

Children are always welcome here.

We have a wonderful nursery and childcare for infants through preschool each Sunday in the Will Young Building. Worship bags for young children are available in the narthex near the front doors. Please speak with an usher for assistance.

Large Print Hymnals, printed copies of the sermon, and a hearing assistance system are available. We have an AED Machine in the Narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance with any of these items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ronald Spitzer, the grandfather of Timothy and Gregory Watson and father to Scott & Alicia Watson.

Our "Noisy" Offering received during the Message for Children will benefit the Backpack Program at Coltrane-Webb Elementary.

The deadline for this weeks Banner is tomorrow, Memorial Day.

We will have a congregational meeting on June 11 following worship to vote on a nominee for Deacon for the Class of 2026 and to hear and act on a report from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

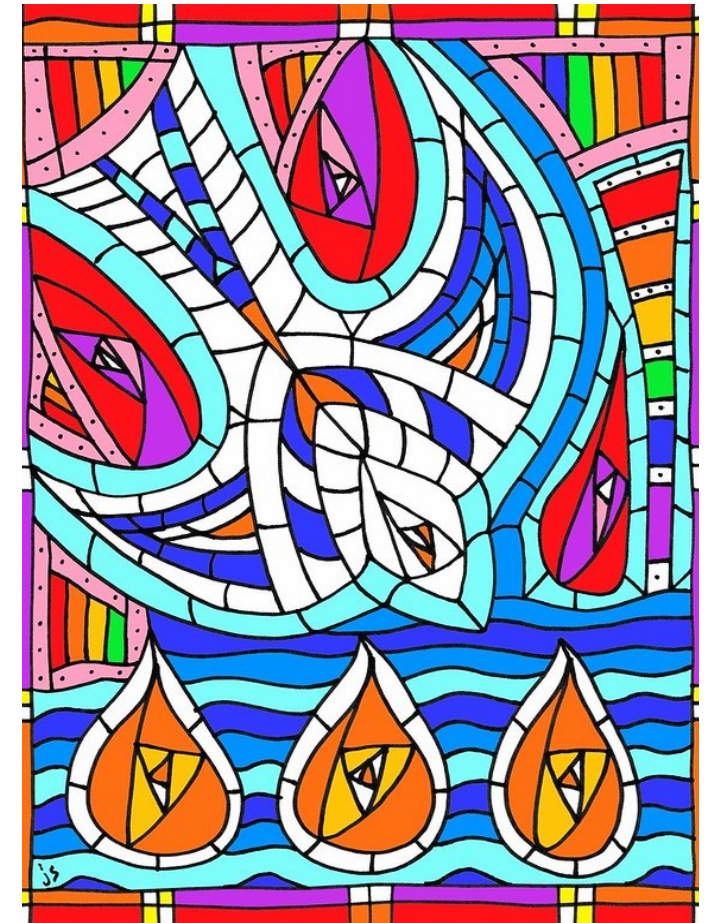
Next Sunday, June 4, we will celebrate the Rev. Julie Hill on her final day with us as our Temporary Associate Pastor. Please plan to join us for worship and for a reception in her honor following worship on the Fellowship House lawn.

Sunday, June 4, will also be the first 5 PM Selah Worship in Davis Hall, followed by dinner. All are invited! Anyone staying for dinner must make their reservation by this Tuesday, May 30, at 4 PM by using the link in the last Banner or calling the reservations line, 704-788-2100, #7.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, May 29	Office Closed for Memorial Day
Tuesday, May 30 11:30 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Staff Meeting (FH Sunroom) Boy Scout Board of Advancement (Ed Bldg) Al Anon (Commons)
Wednesday, May 31 10:30 AM	Bible Study (Fellowship House)
Thursday, June 1 10:00 AM	Thursday Morning Coffee (Gibson Mill)
Friday, June 2 10:00 AM	CCM Housing Team (Commons)
Saturday, June 3 8:00 AM 9:00 AM	Church Grounds Work Day Officer Training (Davis Hall)
Sunday, June 4 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 5:00 PM	Sunday School Classes (various rooms) Reception for graduates (FH sunroom) Worship (in person and live streamed) Reception for Julie Hill (Front Lawn) Selah (Worship and dinner)

