



**LORD'S DAY WORSHIP
& SERVICE OF INSTALLATION
FOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR
MARCH 28, 2021**

Prelude

Welcome

Announcements

Meditation

Call to Worship/Invocation

†Hymn of Praise

["Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground"](#)
Trinity Hymnal #518

†Scripture Reading

[Proverbs 24:1-12](#)

Pastoral Prayer

†Singing Psalms

Psalm 121 & 110 (*Trinity Psalter*, p.109, 96)
Tune: ["I Sing the Almighty Power of God" \(TH #119\)](#)

Confession of Faith

[The Nicene Creed](#)

†Scripture Teaching

[1 Samuel 14:36-46](#)

Expounding the Word of God

Rev. Michael Mang

["The State's Relationship to the Church: The Lesser Magistrates"](#)

†Hymn of Response

["My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"](#)
Trinity Hymnal #521

Installation of Rev. Matteson Bowles as Associate Pastor of SRPC

***The Lord's Supper**

Doxology

†Benediction

Postlude

†Standing, if able

*Live stream ends before the Lord's Supper

There will not be a passing of the offering plate as part of our worship services during this time of social distancing. However, there is a tithe box on the small table near the main sanctuary doors where you may deposit offerings. In addition, there are remote payment options detailed on the "Donate" tab of the church website.

WELCOME

We really mean it when we say we are thrilled that you have come to worship with us today!

If you should have any questions or comments about the ministry of Spriggs Road Presbyterian Church, please feel free to reach out. Contact information is on the back page of this bulletin.

Please note that if you are attending the 9 a.m service, masks must be worn at all times except when the participants are taking the elements of the Lord's Supper.

At this time Sunday School is not in session.

Children are always welcome in our worship services. We also have a “cry room” available with a large window for viewing the service and a speaker that will be playing all the audio from the main sanctuary. Please feel free to use that if you are concerned that your children’s noises are disrupting the service. Since it is a small room, we ask you to be judicious and careful to maintain recommended distancing should others also seek to use it.

We hope that this Lord’s Day you will be encouraged by the Word, refreshed by the worship, and touched by Christ’s love through our fellowship with one another.

MEDITATION

The godly man is happy in whatever circumstances he is placed because of the spiritual privileges and advantages, joys and satisfactions, he actually enjoys while in this life. How great a happiness must needs [it] be to a man to have all his sins pardoned and to stand guilty of nothing in God’s presence: to be washed clean from all his pollutions; to have the great and eternal and almighty Jehovah, who rules and governs the whole universe, and doth whatsoever he pleases in the armies of heaven and amongst the inhabitants of the earth, reconciled to him and perfectly at peace with him.

— Jonathan Edwards, "Christian Happiness"

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets;

and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and we look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

3/28/2021

Pastor Michael Mang

Title: “The State’s Relationship to the Church: The Lesser Magistrates ”

Text: 1 Samuel 14:36-46

Theme: Lesser magistrates are those persons in strategic positions of influence and power below the top tier who can nevertheless provide a protective barrier between the powerful and the powerless.

I. Comments on 1 Samuel 14:36-46

II. The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates

The lesser magistrates doctrine declares that when a higher civil magistrate commands something _____ or _____, the lower ranking magistrates have a right and an obligation to _____ the superior authority. The lower authorities even have the right and the responsibility to actively _____ that superior authority.

III. The Early _____ of the Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates

A. _____

“For if there are now any magistrates of the people, appointed to restrain the wilfulness [sic] of kings ... I am so far from forbidding them to withstand ... [and] if they wink at kings who violently fall upon and assault the lowly common folk, I declare that their dissimulation involves nefarious perfidy, because they dishonestly betray the freedom of the people, of which they know they have been appointed protectors of God's ordinance.”

B. Samuel _____ and the _____
Tradition

C. The Lesser Magistrates in the _____ System

IV. Applications

A. The better _____ you are about what is happening in your community, the better you are able to _____ and _____ the lesser magistrates.

B. Until Christ reigns _____, power needs to be _____.

C. _____-_____ are to stand in the gap between an over-reaching magistrate and the _____ of God.

D. The doctrine of the lesser magistrates is the recognition that humanity is _____ and that there must be a _____ to prevent the _____ of power.

**QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS AT
HOME OR IN SMALL GROUPS**

1. What was King Saul's plan for attacking the Philistines (v. 36a)?
2. What did the priest recommend that Saul do first (v. 36b)?
3. What happened when Saul inquired of the LORD for direction (v. 37)?
4. How did Saul respond to the lack of an answer from the LORD (vv. 38-39a)?
5. How did King Saul determine who had sinned (v. 41)?
6. Who was finally singled out as the offender by this method (vv. 41b-42)?
7. What had this person done (v. 43b)?
8. Why did Saul consider this a great sin (see 14:24, 28)?
9. Why had this person violated the king's oath (see 14:27)?
10. What was Saul's response when he learned that this person had violated his command (v. 44)?
11. Was this person put to death? Why not (v. 45)?
12. How did King Saul react to this turn of events (v. 46)?
13. What is the doctrine of the lesser magistrates?
14. How is this episode in 1 Samuel 14:36-46 analogous to the doctrine of the lesser magistrates?
15. What was Calvin's view of rulers who egregiously failed to protect the people?
16. How did Rutherford expand upon Calvin's doctrine of the lesser magistrates?
17. How does the American system reflect the lesser magistrates doctrine?
18. How can you be better informed of what is happening in the local, state, and federal governments?
19. Why must power be checked and balanced in the human experience?
20. How does the Presbyterian system of governing reflect the doctrine of the lesser magistrates?

