

Corner of River and Rhett

Thoughts on Greeting Visitors

1. Approach people, welcome them. Don't wait for them to come to you.
2. Show new people to their seats. If you're worried about it ask them, 'Would you like me to show you to your seat?'
3. If you can, sit them next to someone who will talk to them and turn to them after the service.
4. There are people in every church who are great at giving up their seats and making room for others. Get in the habit of being inconvenienced for others. They will be a great help particularly with latecomers who are often visitors.
5. Pay attention to older visitors and people with special needs.
6. Ask folk if they need a lift somewhere after the service.
7. Some people want to practice hospitality each Sunday. Let your elders know if you would be open to sharing a meal with visitors
8. Realize that greeting doesn't end with the call to worship. Look for outsiders after the service and speak with them.
9. Try to speak with new families and get the minister or and elder to welcome and explain what happens in our church service to families.

Adapted from Reformation21.org

~The Editor



**WORSHIP AT SECOND
THE LORD'S DAY**

October 10, 2021
www.spcgreenville.org

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 am
Hymns: 214, 463, 257
Hebrews 12:1-13

THE FAMILY LIKENESS

Rev. Dr. D. Blair Smith preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 pm
Hymns: 447, 122A, 469, 408
Romans 8:18-25

THE REVEALING OF THE SONS OF GOD

Rev. Dr. Jonathan L. Master preaching

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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

October 10, 2021

FOUR BENEFITS OF OUR ADOPTION

By

SINCLAIR FERGUSON

To contemplate all the privileges of communion with Christ would be, Owen says, "work for a man's whole life." Yet these are all summed up in what he regards as "the head, the spring, and fountain whence they all arise and flow." This—the highest privilege of all—is adoption into the family of God with all the rights and privileges of knowing Him as our heavenly Father.

Outside of Christ, we were strangers to the family of God both on earth and in heaven. But now we are brought near and made heirs. In Christ the Son, we have become the adopted sons of God: "Adoption is the authoritative translation of a believer, by Jesus Christ, from the family of the world and Satan, into the family of God, with his investiture in all the privileges and advantages of that family." Thus, we enter into the manifold privileges that belong to the royal children of the heavenly King.

At first glance, it may seem strange that Owen discusses the theme of adoption within the context of communion with the Son. Adoption, after all, is by definition an act of the Father, and its confirmation is effected by the Spirit in His capacity as the "Spirit of sonship." But Owen's reasoning is fairly obvious: in union and communion with Christ, we become joint heirs with Him. So while each of the divine persons plays His particular role in adoption, it is appropriate to discuss adoption as the highest privilege of our union with Christ.

But in what do we enjoy communion as adopted children? Owen gives a fourfold answer:

We enjoy the liberty of the children of God. We are set free from the hold of the old family. No longer is its influence dominant—even if we are not entirely free from its atmosphere and even its menacing influence. There is all the difference in the world between obeying the Father who has given His Son for us, so that we can be sure He will also give us everything we need, and being in bondage to the law while making our best efforts to keep it.

We have a new title, and as royal sons enjoy "a feast of fat things," not least in the church, where we have the privilege of belonging to the family of God and being served by, and in turn loving and serving, its members. More than that, there is a sense in which the whole world is ours to enjoy, because it belongs to and is preserved by our Father. No child in this family can ever justly complain that his Father has set up a restrictive regime without pleasures and joy. Isaac Watts was surely reflecting on this when he wrote:

The men of grace have found, Glory begun below. Celestial fruits on earthly ground From faith and hope may grow. The Hill of Zion yields A thousand sacred sweets Before we reach the heav'nly ground, Or walk the golden streets.

We experience boldness before the face of God. In Christ, we are as righteous as He is before God. We have the privilege of calling Him "Abba, Father." We can ask anything in Jesus' name. What more could we ask for?

We experience affliction. But for the child of God, affliction is always chastisement—the action of the Father. This, as Owen rightly points out, is precisely the burden of (Hebrews 12:5–11). It is one of the chief distinctions between Christians and unbelievers. The latter seek but do not find any ultimate meaning in their suffering; as a result, unbelievers must attempt to create meaning. But not so Christians. For Scripture teaches them that, in Christ, trials have a goal. God is treating His people as sons by training them. Were He indifferent to us in our sin and waywardness, questions could rightly be raised about our legitimacy. In this sense, all discipline is evidence of His love. More than that, suffering in the Christian life is the training ground of the soul. The Father is equipping His children through adversity. If our earthly fathers discipline us for our good, how much more

will the heavenly Father, who knows His children through and through?

