

Question: What about the phrase, "We believe in one baptism for the remission of sins?" Does that suggest baptismal regeneration or some similar error?

Answer: The Nicene Creed is the oldest recorded confession of the church, arising out of the Council of Nicaea and its aftermath, and is a great statement of faith of the early church. We should try to interpret it correctly before we presume to revise it. The statement relating baptism to the washing of our sins is a direct quotation from the Bible (Acts 22:16). We should note, however, the creed relates baptism to the remission of sins by a preposition ("for") that is general in nature. We teach that baptism is a symbol of the washing of our sins, and declares this by confessing our belief in "baptism for the remission of our sins."

Question: Is the benediction biblical? Doesn't the benediction make the minister out to be a sort of priest invoking God's blessing on the congregation?

Answer: Yes, the benediction is biblical, but, no, it does not involve the priestly invocation of blessing. The biblical precedent for benedictions is found in the apostolic letters (in fact, our benedictions are taken from these letters), which often end in words of pastoral blessing (*benediction* means "word of blessing"). Our benedictions are not *invocational* - that is, the minister does not have authority to make the blessing so. Rather, the benediction is declarative: God's blessing is declared upon the believing congregation from the Word of God. The benediction also takes the form of a prayer by the minister for the congregation, as is evident with the words that I always use in my benedictions: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

Question: Why do we confess our sins as a congregation? Isn't the use of a prayer of confession just rote repetition?

Answer: Again, it is not rote repetition for me. Worship always requires us to invest our hearts, and this is especially true of the prayer of confession. This is a most important part of our corporate worship, because we as a church are coming into the presence of the holy God for the sacred ordinance of gathered worship, and we can only be accepted through the atoning blood of Christ. The confession of sin preaches the good news that however bad we know we are, through the blood of Christ even such wretched and wicked sinners as you and me are received into God's love and can expect God's blessing in our time of worship.

May the Lord bless you all this week.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Rick Phillips

Upcoming Graduates

If you are an upcoming graduate (May or December) or you know someone in the church who is, please contact the church office (ext. 10 or jgrant@spcgreenville.org). We want to recognize all our graduates at our upcoming banquet in May.

CHURCH INFORMATION

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Information Centers: Church Services information 1 * Directions 2
Hospital Information 3 * Upcoming Events 4 * Church Directory 5 * Monthly Activities 6

Church Services: Sunday: Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11:00 AM * Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

Wednesday: Supper - 5:45 PM * Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:45 PM

Upcoming Events

March 10	Daylight Savings Time begins
March 10	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
March 11	Session Meeting
March 12-13	WIC Circles
March 13	Missions Committee Meeting
March 17	The Lord's Supper at the morning services
March 18	Young At Heart
March 20	Spring begins
March 20	Peru Mission Team Meeting
March 21	Jessamines
March 23	Jr. and Sr. High Fellowship at the church
March 24	Palm Sunday
March 24	New Members' Reception and Luncheon
March 24	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
March 27	No Wednesday Night Activities
March 28	Maundy Thursday Service
March 29	Good Friday Service
March 29	Church Office Closed
March 31	Easter Sunrise Service
March 31	Easter Sunday



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS MARCH 10.
Turn clocks ahead 1 hour.

Mark Your Calendars and Save the Date

May 1	Graduation Banquet
May 15	CAT Kids Program
June 9-13	Hartsville, SC Mission Trip
June 10-14	Flute Camp
Week of June 17	General Assembly in Greenville, SC
June 21-29	Peru Mission Trip
June 24-28	Vacation Bible School
July 16-19	Richmond Hill, GA Mission Trip
July 22-26	Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven
July 29-Aug. 3	Sr. Trip to Edisto Island, SC

Sports Banquet News

Congratulations to all the players, coaches, and parents for a successful basketball season. At the Annual Sports Banquet on February 27, special recognition went to:

Miss Audra Atwood

for winning the Henry Elrod Award for outstanding senior girl

Mr. McDow Duncan

for winning the James Orders Award for outstanding senior boy.

Players please return your **clean** jersey to coaches/coaches please fold and put the jerseys in the athletics closet in the gym.

Young At Heart

The monthly Young At Heart Luncheon will be Monday, March 18, at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The catered lunch is \$7.00 per person, payable at the door. This month, Mrs. Kathy Swartz will be joining us once again to entertain us and inspire us with her beautiful music on the bells. Kathy is back by popular demand. Each year many of you request for her to return so she has become a popular favorite. Don't miss this special program.

Jessamines' Group

The next Jessamines' Group (5th-8th grade girls and their moms) fellowship will be Thursday, March 21, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Watch the Herald for additional information.

Treasurer's Report

FEBRUARY 2013 & YTD Financial Status

	Actual		
	Feb. 2013	YTD 2013	YTD Budget
Offerings	78,125	146,012	177,288
Outlays:			
Operating Expenses	62,632	136,709	154,874
Mission Disbursements	164	279	22,414
Total Outlays	62,796	136,988	177,288
Net Offerings	15,329	9,024	

⇒ Contributions in February 2013 were \$67,887 versus budget of \$88,644.

⇒ Contributions in February 2012 were \$73,783. YTD contributions are behind budget by \$31,276.

⇒ Operating expenses for February 2013 were \$62,632 versus the budget of \$77,437.

