

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.

Offering our Talents, Time, and Treasure: In response to the Good News of God’s saving love in Jesus Christ, we are invited to give of ourselves and our resources. If you are seeking ways to share your time and your talents, please speak to one of the pastors. Financial contributions may be placed in the offering plate or donated by texting 704-288-7459 or by using the “Give” button on the church’s website (firstpresconcord.org).

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 thanksgiving for the kindness and support of family and friends by Kate and Harris Morrison.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be offered this morning to Tygo Bishop Smith, son of Hanna Pless Smith and Corey Palmer Smith. Grandparents are Susan and Craig Pless. We welcome Tygo Bishop into our fellowship and pray for God’s blessings on this family.

“Come to the Table” Presbyterian Women’s first Advent Communion and Lunch will be Wednesday, November 29 from 12 noon to 1:00 PM. Women and men are welcome. Please invite family members, neighbors, co-workers, and others in the community. A wonderful hour of celebrating the Christmas season with Communion, Advent messages of Hope, Peace, Love, Joy, and fellowship. Call the reservation line by Monday, November 27th: 704-788-2100, #7 or fill out a blue card and place in the offering plate.

Weekly Devotions: Prayers and readings for the coming week are available in the narthex. The texts carry us from this week’s lesson to the next.

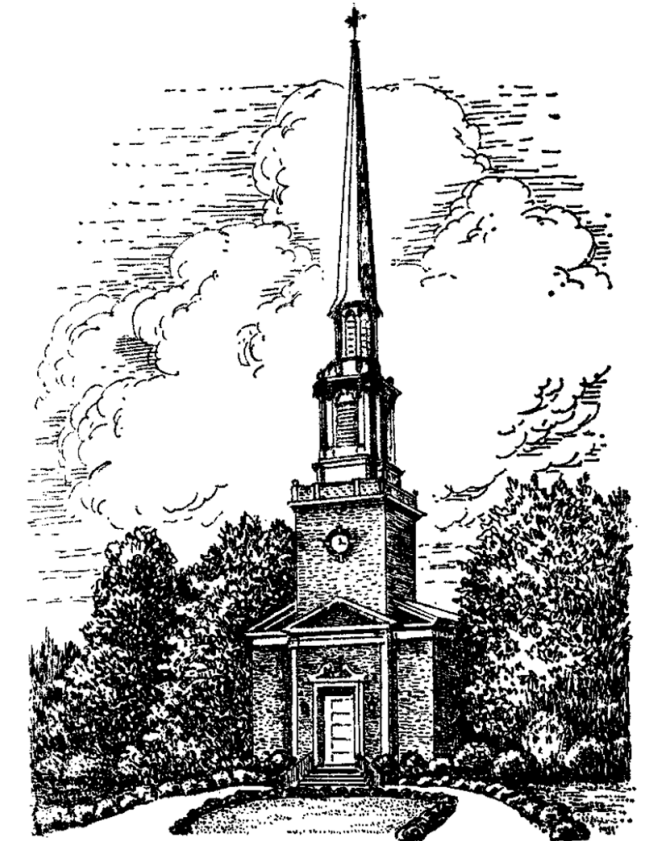
LATER TODAY:

5:00 PM Thanksgiving Service of Evening Prayer (Chapel)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Monday, November 20 | 9:00 AM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM | First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Boy Scouts (Will Young rm 304) Racial Equity Reads (Commons) |
| Tuesday, November 21 | 9:00 AM 6:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM | First Kids Preschool (Will Young) Choir Dinner and Rehearsal (Choir Room) Cub Scouts (Davis Hall) Al Anon (Commons) |
| Wednesday, November 22 | 12:00 PM | Office Closes at Noon |
| Thursday, November 16 | | Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday |
| Sunday, November 26 | 9:45 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 4:30 PM | Sunday School Classes (Various Rooms) Sanctuary Choir (Choir Room) Worship (in person and live streamed) Tree Lighting (Front Lawn) |

Thirty second Sunday In Ordinary Time



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

Sunday, November 19, 2023



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONCORD

www.firstpresconcord.org

(704) 788-2100

Rev. Ellen Crawford True, Senior Pastor
Rev. Casey Aldridge, Associate Pastor
René Prager, Director of Christian Education
Rev. Bryan Hovey, Parish Associate
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.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
~ Isaiah 11: 1-3

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 your neighbor.

MINUTE FOR MISSION VOLUNTARY

Debbie Little, Joy Gift Offering

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From seed to shoot,
People: From shoot to branch,
All: God's kingdom is coming,
God's kingdom draws near.

Leader: Rooted and growing,
People: Flourishing, blossoming,
All: God's kingdom is coming,
God's kingdom draws near.

Leader: With wisdom and might,
People: With justice and mercy,
All: God's kingdom is coming,
God's kingdom draws near.

Leader: With righteousness
People: With faithfulness,
All: God's kingdom is coming,
God's kingdom draws near.

***HYMN 384** *Soon and Very Soon* SOON AND VERY SOON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, you have created us to flourish in the rich soil of your vineyard. But we convince ourselves that the grass is greener in gardens of our own making. Forgive us. Bring new life from our dead ends for the sake of your Son and the world you sent him to save. Amen. [*Time for silent confession follows.*]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***HYMN OF PRAISE 390** *Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord* LOUEZ LE SEIGNEUR
Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name.
Alleluia! Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

lay reader, Ben Lacy

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

pew bible, page 540

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Vows of the Parents and Congregation
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing
Baptism and Welcome
Congregational Response

ST. CLEMENT

*Accept, O Lord, our dedication
To fill with love the growing mind,
That in this church and congregation
The young a faith for life may find.*

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 5:1-7;11:1-5

pew bible, page 634

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 354

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

BATTLE HYMN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Declaration of Faith*

We acknowledge one God alone,
whose demands on us are absolute,
whose help for us is sufficient.
That One is the Lord,
whom we worship, serve, and love...
We believe that in baptism
the Spirit demonstrates and confirms God's promise
to include us and our children in his gracious covenant,
cleansing us from sin,
and giving us newness of life,
as participants in Christ's death and resurrection...
In baptism we give ourselves up in faith and repentance
to be the Lord's.
For both children and adults, baptism is a reminder
that God loves us long before we can love him.
For both, God's grace and our response to it
are not tied to the moment of baptism,
but continue and deepen throughout life.

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

Thou Shalt Know Him
(Sanctuary Choir)

Mark Burrows

Thou shalt know Him when He comes, not by any din of drums, nor the manner of His airs, nor by anything He wears; thou shalt know Him when He comes, not by His crown or His gown, but His coming known shall be by the holy harmony which His coming makes in thee. Thou shalt know Him when He comes.

***DOXOLOGY 606** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing 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 THANKSGIVING

Holy Lord, Creator of all, take these gifts and use them to plant seeds of hope, justice, and joy in the world you so dearly love, in Jesus' name, Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 367

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Amen in C
(Sanctuary Choir)

Jacqueline Yost

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*
CCLI License #11219393

Worship Notes: This morning's Call to Worship is adapted from *Spill the Beans*, issue 16. This morning's affirmation of faith is drawn from "**A Declaration of Faith**," adopted by the Presbyterian Church in 1985 as a contemporary statement of faith, a reliable aid for Christian study, liturgy, and inspiration

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you are here. You are invited to join us for study, service, education, and fellowship in addition to worship. If you have questions or would like to learn more about this community, please speak with one of the pastors following worship.

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.