Thus, when we were united to Christ, a transaction and transition of monumental proportions took place. It would be a tragedy if we did not catch a glimpse of the grandeur of what this means—it is nothing less than union and communion with the Son of God in our flesh.

This excerpt is taken from *The Trinitarian Devotion* of John Owen by Sinclair Ferguson and originally appeared on Ligonier.org and is used with their permission.

Dr. Sinclair B. Ferguson is Chancellor's Professor of Systematic Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary. He previously served as senior minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, S.C. He is author of many books, including *In the Year of Our Lord*.

What Is Reformation Day?

GotQuestions.org

Reformation Day is a Protestant religious holiday celebrated on October 31. It recognizes the day German monk, Martin Luther, nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church in 1517. This act is commemorated as the official starting point of the Protestant Reformation.

Officially, Reformation Day has been commemorated since 1567. Exact dates for the holiday varied until after the two-hundredth celebration in 1717 when October 31 became the official date of celebration in Germany and later expanded internationally.

The impact of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation has been enormous on global Christianity. In contrast to the extra-biblical traditions and works-based practices of Roman Catholicism, Luther called the Church back to the good news of salvation by grace alone through faith alone (Ephesians 2:8–9).

Luther believed the Word of God was the supreme authority for the Christian faith, rather than tradition or papal decrees. In the process of bringing the Scriptures to the common person, Luther translated the Bible into German, published numerous books and sermons of biblical teachings, and composed numerous hymns based on biblical themes. Many of his hymns are still sung today.

Luther was brought to trial before the church, and the court attempted to force him to recant. Luther's response is often quoted: "I cannot choose but adhere to the Word of God, which has possession of my conscience; nor can I possibly, nor will I even make any recantation, since it is neither safe nor honest to act contrary to conscience! Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise, so help me God! Amen."

From Germany, the Protestant Reformation expanded through Europe, influencing the work of John Calvin in Geneva, Ulrich Zwingli in Zurich, and John Knox in Scotland. The Reformation Luther led also sparked the Anabaptist (free church) movement and the English Reformation. These movements, in turn, influenced the spread of Christianity to the Americas and throughout the world where European exploration took place. South Africa, India, Australia, and New Zealand all felt the impact of Luther's hammer in Wittenberg.

Robert Rothwell has noted, "Today, Luther's legacy lives on in the creeds and confessions of Protestant bodies worldwide. As we consider his importance this Reformation Day, let us equip ourselves to be knowledgeable proclaimers and defenders of biblical truth. May we be eager to preach the Gospel of God to the world and thereby spark a new reformation of church and culture."

Reformation Day remains a central rallying point for all of those who choose to follow Christ by faith according to His Word. The holiday commemorates the actions of a man who was willing to stand against the ideas of his day and to present God's Word as our guide for salvation (John 3:16) and Christian living.

George Whitefield

Press forward. Do not stop, do no linger in your journey, but strive for the mark set before you.



Though you have sinned much, that is no reason why you should despair, but only why you should love much, having so much forgiven.

Membership Class

This no obligation class convenes for eight weeks. It is open to anyone interested in learning more about our beliefs or joining our church. Gather with Pastors Rick and Chad as we explore together what makes us uniquely PCA.

Sundays, 9:45 am

Room C-209

www.spcgreenville.org/membership

Sapphire Sea Ball

Saturday, November 20
7 PM in the Gymnasium

Register Online

CarolinaEnglishCountryDance.com

Preparatory Dance Class:
Saturday, November 6, at 7 PM

Contact Margaret Swait:
margaretswait@gmail.com



Puritan Quotations

Faith and Works in Justification

*We reckon therefore that a man is justified by faith
apart from the works of the law.*
Romans 3:28

~If good works offer to crowd into our justification, let us be so bold as to shut the door against them. ~THOMAS FULLER

~Abraham was justified by works before men; but, before God, it was the righteousness of Christ, wherein, by faith, he shrouded himself. ~ELISHA COLES

~We are not justified by doing good works, but being justified we then do good. ~WILLIAM JENKYN

~Out of the point of justification works cannot be sufficiently commended; into the cause of justification they must not be admitted. ~ THOMAS ADAMS

~There is a double degree of justification: one in our conscience now, another at the day of judgment. ~RICHARD SIBBES

