

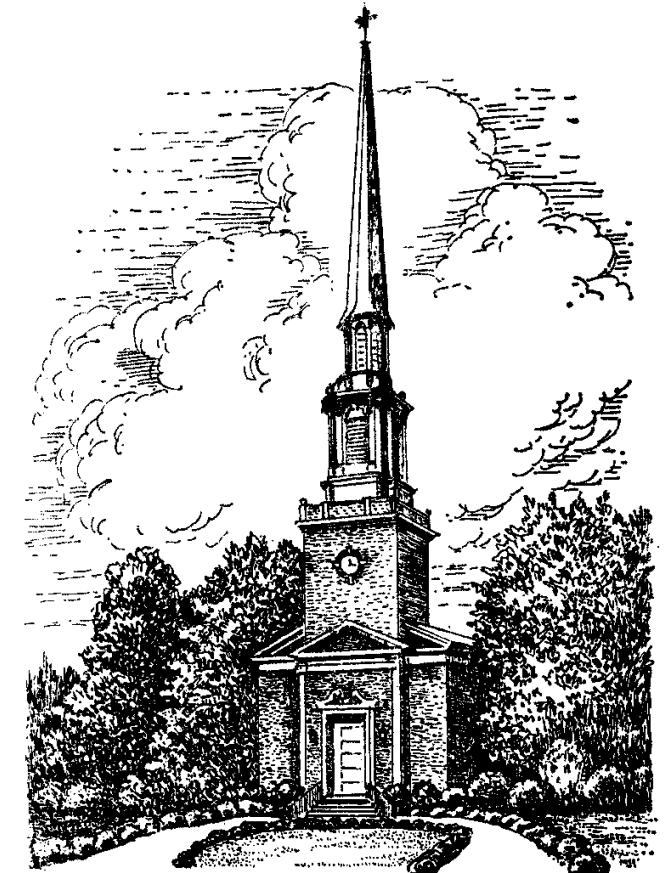
**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

<b>Sunday, April 18</b>	
4:00 p.m.	Officer Training <i>(online)</i>
<b>Monday, April 19</b>	
9:00 a.m.	First Kids Preschool
<b>Tuesday, April 20</b>	
9:00 a.m.	First Kids Preschool
6:00 p.m.	Dunford Committee Mtg
6:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts
7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
7:00 p.m.	Session <i>(online)</i>
<b>Wednesday, April 21</b>	
9:00 a.m.	First Kids Preschool
7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice <i>(sanctuary)</i>
<b>Thursday, April 22</b>	
9:00 a.m.	First Kids Preschool
6:30 p.m.	Junior Journey Meeting
<b>Friday, April 23</b>	
9:00 a.m.	First Kids Preschool
<b>Sunday, April 25</b>	
8:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship <i>(online)</i>
9:45 a.m.	Journey Sunday School <i>(Sanctuary)</i>
9:45 a.m.	S & D Sunday School <i>(online)</i>
4:00 p.m.	Officer Training <i>(online)</i>



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CONCORD

# 3rd Sunday of Easter



**First Presbyterian Church  
70 Union Street North  
Concord, North Carolina**

**Sunday, April 18, 2021**

**Rev. Rush Otey, Interim Supply Pastor**  
**Rev. Lynne Keel, Associate Pastor for Care and Mission**  
**Dr. Jacqueline Yost, Director of Music and Organist**  
**Dr. Jeffrey W. Price, Choirmaster**

[www.firstpresconcord.org](http://www.firstpresconcord.org)



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(704) 788-2100

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *This Joyful Eastertide* Keith Kolander

**CALL TO WORSHIP** from 1 Corinthians 12

Leader: Each is given a gift by the Spirit.

**People: To use it for the common good.**

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ,

**People: and individually members of the body.**

Leader: If one member suffers, all suffer together;

**People: If one member is honored, all rejoice together.**

Leader: **Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of Reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make Christ's church useful in the world, and we call people to Faith, so that, in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God. Amen.**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

**O God, take away from us all coldness, all wanderings of the thoughts, and fix our souls upon You and Your love, in this our quiet hour of prayer.** (Silent Prayers)

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**MUSIC** *Guide My Feet* Wendell Whalum  
(Sanctuary Choir)

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURES LESSONS

**OLD TESTAMENT** Isaiah 40:27-31 Jim Monroe, lay reader  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT** II Timothy 4:5-8

**SERMON** "Christian Faith and Sports" Rev. Rush Otey

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### 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.**

#### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING TEXT TO GIVE: 704-228-7459**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *Fight the Good Fight* John Hatton  
(Sanctuary Choir)

#### DOXOLOGY

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**Almighty God, You who continually call Your people to Yourself, draw us by the power of Your Holy Spirit into such a warm and binding relationship that we may faithfully follow You all the days of our lives, for the life of the world and for Christ's sake. Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

#### BENEDICTION

**RESPONSE** *O Praise the Might God* Handel  
(Sanctuary Choir, archival recording)

**POSTLUDE** *Blest are They Whose Spirits Long* Handel  
(Joy Cook, Carole Shaw, Bob Prescott, Jeffrey Price)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### RETURN TO IN PERSON WORSHIP ANNOUNCED

From the reopening committee: *We anticipate starting safe and modified in person worship on **May 16<sup>th</sup>** (with a sign up genius going live a week before). We will continue to monitor local data and trends and loosen or tighten restrictions as that data directs.*

#### YOUTH SUNDAY MAY 9

Mother's Day, May 9th, will be Youth Sunday. Our entire worship service will be youth led and we hope that all of the youth of the congregation can participate. We will gather on April 18 and May 2 at 5 p.m. to prepare for Youth Sunday. Please mark your calendars and check your e-mail for additional details. Questions? Please contact René Prager at [r.prager@firstpresconcord.org](mailto:r.prager@firstpresconcord.org).

#### COLLEGE EXAM TIME

Please keep our college congregation members in prayer over the coming weeks as exams are already underway for some of our First Presbyterian Church college students. If you or your college student graduated in December, 2020, or will graduate this spring, please contact the church office to let Suzanne Russell or René Prager know so that we can celebrate this milestone. We will be celebrating our **High School graduates on Sunday, May 16th.**

#### SIGN UP DEADLINE FOR PW BIRTHDAY EVENT IS 4/19

**SIGN UP TODAY!** Please register for our Annual Birthday event: Sunday, May 2nd, at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will reflect on our accomplishments over the last year, celebrate the lives and contributions of the women whom we have lost since our last Birthday Event, and install our new Coordinating Team officers and Circle Leaders, as we look forward to the year ahead. We will offer a birthday gift bag to accompany the event theme. Please indicate if you would like to pick up your bag at the church between 11 a.m. and noon on May 2nd, or if you would like it to be dropped off on your front porch.