

# First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 19, 2023 | TWENTY-FIFTH 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](mailto:jives@firstpres-charlotte.org).

**PREPARATION****Prelude** | Voluntary in G | Ralph Vaughan Williams**Words of Welcome** | Pen Peery**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION****Choral Introit** | 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.*

+**Opening Hymn No. 367** | “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” | ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR**CONFESSION****Call to Confession** | Lucy Crain**Prayer of Confession**

**God of abundance and promise, we confess that sometimes it can be hard for us to trust. We busy ourselves by chasing after success and self-sufficiency, often to the point that we forget how much we depend upon your grace and provision. In your mercy, forgive us and build up our capacity to acknowledge you as the source of all life.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the good news.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

+**Response to Pardon** | ASH GROVE

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us onto the end of our days. God’s banners are o’er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.**

**Time with Children**

*After the anthem, 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****Anthem** | “How Can I Give Thanks” | Mark Patterson | Carol and Kirk Choirs  
Liam Smith and Ann Houston Young, soloists

*How can I give you thanks, O Lord, when you made the stars that shine so bright? How can I give you thanks, O Lord, when you gave the heavens light? O Lord, your works are wonderful; their beauty I can see, and yet I stand here amazed, O Lord, that you would give such gifts to me. How can I give you thanks, O Lord, when you came to earth from heaven above? How can I give you thanks, O Lord, when you gave the world such love? If I learn to sing your praise and serve you all my days, I would just begin to thank you for your gift of grace. How can I give you thanks, O Lord, when you came to earth from heaven above? How can I give you thanks, O Lord, when you gave the world such love?*

**Prayer for Illumination**

+ Please stand if you are able

FIRST  
CHURCH  
MOBILE  
CHECK IN

**Scripture** | Genesis 6:1-4 | pew Bible p. 5

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** | “What the Bible Doesn’t Talk About: Artificial Intelligence” | Pen Peery**Anthem** | “Sing to the Lord of Harvest” | arr. Healey Willan

*Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise; with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise. By him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move; sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love. God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring, the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing. God fills them with his fullness, all things with large increase; he crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace. Heap on his sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave, the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls he died to save. Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet ye fall, and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.*

**RESPONSE** 

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**+Affirmation of Faith** | from *A Brief Statement of Faith* | Anna Dickson

**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** | Recognition of New Members**Presentation of Tithes and Offering**

PRAYER  
REQUESTS



GIVE  
ONLINE



TEXT  
TO GIVE



**Offertory Anthem** | “Laudate Nomen” | Carlyle Sharpe

*Hallelujah! Praise the Name of the Lord; give praise, your servants of the Lord, you who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praises to his name, for it is lovely. For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself and Israel for his own possession. For I know that the Lord is great and that our Lord is above all gods. Bless the Lord, O house of Israel; O house of Aaron, bless the Lord. Bless the Lord, O house of Levi; you who fear the Lord, bless the Lord. Blessed be the Lord out of Zion, who dwells in Jerusalem. Hallelujah!*

**+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** 

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**+Hymn No. 643** | “Now Thank We All Our God” | NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT**+Benediction****+Benediction Response** | “Amen” | DANISH**Postlude** | “Now Thank We All Our God” | Sigfrid Karg-Elert**ABOUT THIS SERVICE** 

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We welcome Jane Bauer, Larry Davis, Lana Donovan, Judith and Steve Flohr, Doug and Suzy Gilbert, Christopher Haering and Billy Shugart, Merrill Horridge, Christopher Hurst, Al and Mim Jones, Haley Kuyk, Laura Long, Cama McNamara, Jane Diane Smith into the full life of First Presbyterian Church.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Christian Davis Flohr by his family.

The Thanksgiving cornucopia display is given in loving memory of Larry and Dowd Maye.

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

**William P. Young, III**, Director of Music Ministries

**Catherine Hicks**, Guest Organist