

First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | OCTOBER 22, 2023 | TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



We invite you, whoever you are and whoever God is helping you to become, to join First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte in our journey of faith. God is love, and that love is for you. You belong as a child of God, and we welcome you. Come experience how that belonging might change you and our world as we seek to be for Christ in the heart of Charlotte.



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

VIRTUAL
CONNECT
CARD

Are you interested in joining our church? Contact Jane Ives, Membership Coordinator, jives@firstpres-charlotte.org.

PREPARATION

Prelude | Variations on *Amazing Grace* | arr. Raymond H. Haan**Words of Welcome** | Pen Peery**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION**

Choral Introit | arr. Mark Thallander

Come, Christians, join to sing; loud praise to Christ our King. Let all with heart and voice before him now rejoice! Come lift your hearts on high; let praises fill the sky. "Alleluia! Amen!"

+**Opening Hymn No. 32** | "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" | ELLACOMBE**CONFESSION**

Call to Confession | Anna Dickson**Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, forgive and heal our inclination to wander. Fashion us by your Spirit into vessels fit for good use, that we may bear faithfully what you have entrusted to our care; treasures of Christ's saving work for a lost and broken world.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.
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

Children ages three through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn. Older children are encouraged to stay and worship with their families.

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination**Scripture** | Luke 15:1-3, 15-31 | pew Bible p. 78

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | "The Road Home" | Stephen Paulus | Christina Pier, soloist

Tell me where is the road I can call my own, that I left, that I lost, so long ago. All these years I have wondered, oh when will I know, there's a way, there's a road that will lead me home. After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream, in the gold of day, through the air there's a calling from far away; there's a voice I can hear that will lead me home. Rise up, follow me, come away is the call, with the love in your heart as the only song. There is no such beauty as where you belong. Rise up, follow me; I will lead you home.

+ Please stand if you are able

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

Sermon | “Filled Up to Pour Out: Faithfulness” | Pen Peery

+**Hymn No. 649** | “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” | AMAZING GRACE

RESPONSE

Affirmation of Faith | From *A Brief Statement of Faith* | Robert Galloway

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God’s condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who welcomes the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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 | Habitat for Humanity | Lucy Crain and Zach Surber

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Offertory Anthem | “Write Your Blessed Name” | K. Lee Scott

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved that no prosperity, that no adversity shall ever move me from your love. Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, deliverer in distress, and a faithful guide to the courts of heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life. O Jesu, my only savior! Amen.

+**Doxology** | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

+**Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYER
REQUESTS



GIVE
ONLINE



TEXT
TO GIVE



SENDING FORTH

+**Hymn No. 39** | “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” | FAITHFULNESS

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | GOD BE WITH YOU

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you. God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude | Tuba Tune | C. S. Lang

IN LOVING MEMORY

Beverly Hooper Horton (Bunny), June 20, 1941 - November 14, 2022

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program, a hunger relief and at-risk youth ministry of the Presbytery of Charlotte.

The rosebud in the Sanctuary celebrates the birth of Jane Hawley Elliott (Janie), daughter of Caroline and Frank Elliott.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmayer@hotmail.com.

Today's Worship Leaders:

The Reverend Pendleton B. Peery, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Lucy M. Crain, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission

The Reverend Anna R. Dickson, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

The Reverend Robert L. Galloway, Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Young Adults

William P. Young, III, Director of Music Ministries

Catherine Hicks, Guest Organist