

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

Todays flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jane Faust.

College of Elders: All ruling elders who are currently serving on session or have served on session in the past are invited to enjoy good food and fellowship while we hear some updates about life at FPC. The gathering will take place on October 6 following worship in Davis Hall. Please email Suzanne Russell (suzanne.russell@firstpresconcord.org) by October 2 to sign up.

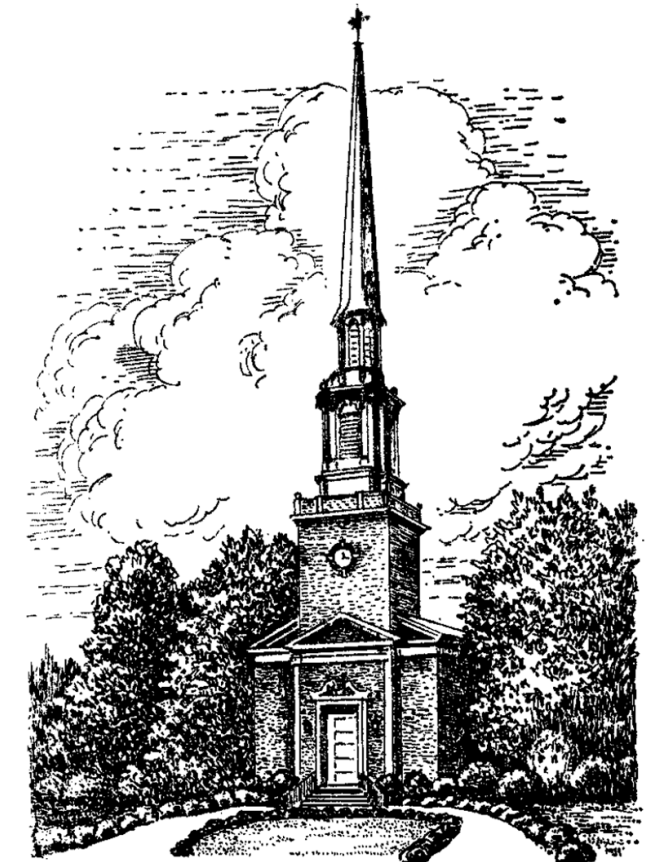
Grace of Giving Over the next several Sundays, we will be celebrating stewardship season, with themes: grace of place, grace of service, grace of outreach, and grace of gratitude. A steward is one to whom responsibility for resources, time, and talent is entrusted. This week, consider: in your life with Jesus, what does stewardship mean to you? Join us as we embark on a season of stewardship.

The September Lunch Bunch in Mt Pleasant was postponed due to bad weather. Our **NEW DATE** is this Tuesday, October 1. We will meet you at 73 & Main at 12 o'clock. Please call the reservation line, 704-788-2100 #7, to make your reservation. We need to call Dr. Dobson Monday with the number of people. Cost is \$12.50, including tax and tip. Please bring cash or a check. No credit cards. Those needing transportation please meet in the lower church parking lot at 11:30 AM.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Later Today 12:00 PM	Church picnic (FH front lawn)
Monday, September 30 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Racial Equity Reads (Zoom)
Tuesday, October 1 9:00 AM 9:20 AM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Preschool Committee Meeting (Library Conference Room) Lunch Bunch (off campus) Hospitality Team (Library Conference Room) Board of Deacons (Library Conference Room) Al Anon (Commons) Boy Scouts (Senior High Room)
Wednesday, October 2 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 2:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:30 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Bible Study (Library Conference Room) Staff Meeting (FH Sunroom) Buildings & Grounds (Library Conference Room) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, October 3 9:00 AM 6:30 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Girl Scouts (Ed Bldg)
Friday, October 4 8:30 AM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
Saturday, October 5 3:00 PM	Clergy World Prayer Service (Commons)
Sunday, October 6 10:00 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:30 PM 6:00 PM	Sunday School Classes (Various locations) Sanctuary Choir (Choir Room) Worship (in person and live streamed) College of Elders (Davis Hall) Middle School Youth (Davis Hall) Youth Dinner (Youth Dinner) High School Youth (Davis Hall)

Twenty Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time



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

Sunday, September 29, 2024



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

Elizabeth Anne Dover Bishop, Moderator, Board of Deacons
For a comprehensive list of officers, visit the church website:
www.firstpresconcord.org

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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.

You shall tell your child on that day,
'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.'
~ Exodus 12:9

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: God has gathered us here
People: to begin a new week,
Leader: to remember who we are,
People: to remember whose we are,
Leader: to celebrate the God who claims us,
People: and to bless the God who saves us.
Leader: Praise the Lord with me!
People: Together let us lift God's name up high!

*HYMN 16 *O That I Had a Thousand Voices*
O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGAN HÄTTE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the ages, we are slow to remember your saving ways. Fear overtakes faith, so we grab hold of quick fixes and place our trust in easy answers. Forgive us, and draw us back to you. Hold us close, and lead us in the way of life, hope, wisdom, and peace. 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 410 *God is Calling Through the Whisper* W ZLOBIE LEZY

God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs, through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise. Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder. God is calling, can you hear? God is calling, can you hear?

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Psalm 34:1-8 pew bible, page 508
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-10 pew bible, page 58
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 67 *My Song Forever Shall Record* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The 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.

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *O Lord Thy Word Endureth* Christopher Tye
(Sanctuary Choir) Psalm 119:vs. 89-91

O Lord Thy word endureth forever in Heaven. Thy truth also remaineth from one generation to another. Thou hast laid the foundations of the earth, and it abideth. They continue this day according to Thine ordinance, for all things serve Thee. Hallelujah!

*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
For all the ways you save us, O God, we give you thanks and praise. Take what we offer and use our gifts for your saving work in your world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 645 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen in E* Yost

POSTLUDE

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

The Apostles' Creed: "Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles' Creed reflects the theological formulations of the first century church...In a time when most Christians were illiterate, oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed, along with the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, helped preserve and transmit the faith of the [church]...By the eighth century, the creed had attained its current form." --from the preface to the Apostles' Creed in the PC(USA) *Book of Confessions*.

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.

Pew Prep - We invite any kindergarten and first grade children to attend Pew Prep after the Children's Message. Our volunteers will lead the children to the Children's Chapel on the second floor of the Education Building where they will engage in fun activities while learning about different aspects of worship. The goal of Pew Prep is to provide education that allows our young worshipers to understand and fully participate when they are in the sanctuary. Volunteers will bring the children back to the sanctuary during the Doxology and they will return to sit with their family.