

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. In order to comply with our Child Protection policy, we ask that a parent/caregiver accompany children under 12 to the sanctuary restroom.

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

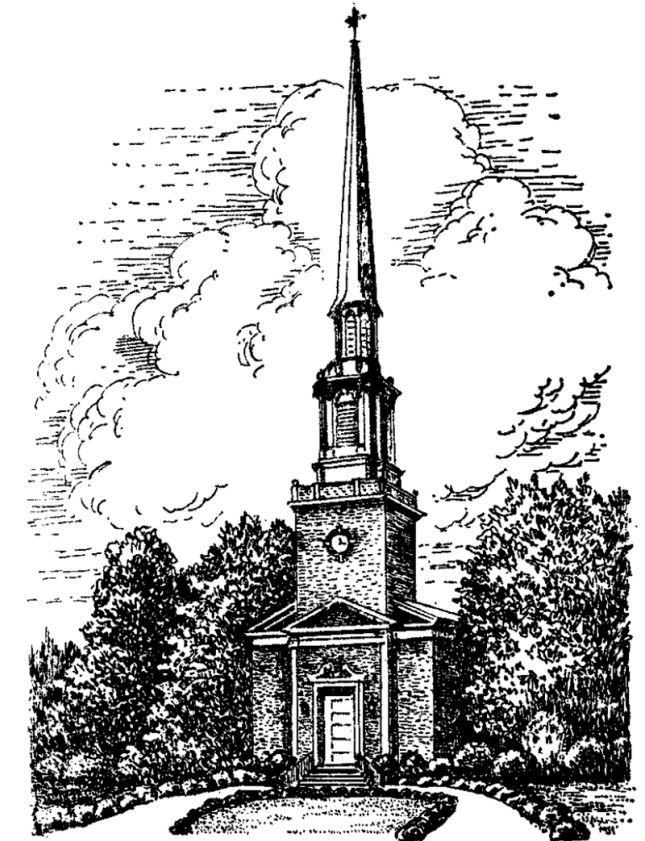
The University Chorale at UNC—Charlotte will perform a concert in the sanctuary this Saturday, March 15, at 3:00 PM. This concert is free and open to the public. A reception in the Fellowship House will follow.

All are invited to the Spring Spiritual Nurture luncheon event presented by the Presbyterian Women following worship on Sunday, March 30 in Davis Hall. Make your reservation by Monday, March 25, by using the link in the Banner, or call the reservation line: 704-788-2100 #7.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<p>Later Today 12:15 PM 3:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:30 PM</p> <p>Monday, March 10 11:00 AM 2:30 PM</p> <p>Tuesday, March 11 11:30 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday, March 12 10:30 AM 2:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:30 PM</p> <p>Saturday, March 15 3:00 PM</p> <p>Sunday, March 16 9:45 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:15 PM 4:30 PM 5:30 PM</p>	<p>Usher Training (Sanctuary) Circle 5 (Library Conference Room) Combined Youth (Davis Hall) Youth Dinner (Davis Hall)</p> <p>Circle 4 (off campus) Cabarrus Red Cross VIP Blood Drive (Davis Hall)</p> <p>Circle 3 (Davis Hall) Session (Library Conference Room) AI Anon Meeting (Commons) Boy Scouts (Will Young Senior High Room)</p> <p>Bible Study (Library Conference Room) Staff Meeting (Fellowship House Sunroom) NAMI (Commons) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p> <p>UNCC Chorale (Sanctuary and Fellowship House)</p> <p>Sunday School Classes (Various Rooms) Sanctuary Choir (Choir Room) Worship (in person and live streamed) Lithuania Lunch & Learn (Davis Hall) Combined Youth (Davis Hall) Youth Dinner (Davis Hall)</p>
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First Sunday of Lent



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

Sunday, March 9, 2025



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



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.

Ever-present God,
we have a lot on our minds,
our to-do lists run off the page,
we flit from one thing to another,
sometimes doing three things at once.

Capture our attention today,
that we may focus on what you have given us to do,
be present to the people you have put in our paths,
slow down enough
to feel compassion
to show mercy
to listen.
Amen.

~ The Rev. Teri Peterson

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

Opportunity House

VOLUNTARY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Word made flesh is among us — listen to him!

All: Turning from the distractions, we turn toward the Holy One in our midst.

Leader: The Living God has a story of eternal life now — listen to him!

All: Looking for our part in the story, we open ourselves to hear.

*HYMN 412

God, Reveal Your Presence

ARNSBERG

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we are worried and distracted by many things. And while we would argue that these things are important, we know that our worries can be all-consuming, too often crowding out your still, small, wise voice. Forgive us. Help us to hear your voice above the noise. Teach us what is ours to do today. Lead us in your way of life and peace. In Jesus' name. 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 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

lay reader, Clemi Hacker

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 25:1-2, 4-5, 8-10 (read responsively)

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**People: O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Leader: Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.

**People: Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.**

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**People: He leads the humble in what is right
and teaches the humble his way.**

Leader: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and
faithfulness,

People: for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 10:25-42

pew bible, page 71

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 707

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

HALL

*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 *Come, Then, O Holy Breath of God* Giovanni Palestrina
(Sanctuary Choir)

Come, then, O Holy Breath of God, and life unto my soul impart. Thou knowest that thy true abode can only be in man's heart. Let worldly longings depart; purge Thou me of them wholly, so that thy Holy light may dwell within my heart for all time to come.

***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 your abundant gifts, we give you thanks, O God. Bless us and all that
we offer for the work of your coming kingdom in your beloved world.
Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 63

The Lord Is God

Azmon

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Peace I Leave with You

Walter Pelz

(Sanctuary Choir)

Peace, peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth
give I unto you; my peace I give to you.

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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Worship Notes: This morning's Call to Worship was written by the Rev. Teri Peterson. The Affirmation of Faith is **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.