



First Presbyterian Church

For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte

Founded in 1821

Order of Worship

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 31, 2022
11 a.m.*

Preparation

Prelude

Voluntary in G

François Couperin

Words of Welcome

The Reverend Anna Dickson

Chiming of the Trinity

Adoration

Choral Call to Worship

Paul Sjolund

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with singing. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him and bless his name.

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
 2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and
 3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new
 4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
 5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be

dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
 bids our sor - rows cease, sings mu - sic in the
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
 now and ev - er given by saints be - low and

God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
 to re - joice; the poor in heart be - lieve.
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.

Confession

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and soul and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Response to Pardon (Hymn No. 581)

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Time with Children

First Church is on hiatus for the summer. Children will return to their seats to worship with their families. If families are more comfortable in a casual setting, you are invited to worship in the Prayground (P206) where the service is livestreamed and children's worship resources are provided.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Psalm 72: 1-14, 18-20 (The Message)

Give the gift of wise rule to the king, O God, the gift of just rule to the crown prince. May he judge your people rightly, be honorable to your meek and lowly. Let the mountains give exuberant witness; shape the hills with the contours of right living. Please stand up for the poor, help the children of the needy, come down hard on the cruel tyrants. Outlast the sun, outlive the moon—age after age after age. Be rainfall on cut grass, earth-refreshing rain showers. Let righteousness burst into blossom and peace abound until the moon fades to nothing. Rule from sea to sea, from the River to the Rim. Foes will fall on their knees before God, his enemies lick the dust. Kings remote and legendary will pay homage, kings rich and resplendent will turn over their wealth. All kings will fall down and worship, and godless nations sign up to serve him, Because he rescues the poor at the first sign of need, the destitute who have run out of luck. He opens a place in his heart for the down-and-out, he restores the wretched of the earth. He frees them from tyranny and torture—when they bleed, he bleeds; when they die, he dies. Blessed God, Israel's God, the one and only wonder-working God! Blessed always his blazing glory! All earth brims with his glory. Yes and Yes and Yes.

The 11 a.m. service is televised over WAXN-TV, Channel 64 this morning and streamed live at www.firstpres-charlotte.org and on Facebook Live.

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Mark Caldwell on the death of his mother, JoAnn Caldwell.

The rosebud celebrates the birth John Dennis Gaffney, son of Emily and Mike Gaffney.

Anthem

"Hear My Prayer"

Moses Hogan

O Lord, please hear my prayer in the mornin' when I rise. It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer. O Lord, please hear my prayer. Keep me safe within your arms. It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer. When my work on earth is done and you come to take me home, just to know I'm bound for glory, and to hear you say well done. Done with sin and sorrow, have mercy. Amen.

Scripture

Acts 8:26-40 (NRSV)

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Sermon

"Have You Met Phillip?"

The Reverend Anna Dickson

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) for each system. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff of each system. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

Response

*Affirmation of Faith (from *A Declaration of Faith*)

The Reverend Mary Margaret Porter

Jesus lived with a constant sense of his Father's presence. He put God's claim on his life above all else.

He joined others in God's worship and praise. He drew strength from the Scriptures. He prayed and taught his disciples to pray.

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule.

Christ teaches us to put obedience to God above the interests of self, family, race or nation; to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time.

It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest, setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work, celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness.

We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture, not expecting detailed directions for every decision, but relying on the Word to tell us who God is, to press God's present claim on us, and to assure us of God's grace and comfort.

We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all.

Life in God's presence issues in life for others, for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see, we cannot love God whom we do not see.

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.

Stewardship of Life

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Offertory Anthem

"Cantique de Jean Racine"

Gabriel Faure

John Mooney, cellist

O Redeemer divine, our sole hope of salvation, eternal light of the earth and the sky, on this thy holy day we kneel in adoration. O Savior, turn on us thy loving eye! Send down on us the fire of thy grace all-consuming, whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell, and rouse our slumbering souls with radiance all illum'ning that they may waken, thy mercy to tell! O Christ, bestow thy blessing unto us, we implore thee, who here are gathered on penitent knee. Accept the hymns we chant unto thine everlasting glory, and these thy gifts we return unto thee!

*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

Sending Forth

*Hymn No. 463

"How Firm a Foundation"

FOUNDATION

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,
is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

Congregational Meeting

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

"Amen"

DANISH

Postlude

Dialogue on the *Grands Jeux*

François Couperin

First Presbyterian Church Announcements

We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

We welcome all to First Presbyterian Church as we worship together, knowing that each of us is a beloved part of the body of Christ.

Our Pastors

Pendleton B. Peery
Senior Pastor

Rev. Peery is on sabbatical through August 31, 2022.

Anna R. Dickson
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
adickson@firstpres-charlotte.org

Robert L. Galloway
Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Young Adults
rgalloway@firstpres-charlotte.org

Mary Margaret Porter
Parish Associate
mporter@firstpres-charlotte.org

Charles C. Williamson
Parish Associate
cwilliamson@firstpres-charlotte.org

William P. Young, III
Director of Music Ministries
wyoung@firstpres-charlotte.org

Are you interested in joining our church?

Contact Jane Ives
Membership Coordinator
jives@firstpres-charlotte.org

Pastor on call
If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 704.927.0256 for the on-call voicemail. Your call will be returned promptly.

200 West Trade Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
www.firstpres-charlotte.org
704.332.5123

Congregational Meeting, Today, 12 p.m., Fellowship Hall

The Session has called a congregational meeting immediately following worship today for the purpose of electing the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The nominees are: Steve Godwin, Cory High, Liana Humphrey, Elizabeth Little, Rich Neidinger, Kathy Ridge, and Jason Snead.

Lemonade on the Lawn, Today, 12 p.m., Front Lawn

First Presbyterian Church's Emerging Leaders Ministry will be hosting lemonade on the lawn immediately following worship today. Please stop by for some lemonade and to hear about or ask any questions about our young adult Emerging Leaders group. (Lemonade will be in the historic lobby if it is raining.)

Choir and Handbell Registration

Registration is now open for choirs and handbells for the 2022-2023 school year. | To register, visit fpc.tiny.us/choir22.

Summer Sunday School, through August 28, 10 a.m., P206

Gather before worship to discuss the Scripture for the sermon. | Contact rgalloway@first-pres-charlotte.org for more information.

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