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

Questions for Installation

1. Are you now willing to serve this congregation as their associate pastor, agreeable to your declaration in accepting its call?
2. Do you conscientiously believe and declare, as far as you know your own heart, that, in taking upon you this charge, you are influenced by a sincere desire to promote the glory of God and the good of the Church?
3. Do you solemnly promise that, by the assistance of the grace of God, you will endeavor faithfully to discharge all the duties of an associate pastor to this congregation, and will be careful to maintain a deportment in all respects becoming a minister of the Gospel of Christ, agreeable to your ordination engagements?

Questions to Congregation

1. Do you, the people of this congregation, continue to profess your readiness to receive Rev. Matteson Bowles, whom you have called to be your associate pastor?
2. Do you promise to receive the word of truth from his mouth with meekness and love, and to submit to him in the due exercise of discipline?
3. Do you promise to encourage him in his labors, and to assist his endeavors for your instruction and spiritual edification?
4. Do you engage to continue to him while he is your associate pastor that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and to furnish him with whatever you may see needful for the honor of religion and for his comfort among you?

Announcement:

All are invited to the Lord's Table who have been baptized, have publicly professed faith in (either before a congregation of the Lord's Church or to a body of Elders in a church where the Gospel of Christ is embraced) and allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ as the Savior from your sins, and are members of the visible Church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you have not publicly professed faith in Christ Jesus – the eternal Son of God who took on human flesh, lived a perfect, sinless life, died on the cross for sins, rose bodily from the dead, and who is returning to this earth in power and glory – please refrain from partaking of the Lord's Table.

We invite you to respond to the Gospel by first understanding that you have sinned personally against the God who made you and have violated His good and right laws for you to follow. God is holy and has every right to separate you from Himself and from all that is good and beautiful because of your freely chosen disobedience to Him. But the really good news is that you can be restored to the God who made you because of what Christ Jesus has done on the cross as a perfect substitute and payment for the penalty that you owe and deserve. Simply believing and trusting in what Jesus did for you means you will belong to the LORD God forever.

Abraham, the Biblical example of one who was restored to God by faith alone, trusted God's promise and the LORD God credited it, that trust, to him as righteousness. God has shown His love to the world, and to you, by giving His only Son that whoever believes in Him should not die and be separated from Him forever but rather have the life man was created to have in the presence of God, a life that never ends.

This means that you cannot DO anything to earn your place with God. However, a true faith in Christ Jesus comes from a God-given desire that will produce behavior that does those things that are pleasing to Him.

Please seek out and contact one of our Pastors or Elders to talk

more about your eternal future. You can find their contact information in this bulletin. They will be glad to show you from Scripture, God's Word, how you can have a relationship with God through Christ Jesus and have true peace and security with Him.

If you have professed faith in Christ Jesus, have been baptized, and are a member of the Church, yet there is a distance between you and the LORD because of cherished and unrepentant sin and transgressions of God's laws, we warn you to refrain from partaking the elements of the Lord's Table today. Scripture tells us that partaking of the Lord's Table is a participation, a communion, in the body and blood of Christ (1 Cor. 10:16). God's people cannot partake of His holy Table while at the same time engaging in deliberate and conscious violations of His commands for us as His holy people. If this is true with you, the LORD graciously promises that, if you confess and turn from whatever thinking or behavior that is contrary to His nature and His Word, He is faithful to forgive and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Until you have confessed and turned from whatever this breach of faith might be, please refrain from partaking of the Lord's Table.

This does not mean that as a professing follower of Christ you are required to be perfect and flawless before communing with Christ at His Table. The Table is for you to be nourished and strengthened even more in your faith and love for Christ. You may have worries and doubts that God loves or hears you because your faith is weak. You may have sinned, confessed, and turned from it to the Lord before partaking, but still your heart condemns you. When you come to the Lord's Table, the Lord by faith assures you that you belong to Him, and He belongs to you. If, despite your sins and imperfections, you can truly say that the LORD is your Shepherd, that the name of Christ and His smile is the desire of your soul, then take the LORD at His word that you are ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven!

Come, and dine with your Lord and Savior.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Unto You, O LORD, we lift up our voices and confess that we have sinned and done what is evil and wicked in Your sight. We, who are redeemed and called to everlasting glory, abhor that we do that which displeases You, and that we fail to bring honor and glory to Your Name.

Hear and forgive us as we plead the precious atoning sacrifice of Him Who was crucified for our iniquities and was raised for our justification.

Purify us from the hollowness of doing works that are not born of faith in our Lord Jesus.

Cleanse us from turning the grace of God into a covering for doing wrong.

We pray that You would use us as living stones in the building of Your Kingdom now come.

Through Christ our Lord we pray.

Amen.

Personal Confession

This time of silence is provided for private, personal confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

— Matthew 1:21-23 (ESV)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Portico Construction: Progress is being made on the portico. As a result, we will have to use the rear entrance for the next few weeks. Please use caution when walking near the construction site and, for their safety, please keep children away from the construction area.

Opportunities to Serve: Help is needed with the in the following areas of ministry at SRPC. Please consider offering your time in these important areas.

- AV team (contact Darcy Heisey)
- Bulletin (contact Laura McNeill)
- Nursery (contact Robin Deane)

RIDGE HAVEN SERVICE PROJECT

The annual SRPC youth service project at Ridge Haven for rising 6th - 12th graders is scheduled for July 26-31, 2021. Please see Pastor Matt for details.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The Deacons are continuing to collect non-perishable food items and general items for those in need in our community. Items can be placed in the blue bin in the hallway. Please visit the ACTS website to see their list of current high demand items.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Income vs. Budget	3/21/2021	YTD
General Income	\$13,453.00	\$137,960.18
Budget Requirement	\$9,630.00	\$115,560.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,823.00	\$22,400.18
Attendance	123	

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Spriggs Road Presbyterian Church is a particular church of
the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

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And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42
