

**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.

**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

**We welcome and thank these guest Celebration Musicians for their contributions in worship today:** Erica Cice (Oboe); Sam Sparrow (Clarinet); Joshua Hood (Bassoon); Paige Quillen (Horn); Tatiana Karpova (violin); Ellyn Stuart (violin); Ellen Ferdon (viola); Janis Nilsen (cello); Jeffrey Ferdon (bass)

**James Nathaniel Holland, arranger of today's setting of "The Holy City,"** has granted us permission to present his arrangement during worship on Easter Sunday (April 5, 2026) at First Presbyterian Church, Concord, NC. (Thank you Mr. Holland.) We also acknowledge the original composer of the music, Stephen Adams (a.k.a. Michael Maybrick), and the author of the original lyrics, F.E. Weatherly. More information about the musical works of Mr. James Holland is available at <https://www.amazon.com/author/hollandjamesnathaniel>

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Monday, April 6</b>	Office Closed for Easter Monday Stewardship & Finance (off campus) Cub Scouts (Davis Hall) Boy Scouts (Will Young High School Room)
4:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	
<b>Tuesday, April 7</b>	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Mission Team Mtg (E201) Al Anon (Commons) Board of deacons (Library Conference Room)
9:00 AM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	
<b>Wednesday, April 8</b>	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Bible Study (Library Conference Room) Staff Meeting (Fellowship House Sunroom)
9:00 AM 10:30 AM 2:00 PM	
<b>Thursday, April 9</b>	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) First Kids Fundraiser (Davis Hall)
9:00 AM 4:00 PM	
<b>Friday, April 10</b>	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
9:00 AM	
<b>Saturday, April 11</b>	Families First (E201, E202, E204)
<b>Sunday, April 12</b>	Sunday School Classes (Various Rooms) Worship (in person and live streamed) Families First (E201, E202, E204) Circle 5 (Library Conference Room)
9:45 AM 11:00 AM 1:00 PM 3:00 PM	

# Easter Sunday



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

**Sunday, April 5, 2026**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CONCORD

[www.firstpresconcord.org](http://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**  
**Kirby Bullard, Moderator, Board of Deacons**

For a comprehensive list of officers, visit the church website:

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

Little by little, and yet all at once, you reveal resurrection, O God.

We see one part, and then another, and then another,  
and we pray you would clear away the haze  
and show us your glory today,  
risen Christ!

Speak to us, call us by name,  
and empower us to share your good news of life anew.

Amen.

~ The Rev. Teri Peterson

**PRELUDE** *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus* RESTORATION, arr. Leo Nestor/Yost  
(orchestra)

## 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.*

**INTROIT** *A Triptych on the Tunes Miles Lane, Diadem, and Coronation*  
*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* Arr. Yost and Price

(Sanctuary Choir, Instrumentalists, **AND CONGREGATION ON VERSE FOUR**)

(1.) All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all. (2.) Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall; hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all. (3.) Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all. **(4.) \*O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall. We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all; we'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of All.**

Seated---verses 1 through 3 (choir and instrumentalists ONLY)

**\*Standing---verse 4---**congregation please stand and sing when invited by the Choirmaster

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

People: Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

All: *Let us worship God!*

**\*HYMN 232** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy One, on this joyful resurrection day, we confess that we are slow to see your Good News. We are overwhelmed with grief and unable to imagine new life on our own, so we tend to cling to what we know and see. In your mercy, forgive us. Call to us once more. Give us eyes to see your new creation as we follow our Risen Lord. 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 239** *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

lay reader, Dakeita Vanderburg

### FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

pew bible, page 1

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND LESSON

John 20: 1-18

pew bible, page 114

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Ellen Crawford True

### MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### \*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...**

**Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record.**

**The Bible is the account of God's word and action in history,  
together with his people's response in faith.**

**It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church**

**towards the kingdom of God,  
his just and loving rule over all.**

**It is the story of the one God,  
who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

**That story is still unfolding  
and in faith we make it our own.**

**It forms our memory and our hope.**

**It tells us who we are and what we are to do.**

**To retell it is to declare what we believe...**

**Jesus is Lord!**

**He has been Lord from the beginning.**

**He will be Lord at the end.**

**Even now he is Lord. 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

*The Holy City*

Stephen Adams

arranged and edited by James Nathaniel Holland

(Sanctuary Choir, Instrumentalist, soloists Preslar Newton and Cecilia Moneta)

Last night I lay a-sleeping I dreamed a dream so fair, I stood in old Jerusalem  
Beside the temple there. I heard the children singing, And ever as they sang, I  
thought the voice of angels From heaven in answer rang. *Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
O how the angels sing! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your King!*

And then I saw my dream was changed, The streets no longer rang. Hushed  
were the glad Hosannas, No little children sang. The sun grew dark with  
mystery, The morn was cold and chill, As the shadow of a cross arose Upon a  
lonely hill, As the shadow of a cross arose Upon a lonely hill. *Jerusalem,  
Jerusalem, O how the angels sing! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your King!*

And once again the scene was changed, New earth there seemed to be. I saw  
the Holy City beside the tideless sea; The light of God was on its streets, The  
gates were open wide, And all who would might enter, And no one was denied.  
No need of moon or stars by night, Or sun to shine by day; It was the new  
Jerusalem That would not pass away! It was the new Jerusalem That would not  
pass away. *Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Sing for the night is o'er! Hosanna in the  
highest! Hosanna forevermore! Amen!*

#### \*DOXOLOGY 609

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and  
low. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and  
Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

#### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**In joy and gratitude we praise you, O God, for the new life you offer us in  
Jesus Christ. Use us and all we bring for the work of your new creation  
and your coming kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

#### \*HYMN 238

*Thine Is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

[NOTE: If you would like to sing the *Hallelujah* with the Choir, **please walk forward via the side aisles during this hymn.** Music scores are available and will be distributed by a few choir members.]

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL/CHORAL/INSTRUMENTAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Hallelujah*

G. F. Handel

Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world  
has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign  
forever and ever. Hallelujah.

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

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Cover artwork: "Christ Appearing to Mary" by Edward Middleton Manigault, 1887-1922. Used with permission. 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.