Day of Pentecost



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

Sunday, May 28, 2023



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONCORD

www.firstpresconcord.org

(704) 788-2100

Rev. Ellen Crawford True, Senior Pastor
Rev. Julie Hill, Temporary Associate Pastor
René Prager, Director of Christian Education
Dr. Jacqueline Yost, Director of Music and Organist
Dr. Jeffrey W. Price, Choirmaster
Amy Woolwine, Clerk of Session
Jenny Chikes, Moderator, Board of Deacons

For a comprehensive list of officers, visit the church website:

www.firstpresconcord.org



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

As the music plays, you are invited to pause, reflect, and pray silently as we prepare for worship.

God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength,
now and always. Amen.

PRELUDE

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Pad found on the center aisle of each pew and pass it to you neighbor.

VOLUNTARY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us worship God whose Holy Spirit blows in with wind and flame.

People: The Spirit gives us courage.

Leader: The Spirit fills us with hope.

People: Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: Breathe in us,

People: inspire us,

Leader: and encourage us,

All: as we worship God and follow Jesus.

***HYMN 282** *Come Down, O Love Divine* DOWN AMPNEY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you create us for communion with you and one another. Forgive us for claiming that we and others are on our own. You call us to follow in the way of Jesus. Forgive us for the times we insist on doing things our way. You send us the Spirit to encourage and challenge us. Forgive us for the ways we are determined to stick with what we know.

Forgive us, O God, and breathe new life into us that we might proclaim your love in word and deed in your beloved world. In Jesus' name, Amen. [*Time for silent prayer follows.*]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***HYMN OF PRAISE 48** *Rain Down* RAIN DOWN

Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people. Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION lay reader, Katharine Morrison

FIRST LESSON Acts 2:1-8, 11b-12 pew bible, page 119

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE—Noisy Offering

SECOND LESSON Romans 8:18-30 pew bible, page 158

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Ellen Crawford True

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 285** *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* BRIDEGROOM

***PROFESSION OF FAITH** *from A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve...

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life...

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

TEXT TO GIVE: 704-228-7459

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *A Jubilant Song* Victor Johnson

(Sanctuary Choir)

Cantate Domino canticum novum [sing to the Lord a new song]. Lift up your voice in jubilant song! Sing and rejoice, alleluia! O let your heart sing a jubilant new song, and let your spirit be glad! Come raise a joyful song of praise. Alleluia!

***DOXOLOGY 606** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God eternal, as you sent upon the disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, look upon your church and open our hearts to the power of the Holy Spirit. Kindle in us the fire of your love, and strengthen our lives for service in your kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 296** *God in Grace and Make Disciples* WONDROUS LIGHT

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen* DANISH
(Sanctuary Choir)

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*

CCLI License #11219393

Worship Notes : This morning's affirmation comes from *A Brief Statement of Faith* which was commissioned to celebrate the reunion of two largest Presbyterian churches in the United States in 40 years ago on June 10, 1983 and "our rediscovery that for all our undoubted diversity, we are bound together by a common faith and a common task." (From the Preface in the *Book of Confessions*) Our prayer of dedication comes from the PC(USA) *Book of Common Worship*.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We trust that you will experience God's presence as we worship. Please accept this invitation to participate in the full life of this congregation as we meet for study, fellowship, worship and service. If you would like to know more about the church or membership here, one of our pastors would be delighted to talk with you following worship. Worship is livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person and can be accessed from our website.

Sanctuary Safety—In our ongoing efforts to care for all who work, play, and worship on our campus, we are being intentional about access to buildings throughout the week and on Sundays. All sanctuary doors are locked after worship begins on Sunday mornings, with the exception of the main doors leading to the narthex. Worshipers are free to exit by any of the doors at any time. To re-enter, please come through the doors to the narthex.