⇒ Missions and Benevolences were not paid in February. We plan to pay 3 months of Missionary commitments in early March.

⇒ Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide the financial resources necessary for the programs and ministry of SPC.

If you have any questions, please contact Bobby Mann, Jeremy Weaver or David Rainey.

Holy Week Services

March 27th:	No Wednesday night activities
March 28th:	Maundy Thursday Service * 7:00 pm
March 29th:	Good Friday Lunch and Service Lunch-11:45 am; service-12:30-1:00 pm
March 31st:	Sunrise Service at Wyche Pavilion Service-7:00 am; breakfast @ Second-8:00 am
March 31st:	Sunday School * 9:00 am
	Easter Worship Service * 10:00 am (<i>only one service</i>)
	Evening Worship Service * 6:00 pm

Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter Lily to place in the church on Easter Sunday in memory or honor of someone special, please fill out the form below and place in the church office in Judy Grant's mail box along with \$8.00 for each lily.

I would like to place _____ (how many) Easter Lily(ies) in the church on Easter Sunday:

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Name: _____ Telephone # _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Church Calendar

Sunday, March 10
 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:45 AM New Members' Class
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM Communicants' Class
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 4:30 PM Called Session Meeting
 4:45 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir
 7:15 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Monday, March 11
 6:30 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday, March 12
 10:00 AM WIC Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church
 2:30 PM WIC Circle 5 meets at the church
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at the home of Tammy Looper
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at the church

Wednesday, March 13
 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting
 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
 6:15 PM Covenant Choir
 6:15 PM Youth Choir
 6:45 PM CAT Kids and Covenant Kids
 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
 6:45 PM WIC Circle 6
 6:45 PM **PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**

Thursday, March 14
 9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study

Friday, March 15
 12:00 PM Men's Fellowship Lunch & Bible Study

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in member.
 Also, send her a note of encouragement.

Sara Weathers
 11 E Augusta Place, Apt. 219
 Greenville, SC 29605

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Timothy Johnson
Kathy Karr
Kirby and Helen Kee

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The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY MARCH 10, 2013

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 & 11:00 AM

MEASURING THE TEMPLE

Revelation 11:1-2

Anthem:

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
 Hymns: 478, 94, 449
 Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

DILIGENT TO THE END

Hebrews 6:9-12

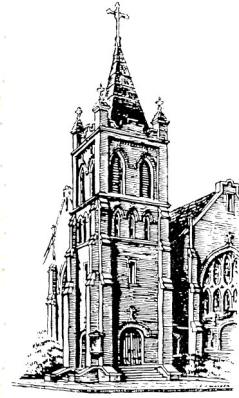
Hymns: 53, 499, 345

Psalter: Psalm 17 (vs. 1-7)

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
 «Address Line 1»
 «Address Line 2»

«City» «State» «ZIP Code»



The West End Herald

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The Second Presbyterian Church
 Corner of River and Rhett Streets
 Greenville, South Carolina

March 4, 2013

Letter from the Senior Minister Questions About Worship at Second Church

Occasionally I am asked questions about our worship service and I am always happy to give an answer. (Let me say, in general, that I never mind being asked honest questions about the church, theology, or Christian living. Please don't ask me about South Carolina college football, however, as I'm trying to maintain a pastoral relationship with Clemson and Carolina supporters alike! Here are some common questions about worship; I hope my answers are a help to those who have been wondering:

Question: Why do our ministers wear robes?

Answer: Our ministers wear robes during worship services because they are exercising a formal office in the Church. Policemen, soldiers, and even doctors and nurses wear uniforms when on duty, and our ministers are likewise officers on duty, having been set apart for the ministry of Word and sacrament as they lead the church in sacred worship. The Puritan Thomas Watson wrote: "As a king speaks by his ambassadors, know that in every sermon preached, God calls to you; and to refuse the message we bring is to refuse God himself." In keeping with the long tradition of Reformed churches, the robes serve to remind church members of this divinely-given authority, rather than an authority based on the preacher's personality, charisma, or public stature.

Question: Isn't the reciting of creeds merely an exercise in tradition?
 How is this relevant today?

Answer: I don't know about you, but I never "recite" the creed. Instead, I stand shoulder to shoulder with the saints of all ages as we join our voices in *proclaiming* the great Christian faith. By confessing our faith together we glorify God, we implant important truths in our minds, and we make a point of standing together with the one, universal Christian Church of all ages, joined by the faith we confess. The creed is therefore a highlight of worship for me, and I hope it will be for you, too.

Question: Speaking of creeds, why do we omit the phrase, "He descended into hell," from the Apostles' Creed?

Answer: It is true that we use a form of the Apostles' Creed that omits this phrase, an omission that is common in Southern Presbyterian church history. The reason is that this item was a late addition to the Apostles' Creed and, while we would affirm a correct understanding of it, this phrase has some unhelpful ambiguity as to its meaning. Moreover, unlike all the other events of Jesus' life in the creed - born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, crucified, died and was buried, and rose from the grave - the Bible provides no clear teaching on the experience of Jesus' soul during his three days in death. It thus has seemed best to us, along with many others, to omit this phrase from the Apostles' Creed. (While I'm on the Apostles' Creed, *catholic* means *universal*, not *Roman Catholic*).