

**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 by scanning the QR code on the card in the pew rack, or by texting 704-228-7459.

**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

**This morning** you are invited to receive communion by intinction. Following the communion liturgy, you will be prompted to come forward to the stations at the front of the sanctuary using the center aisle. Please take a piece of bread from the basket and dip it in the cup, eating it after you have stepped away from the cup. If you wish to receive communion in your pew, you will be served a small piece of bread and an individual cup of juice at your seat when you raise your hand. All are welcome to receive communion.

**Youth at the Night Shelter** - Our Youth, ages 16 and up, are invited to serve at the Salvation Army Center of Hope (Night Shelter) this evening. Youth will meet at the center entrance, which is 45 Ashlyn Street SE, at 6:30 PM, and should expect to be finished between 7:30 PM and 7:45 PM. There are a few food items needed for the meal service. Please check out the sign-up in the Banner to let us know if you can help serve, and if there are any items you can bring with you.

**We are collecting addresses for all of our college students.** Please email René Prager: [r.prager@firstpresconcord.org](mailto:r.prager@firstpresconcord.org) with your college student's mailing address and email address. Postcards will be mailed in the coming weeks and a care package will be sent closer to exams. Please send in information by September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**We all have special God-given gifts!** Do we have a tie-dye specialist or a pulp and paper engineer or homemade paper crafter in our congregation? If so, please let René Prager know : [r.prager@firstpresconcord.org](mailto:r.prager@firstpresconcord.org).

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### Monday, September 2

Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday

#### Tuesday, September 3

9:00 AM First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)  
6:30 PM Congregational Care (FH kitchen/dining rooms)  
7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Senior High Room)  
7:00 PM Board of Deacons (Library Conference Room)  
7:00 PM Al Anon (Commons)

#### Wednesday, September 4

9:00 AM First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)  
10:00 AM Fall Spice Committee Mtg (Fellowship House)  
10:30 AM Bible Study (Library Conference Room)  
2:00 PM Staff Meeting (FH Sunroom)  
6:00 PM Buildings & Grounds (Library Conference Room)  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

#### Thursday, September 5

8:30 AM First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)  
6:00 PM Girl Scouts (2nd Fl Ed Bldg & Sanctuary)

#### Friday, September 6

8:30 AM First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)

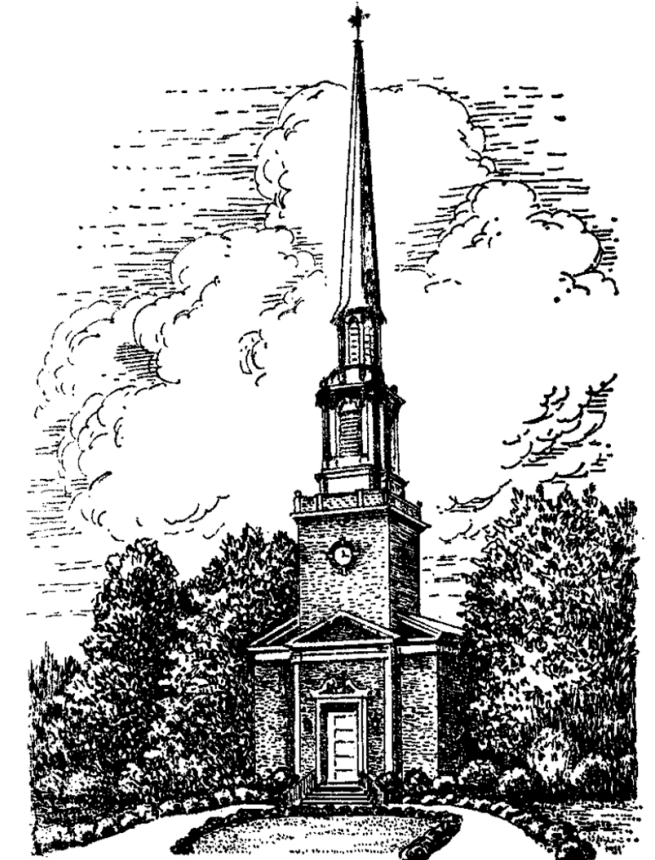
#### Saturday, September 7

2:00 PM Evans Memorial Service (Fellowship House)

#### Sunday, September 8

10:00 AM **Rally Day**  
11:00 AM Rally day gathering (Davis Hall)  
4:30 PM Worship (in person and live streamed)  
Combined Youth Kick Off (off campus)

# Twenty Second Sunday In Ordinary Time



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

**Sunday, September 1, 2024**

**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**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CONCORD



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

(704) 788-2100

# 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.

“To those who can hear me, I say: do not despair. The misery that is now upon us is but the passing of greed.” – Charlie Chaplin

### 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.*

### VOLUNTARY

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In places of work and in places of rest  
**People: God walks with us and God talks with us.**  
Leader: On joyful days and in difficult seasons  
**People: Christ walks with us and Christ talks with us.**  
Leader: Is there anywhere we can run from God's Spirit?  
**People: If we rise with the sun in the east  
And settle in the west beyond the sea,  
All: Even there God's Spirit would guide us.  
Let us rejoice and walk with God!**

\*HYMN 612 *We Praise You, O God* KREMSER

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Original and Eternal Author of life, you created us out of love and for love. Yet we confess that we have not placed love at the center of our lives. We have too often preferred to attribute our success or fortune not to your grace but to our own power and ingenuity. We have too often interpreted our neighbors, your children, as enemies and competitors. Guard us from these and other destructive habits and patterns we have devised, and turn us once more to your loving way—the way that leads to life. 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 492 *You Belong to Christ* YOU BELONG TO CHRIST  
**You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION lay reader, Harrison Entwistle

FIRST LESSON Psalm 6 pew bible, page 491  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Daniel 12 pew bible, page 834  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Rev. Casey Aldridge

### MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 465 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* CONVERSE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Confession of 1967, 9.32)

Leader: The life, death, resurrection,  
and promised coming of Jesus Christ  
**People: has set the pattern for the church's mission.**

Leader: His human life involves the church  
in the common life of all people.

**People: His service to human beings commits  
the church to work for every form  
of human well-being...**

Leader: His crucifixion discloses to the church  
God's judgment on the inhumanity  
that marks human relations,  
and the awful consequences of the church's  
own complicity in injustice.

**People: In the power of the risen Christ  
and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise  
All: of God's renewal of human life in society  
and of God's victory over all wrong.**

### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Meines Junges Leben hat ein End* Sweelinck

\*DOXOLOGY 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow* OLD HUNDRETH  
**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

**Great and giving God, accept these gifts and those who offer them for your  
work in your world. Amen.**

### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER †

**Invitation to the Lord's Table  
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise...  
And so, we join our voices with the faithful of every time and  
place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in  
joyful praise...

**HYMN 562** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

*The prayer continues and then ends with 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.**

### Words of Institution

### Communion of the People

### PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united  
us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your  
eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to  
your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN 81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* AUSTIAN HYMN

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

† *Our communion bread is gluten-free, so that all may share one bread. (1 Cor. 10:17)*

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

CCLI License #11219393

**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.

### 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.