

First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | JANUARY 12, 2025 | BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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.

The Elder assisting with the baptism today is Ward McKeithen.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN**PREPARATION**

Prelude | Adagio and Allegro from *Concerto in G* | Johann Quantz

Words of Welcome | Anna Dickson

Chiming of the Trinity

ADORATION

Choral Introit | Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great redeemer's praise, that we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia!

+**Hymn No. 645** | "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" | MIT FREUDEN ZART

CONFESSION

Call to Confession | Pen Peery

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, every day you invite us to see the beauty of this world and to give thanks. We confess that we are prone to miss this beauty because our attention is focused on our own concerns. You invite us to see the image of God in our neighbors and to live compassionately. We confess that we are often more annoyed by our neighbors than we are awed by your imprint on them. You invite us to follow you into deeper living. We confess we often prefer what is shallow and easy. Forgive us for missing all the ways you beckon us into true and abundant life, O God, and do not tire in calling us over and over again, for your glory's sake.

Assurance of Pardon

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

+**Response to Pardon** | 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism of Christopher William Nitto, II (William) and Elizabeth Anne Nitto (Ellie)

+**Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

+ Please stand if you are able

PROCLAMATION**Prayer for Illumination****Scripture** | John 1:35-51 | pew Bible p. 92

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Anthem** | “Immortal, Invisible” | arr. Eric Thiman

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor waiting, Thou rulest in might: Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above; thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee. Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render: O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee. Amen.

Sermon | “Follow Me: Discovery” | Anna Dickson+**Hymn No. 649** | “Amazing Grace” | AMAZING GRACE**RESPONSE****Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer** | Lucy Crain

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 | History Hallway Artist Talk | Anne Lafferty**Presentation of Tithes and Offering****Offertory Anthem** | “Be Thou My Vision” | arr. Heather Sorenson

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart. Naught be all else to me save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night; waking or sleeping, thy presence my light. Riches I need not, nor vain, empty praise. Thou mine inheritance, now and always, thou and thou only, the first in my heart. Blessed redeemer, my treasure thou art! High King of heaven, my victory won! May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision. Still be my light. Shine in the night. Still be my vision, O ruler of all. Be thou my light when I walk through the night.

+**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**GIVE
ONLINETEXT
TO GIVEPRAYER
REQUESTS

SENDING FORTH

+**Hymn No. 265** | “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun” | DUKE STREET

+**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

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Ellie and William Nitto are the children of Amanda and Chris Nitto.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William (Bill) E. Keenan by his family.

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 Anna R. Dickson, Executive Pastor and Associate for Congregational Care

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

William P. Young, III, Director of Music Ministries

Kaitlyn Davros, Assistant Director of Music Ministries

Angela Watson, violin

Teil Buck, oboe

John Mooney, cello