

First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | FEBRUARY 16, 2025 | SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



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 | Prelude on *Nettleton* | Gerre Hancock**Words of Welcome** | Chuck Williamson**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION**

Choral Call to Worship | Karen Marroli

Come and worship, worship here, blest community of love! Come just as you are, come near! Come and worship God above. Here below we see God's face in each precious child of grace. Come just as you are, come near! Come and worship, worship here!

+**Hymn No. 475** | "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" | NETTLETON**CONFESSION**

Call to Confession | Pen Peery**Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we acknowledge that all we have comes from you. Our time, abilities, and material possessions...all are a trust from you. Yet we confess that we are often poor stewards of what you have entrusted to us. We act as if we are owners of what we have, rather than caretakers who are ultimately accountable to you for the wise use and sharing of what we have. Forgive our sins. Enable us to know the joy of responding to your generosity with glad and grateful hearts. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 Mark Louis Oliva

+**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

The Elder assisting with the baptism today is Ernest Barry.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

PROCLAMATION

Anthem | “Eternal Love” | Paul Sjolund

Eternal Love, all human thought transcending, humbly we bow to pray before your throne, that ours may be the love which knows no ending, now and forever more to join in one. Eternal Life, be now our full assurance of tender charity and steadfast faith, of patient hope and quiet, brave endurance, with child-like trust that fears no pain or death. Grant us the joy which brightens earthly sorrow; Grant us the peace which calms all earthly strife, that we may walk as one beyond tomorrow in hope and strength, fulfilled in love and life. Eternal Love; Eternal Life. Eternal Love.

GIVE
ONLINE**Prayer for Illumination****Scripture** | Acts 9:1-6 | pew Bible p. 127

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TEXT
TO GIVE**Sermon** | “Living Your Okayest Life: Saul/Paul” | Chuck Williamson**+Hymn No. 829** | “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” | OLIVET**RESPONSE**

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer | Anna Dickson

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 Fauré

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!

PRAYER
REQUESTS**+Doxology** | 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. Amen.

+Prayer of Dedication

SENDING FORTH

+**Hymn No. 839** | “Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!” | ASSURANCE

Congregational Meeting

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | “Amen” | DANISH

Postlude | Fanfare Postlude | Douglas Wagner

IN LOVING MEMORY

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Ryan Poag upon the death of his father, Thomas M. Poag; and to Laura Short upon the death of her father, Alley L. Hart, Jr.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

The nominees for the 2025 Officer Nominating Committee are: Elders Abigail James (chair), Rand Ayer (past chair), and Reid Campbell; Deacons Jordan Wesley and Lauren Harnett; and at-large members John Hopkins and Carla Gambrell.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmaye@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 Dr. Charles Williamson, *Parish Associate*

Kaitlyn Davros, *Assistant Director of Music Ministries*

David Dennis, *Guest Accompanist*

John Mooney, *Guest Musician*

Lillian Quackenbush, *Guest Conductor*