Wedding

Together With Their Families

AMY ELIZABETH LOOPER & JONATHAN DANIEL FROST

Request the Honor of Your Presence at the
Celebration of Their Marriage

Saturday, October 16

5:00 PM



October Birthdays

October 1	Nancy Clay, John McNicoll, Providence Spell, Jonah Windt
October 2	Brice Pratt, Ginny Ziegler
October 3	Mae Gamble, Barbara Steuben
October 4	Becky Briscoe, Mark Diggs, Donna Siemen
October 5	Evelyn Boudreau
October 6	Jake Korol
October 7	Jonathan Bacon, Judy Brigman, David Lichtenfelt
October 8	Emil Henning, III
October 9	Gabe Cornett, Jane Rainey
October 10	Chester Johnson, Joshua Luttrell
October 12	Hannah Bailey, Stephen Laughter, Kathy Maki, David Rainey, Nathan Tusing
October 13	Laura Fultz, Amelia Griffin, Loyd Hansen
October 14	Fred Johnson, Mariann McKenney, Mary Weiland
October 15	David Bragdon, Dave Hughes, Frank Mahon, David Walton
October 16	R. Wayne Andersen, Sylvia Long
October 17	Joan Burkhardt, Frances Duncan, Patrick Love, Jerry Rice
October 18	Lacey Allston, Lois McCall, Nathan Upton
October 19	Jim Church, Chuck Swope
October 20	Laurie Griffin, Irene Sasser
October 21	Kimberly Robertson
October 22	Gene Baillie, Ashley Maralit, Nicole Welch
October 23	Timothy Crunk, Lia Johnson
October 24	Jeremiah Johnson, Sheryl Plating, Spencer Player
October 25	Ethan Cancino, Jedidah Homan
October 26	Attee Leigh, Patrick Szrama
October 27	Samuel Bailey, Jason Korol, Joe Martin, Jr.
October 28	Ashli May, Rose Branigin
October 31	Margaret Atwood, Whyndell Grizzard, Vivian Janssen, Mary Jones



CHURCH CALENDAR

spcgreenville.org/calendar

Sunday, October 10 GCRT 2021: Children of the Heavenly Father

8:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP
9:55 AM Children's Chapel
10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:45 AM Diaconate Training
11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP
5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP

Monday, October 11 Columbus Day

5:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
9:30 AM Rafiki Bible Study
9:45 AM Diaconate Training
7:30 PM Men's Basketball Night (with other churches)

Tuesday, October 12

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study

Wednesday, October 13

5:15 PM WIC Council
5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting
5:30 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
6:15 PM Hope Choir (K4-K5)/Covenant Choir (Grades 1-6)
Youth Choir (Grades 7-12)
6:30 PM WIC Circle 1
6:45 PM Diaconate Training
7:00 PM **ADULT PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**
7:00 PM CAT Kids/Covenant Kids and Jr. & Sr. High Bible Studies
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 14

9:30 AM Precepts Bible Study Video Series
7:00 PM Mission to Main Street

Friday, October 15

12:00 PM Men's Lunch

Saturday, October 16

5:00 PM Amy Looper & Jonathan Frost Wedding

Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 111:10 (ESV)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

Oct. 8-10 Greenville Conference on Reformed Theology
Oct. 16 Amy Looper/Jonathan Frost Wedding
Oct. 17 The Lord's Supper (Evening Worship)
Oct. 27 Reformation Party
Oct. 31 Reformation Sunday
Oct. 31 Madeline Faith Mobley Baptism (11 AM Worship)
Nov. 5-15 England Mission Trip
Nov. 6 English Country Dancing Preparatory Class
Nov. 20 Sapphire Sea Ball (English Country Dancing)
Nov. 25-26 Thanksgiving Break (Church Offices Closed)

Pray for Our Country



All the ends of the earth shall
remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you. For
kingship belongs to the Lord, and
he rules over the nations.

Psalm 22:27-28

Missing your church group event announcement?

E-mail these to Susan
by 9 AM on Thursdays
skindall@spcgreenville.org

*The flowers are placed in the sanctuary this Lord's Day
to the glory of God in loving memory of her parents*

Arthur and Nell Holcombe

By

Mary Jones

Correction: The flowers for October 3 were placed by **Jack and Pat Shuford** in loving memory of their son, Fred Shuford.

Remembering Our Shut-ins

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in
member, sending a note of encouragement:

Margaret Hook

2 Brynhurst Circle • Greenville, SC 29615

The Lord's Supper



Sunday Evening Worship Service
October 17

CHURCH INFORMATION

The West End Herald Editor: RE Melton L. Duncan, Sr.

Telephone: 864.232.7621

Website: spcgreenville.org

Email: info@spcgreenville.org

Social Media

facebook.com/spcgreenville  twitter.com/spcgreenville 

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

Information Centers: Church Services information 1 * Directions 2

Hospital Information 3 * Wednesday night menu 4

Church Directory 5 * Weekly Activities 6 * Monthly Activities 7

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

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

Wednesday: Supper - 5:30 PM * Prayer Meeting - 6:55 PM

Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM