various Ways

We Reflect On God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

The Iona Community

**We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,**

conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.

We believe in a with-us God

Who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place
into action, into vulnerability and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change and to put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, to take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

Offertory

Caldwell Gospel Choir

*Contributions to our regular offering can be placed in offering plates. Other options for giving:
go to www.caldwellpresby.org/giving, use the QR code on page 7, or mail a check to the church
office at 1609 East Fifth Street, 28204.*

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

We Pray for the People

Rev. John Cleghorn

We pray for ourselves and others, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

**Our Father (Creator), 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.**

*Hymn

Thank You, Jesus

Kenneth Morris

**Chorus: Thank you Jesus, thank you Jesus, thank you Je-sus,
oh You've brought me from a mighty long way. (sing twice)**

**Verse: You've been my mother, You've been my father, You've been my sister,
my brother too, oh you've brought me from a mighty long way.
You've been my bread, You've been my water, You've been my life,
my everything, oh You've brought me from a mighty long way. Repeat Chorus**

Refreshments for all following worship in Hope Hall.

MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES - THIS WEEK

Today

- 9:00 - 9:45 am Coffee & Community, *Hope Hall*
9:45 am Sunday School Class, *Hope Community Hall, Room 1 & Online*
10:45 am The Nursery is open for infants to age 3, *Nursery (off of Shelby Room)*
11:00 am Worship, *Sanctuary & Online*
12:30 pm Youth Group, *The Third Place*
12:30 pm Mission & Justice Committee, *Shelby Room & Online*
12:30 pm Refreshments for all, *Hope Hall*

Tuesday

- 10:00 am Weekly Staff Meeting, *Shelby Room*
6:30 pm Easter's Home Board Meeting, *Shelby Room*
6:45 pm Grief Support Group, *Hope Hall, Room 2*

Wednesday

- 6:30 pm Wednesday Prayer Group, *Hope Hall, Prayer Room (3rd Floor)*
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal, *Choir Room*

Thursday

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous, *Shelby Room*

Friday

- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, *Shelby Room*

Saturday

- 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Affordable Housing Summit, *Hope Hall*

Those who need to attend meetings online can find links on the church calendar at caldwellpresby.org/calendar.

Please inform the ministers when you know of a member or friend who is sick, in the hospital, or would appreciate a pastoral call or visit.

A note about language: At Caldwell, we do our best to create an inclusive, welcoming and safe environment for all of God's children, however they identify. We aspire to use non-binary language in worship and church communications in reference to one another or people in general, knowing that we won't always get it right. We invite others to take up this journey, embracing anew what we say, "God Invites. We Welcome. All."

Announcements

Thank you for silencing electronics before worship begins.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad up and down your row or go to the online registry at caldwellpresby.org/hi. If you are interested in joining or learning more about Caldwell, see John or Dot or go to www.caldwellpresby.org/join.

We humbly acknowledge the Catawba, Sugaree and Waxhaw Indigenous peoples, who were dispossessed of the land on which we live and worship. We also acknowledge that the funds left to this church in 1922 to build our sanctuary were stained by the sin of slavery. We strive continuously for God's mercy and correction.

Stewardship Update: 99 Caldwell households have made their financial pledge to help build our budget for 2025. That puts us at 69% of our top dollar goal. Thanks to all who've gotten us this far! That leaves a gap for others to help close. We hope 120 households (individual or couples) will pledge, helping us get to our financial target of \$555,000. Please continue to pray and please pledge when you are ready. EVERY pledge matters.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the Yap Ye Iswa Festival on Saturday, November 23, in Rock Hill, SC. This is a free and family-friendly event, hosted by our neighbors at the Catawba Nation. Enjoy drumming, dancing, demonstrations, and Catawba vendors. We will carpool to the event this year. If you have questions, please contact Fran Hayes at franhayes91@gmail.com or any member of ARCC.

Can you offer hospitality at a big event in Hope Hall on Saturday, November 23? Caldwell will host an Affordable Housing Summit that day from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm and we need greeters, parking guides and some to assist with worship. Please let Pastor John know if you can spare a few hours (jcleghorn@caldwellpresby.org).

RAIN (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network) will host the 10th Annual World AIDS Day Luncheon on Thursday, December 5, from 12:00 -1:00 pm at The Casey (1801 N. Tryon Street). If you would like to attend and sit at Caldwell's table please reach out to Denzell Fasion at efaison101@gmail.com or (336) 906-7098.

