

**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.

**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.

**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

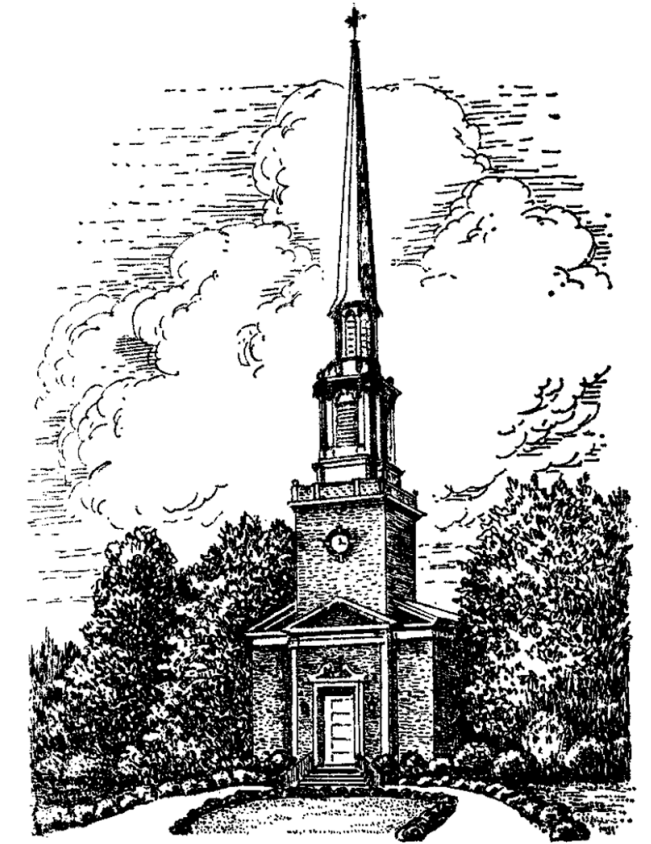
**2026 Habitat for Humanity Campaign**—Your Support Builds More Than Walls—When we serve together, we build more than homes. We build hope. Every hour and every gift makes a lasting impact. Our Weekday Warriors volunteer their time helping build homes: "Volunteering with Habitat has shown me the power of showing up for one another. Together, we are creating safe, stable homes. That makes every hour worth it." Checks may be made out to FPC with Habitat in the memo line. You may also choose Habitat from the drop down list online.

**Join us back here today at 3:00 PM** for a concert by the UNCC Chorale followed by a reception in the Fellowship House.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Later Today</b>	3:00 PM 4:30 PM	Chorale Concert & Reception (Sanctuary & Fellowship House) Combined Youth (Davis Hall & Commons)
<b>Monday, May 4</b>	9:00 AM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Cub Scouts (Davis Hall) Circle 1 (Fellowship House) Boy Scouts (Will Young High School Room) Racial Equity Reads (Library Conference Room)
<b>Tuesday, May 5</b>	9:00 AM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Mission Team Mtg (E201) Board of Deacons (Library Conference Room) Al Anon Mtg (Commons)
<b>Wednesday, May 6</b>	9:00 AM 7:30 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
<b>Thursday, May 7</b>	9:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg) Brownie Troop 323 (Davis Hall) Girl Scouts (Ed Bldg)
<b>Friday, May 8</b>	9:00 AM	Office Closed First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
<b>Saturday, May 9</b>	9:00 AM	Families First NC (E201, E204, E205)
<b>Sunday, May 10</b>	9:45 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 1:00PM 3:00 PM 6:00 PM	Sunday School Classes (Various Rooms) Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) Worship (in person and live streamed) Families First (E201, E 204, E205) Circle 5 (Fellowship House) Youth Serving at Night Shelter (off campus)

# Fifth Sunday Of Easter



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

**Sunday, May 3, 2026**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CONCORD

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

**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.

O Jesus, our great high priest,  
be present with us  
as you were present with your disciples,  
and make yourself known to us  
in the breaking of bread. Amen.  
~Derived from the Mozarabic liturgy (7th century)

## 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

Legacy Sunday, Olanda Carr

### VOLUNTARY

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pulpit side: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.  
**Lectern side: Serve the Lord with gladness;**  
*Choir: come into God's presence with singing.*  
**All: Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN 385 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* OLD HUNDREDTH

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being: forgive us for dabbling in faithfulness and following only when it suits us. Forgive us when we place our trust in the wrong things. Forgive us when we are cajoled by easy promises. In your mercy, forgive us, and lead us in your way of life, hope, love, and courage, in the name of your Son, our 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 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 OF ILLUMINATION

lay reader, Benjamin Lacy

FIRST LESSON Psalm 100 pew bible, page 552

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Acts 17:16-34 pew bible, page 137

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 739 *O for a Closer Walk with God* CAITHNESS

\*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.**

### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *God So Loved the World* John Stainer  
(Sanctuary Choir)

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. God so loved the world.

\*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 DEDICATION

**For all the ways you know us and love us, O God, we give you thanks. Take and use all that we offer for your work in your beloved 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

*We will eat the bread and drink the cup together, after the pastor says, "The body of Christ, given for you," and "The cup of salvation, poured out for you."*

### PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**By your grace, O God, we have been fed and nourished at this table. Go with us and lead us as we share the good news of your saving ways with a hungry and waiting world. Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN 295 *Go to the World!* SINE NOMINE

### \*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.*

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**Worship Notes:** This morning's affirmation 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.

**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.