

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 704-288-7459.

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

New Members – This morning we welcome Jacqueline Niblock into our church family.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be offered this morning to Catherine-Zeta Niblock, daughter of Jacqueline Samantha Niblock and William Thomas Niblock. We welcome Catherine-Zeta into our fellowship and pray for God’s blessings on this family.

Pew Prep – Our Pew Prep students have been learning the Lord’s Prayer. When they return to worship this morning, they should follow the ushers forward and then join Pastor Ellen in the Chancel to help lead the Lord’s Prayer.

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

Registration for our 2025 Vacation Bible School ends this Wednesday, April 30! You’ll find a link to the registration form on our website: [Vacation Bible School – First Presbyterian Church Concord](#). Printed forms are also available in the church office, Monday through Wednesday, and in the narthex. VBS is June 9-12 and is FREE. **Advance registration is required** – registration and health documents are **due by April 30**. Forms may be turned in to the church office or through First Kids for First Kids students and siblings. First Kids is also offering a week of camp June 2-5 for \$95. Ages and times for both weeks can be found on the registration form. We hope to see you there! We are still seeking adult and Youth volunteers. See the Banner for the link to volunteer.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE		
	Later today 5:00 PM	Church Picnic (Niblock Farm)
Monday, April 28	9:00 AM 6:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Personnel & Admin (Journey Classroom)
Tuesday, April 29	9:00 AM 6:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Buildings & Grounds Mtg (Library Conference Room) Cub Scouts (Davis Hall) Al Anon (Commons) Boy Scouts (Will Young Senior High Room)
Wednesday, April 30	9:00 AM 6:00 PM 7:30 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Christian Ed Mtg (Fellowship House Sunroom) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, May 1	9:00 AM 1:00 PM 5:00PM 6:00PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Mother’s Day Tea (Davis Hall) Girl Scouts (Courtyard) Girl Scouts (2nd & 3rd flrs Ed Bldg)
Friday, May 2	9:00 AM 12:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Mother’s Day Tea (Davis Hall)
Saturday, May 3	6:00 PM	Kids Night In (Davis Hall)
Sunday, May 4	9:45 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:30 PM	Sunday School Classes (Various Rooms) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) Worship (in person and live streamed) Sips and Sweets (Front Lawn) Youth Sunday Rehearsal (Sanctuary) Youth Dinner (Davis Hall)

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

Second Sunday
Of Easter



First Presbyterian Church
70 Union Street North
Concord, North Carolina

Sunday, April 27, 2025



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.

Slow us down today, Living God—
for we are tempted to rush,
to get over it, move on,
take the next step.
Slow us down today
and re-settle us in your story,
that we may see ourselves in your word,
that scripture and life might intertwine
and show us your truth.
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.

VOLUNTARY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come and worship!
People: This is our God,
the One we have waited for—
and he has saved us!
Leader: Let us celebrate,
People: and sing the joys of his salvation!

*HYMN 245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! LLANFAIR

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we have heard whispers of resurrection and new life, but we struggle to understand or believe. It’s easier to fill our baffled silence with our own words rather than listen for your Word. Forgive our failures to listen to you. In your mercy, continue to walk with us and lead us in faith for we long to follow your Son, our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ. 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 238 Thine Is the Glory JUDAS MACCABEUS
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay. Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 25:6-9 pew bible, page 652

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Noisy Offering

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

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 Luke 24:13-35 pew bible, page 90

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 702 Christ Be Beside Me BUNESSAN

*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

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY A Pleasant Moment Florence Price

*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

Leader: Like the disciples at Emmaus, we offer what we have. They offered their company, their table, their bread. Stay with us, Jesus, as we offer you our love, our devotion, these gifts.
People: May our eyes be opened to your holy presence among us, now and always, in the name of your Son who teaches us to pray together:

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.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 234 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain ST. KEVIN

*POSTLUDE
*Those who are able, please stand.
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Worship notes - Cover artwork by Michael Torevell, used with permission. This morning’s 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*. This morning’s prayer of thanksgiving is adapted from one written by Carol Penner.

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