Come to MeckMin's Interfaith Friendsgiving, a free, family-friendly event on Thursday, November 21, from 6:00 - 8:30 pm, at Covenant Presbyterian Church (1000 E Morehead St.). Celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving and faith diversity through prayer, music, food and conversation. Learn more and RSVP at meckmin.org/meckmin-interfaith-thanksgiving

As called for in the bylaws, there will be a congregational meeting at the conclusion of worship on November 24 for the purpose of hearing a report from the Elder Nominating Committee about nominations to fill five seats on the Caldwell Session.

Many of our Charlotte neighbors need food and diapers. You can donate supplies by

putting them into the "Nourish Up" box in the narthex each Sunday (formerly called Loaves and Fishes and Friendship Trays).

Please join us in prayer in the Caldwell Prayer Room upstairs in Hope Community Hall on Wednesday nights. Enter the church by the courtyard choir door before our start at 6:30 pm or join us virtually at meet.google.com/ojn-iath-rxi We also have Prayer Partners in the Prayer Room available after Sunday morning worship.

Earth Care Tip: Did you know? Batteries, Shredded paper, wire hangers, and hoses are not accepted in curbside recycling in Charlotte. Take them to full-service drop-off centers.

Today's flowers are generously provided by Connie Helms, "with thanks to God for another birthday with my twin, Linda, on 11/10."

Today's Call to Worship was written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell. The Prayer of Confession was written by Rev. Andy James

Please be aware that our worship services are streamed live, recorded, and available on YouTube. They can be found by going to the Caldwell Presbyterian Church channel.

If you would like to receive our online communications (usually two per week), email Justin at jmartin@caldwellpresby.org to sign up.

Planning on dropping by the church? Be sure to call before coming because there may not always be someone to let you in. Staff contact information is on the back page.

Things to Know About Today's Gathering

Masking indoors is welcomed. The East transept located near the doors to the handicap ramp remains designated for increased social distancing and requires masking.

Physical interaction indicators – Pick up a nametag in the narthex and indicate your level of comfort with physical closeness with a self-adhesive dot.

Restrooms – There is a restroom in the narthex/main sanctuary entrance. Ushers are available to direct you to the other restrooms.

The Nursery, for children under 3, can be found by going through the door to the right of the pulpit, take an immediate right, and going down the hallway. Ushers are also able to direct you.

For Late Arrivals – Please come to the ramp door and ring the doorbell. An usher will let you in.

The QR code for giving:



Caldwell's Mission

We seek to build a diverse, intentional, affirming community animated by joyful worship and called forth into social action for service to the greater good.

We seek to hear God's call not only as individuals but also as a progressive, missional community striving to reflect the Kingdom of God in the here and now.

We embrace the rich history of the Reformed Tradition and the storied past of our center-city church, as we welcome a diverse community of seekers – ALL ages, races and ethnicities, sexual orientations, cultural and economic backgrounds, gender identities, and family structures—ALL people.

We are called into a meaningful, transformative community that values the unique blessings and perspectives of each member and offers a place of welcome and healing to weary souls.

We seek dynamic servant leaders who serve humbly, embrace change, and boldly challenge injustices in the wider community.

Most important, we seek to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed, following the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Caldwell Session & Contact Information

Bob Atkinson, Buildings & Grounds	<i>buildingsandgrounds@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Dee Blackburn, Buildings & Grounds	<i>buildingsandgrounds@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Kimbo Bohannon, Congregational Care	<i>congregationalcare@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Elli Dai, Administration & Personnel	<i>personnel@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Connie Helms, Mission & Justice	<i>missionandjustice@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Mark Logan, Discovery & Engagement	<i>engagement@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Tovi Martin, Worship	<i>worship@caldwellpresby.org</i>
LaWonder McDowell, Congregational Life	<i>congregationalife@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Dick Richards, Clerk of Session	<i>clerk@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Lisa Thompson, Mission & Justice	<i>missionandjustice@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Donna Willis, Congregational Life	<i>congregationalife@caldwellpresby.org</i>
Jessica Wisner, Christian Formation	<i>christianformation@caldwellpresby.org</i>

Staff Contact Information

Rev. John Cleghorn (704-957-4511; *jcleghorn@caldwellpresby.org*)

Rev. Dot Killian (803-230-2530; *dkillian@caldwellpresby.org*)

Anne Hunter Eidson (704-622-9975; *ahuntereidson@caldwellpresby.org*)

Rev. Justin Martin (704-305-1053; *martin@caldwellpresby.org*)

Tracey Tolbert (704-605-9669; *ttolbert@caldwellpresby.org*)

Peggy Blaine (704-576-8449; *pblaine@caldwellpresby.org*)

Mike Jones (*mjones@caldwellpresby.org*)