

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All are welcome who are gathered here today for worship. Everyone is invited to sign the Friendship Pad at the end of the pew, passing it down and back so that after the service, we may greet one another by name.

Ushers: Greg Hutchins, Carol Hutchins, Andy Warner, Lynn Warner, Winslow Rogers

Greeter: Laura Rogers

Liturgist: Russell Proctor

Children's Sermon: Mary Scott

Acolytes: Jack Powers and Ward Rose

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jean Proctor by the Proctor and Witten families.

Make plans to join us this evening at 5:00 p.m. for our next Evensong worship service. We will spend time in song, silence, communion and prayer with a focus on healing. Our middle and high school youth will gather in the fellowship hall after this evening's service for a youth group meal.

The Brown Bag Bible Study folks meet Mondays from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Session Room unless otherwise posted. All are welcome to bring their lunch and enjoy this time of discussion.

Kiddos in the Kirk is an opportunity for children ages pre-K through 5th grade to gather here one afternoon a month with Pastor Matt for snacks, music, games, and fun. (Kirk is the Scottish name for church.) Our next gathering will be held this Monday from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.!

The Circle of Friends will gather Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the home of Cora Lee Gold with Mary Watson leading the Bible Study.

The Circle of Joy will meet Tuesday at 10:30 in the Session Room.

A community Lenten midweek service will be held at noon at different locations each Wednesday during Lent. This week, make plans to attend the service at NC Wesleyan College (Carleton Board Room in the Dunn Center) and the Rev. George Greer of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church will be preaching.

Our Community Partners focus for March will be collecting bingo prizes for Covenant Homes. Items such as large print crossword & word search books, household products (tissues, paper towels, etc), books, kitchen gadgets, etc. are very much appreciated and can be placed in either the bin in the narthex or the volunteer room.

Donate towards a lily to celebrate a special loved one and/or special people in your life. The Presbyterian Women will place Easter lilies in our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 12. Donation envelopes can be found on the welcome table in the narthex or the church office. All proceeds will go to the Littrell/Thorpe Scholarship Fund which provides college financial assistance for youth in our church. A donation of \$18.00 or more per lily is appreciated. Checks should be made out to Presbyterian Women with "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Completed envelopes with checks/cash enclosed can either be placed in the offering plate or in Dionne Seale's church box no later than April 5, 2020.

If you noticed our church sign is missing, it is being spruced up thanks to Darin Scott and Anne Kinnaird! New landscape lighting has been added as well to enhance our signage visibility.

Pastor

The Rev. Matthew Baker
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Parish Associate

The Rev. Dr. Preston Smith
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Choral Scholars

Arianna Ford, Mikaela Schifter,
Ashton Worley, Daniel Eckes, Jim Lee

Financial Secretary

Jeanne Shannon
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Church Ministry Coordinator

Dionne Seale
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Sexton

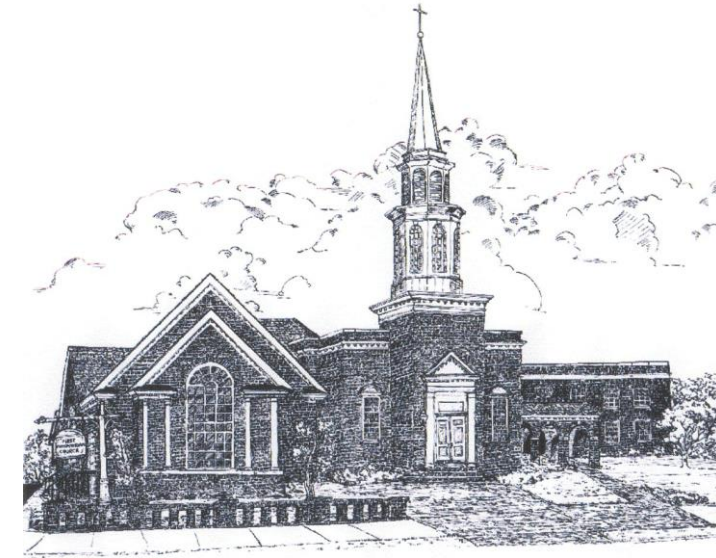
Michael Smith

Assistant Sexton

Charity Lodge

Nursery Assistant

Mary Hilliard



First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpcrm.org

Our Mission:

"To be a congregation of believers carrying out the Word of God and joyfully bringing the community to the church and the church to the community."

March 8, 2020
Second Sunday in Lent
11:00 a.m.

Hearing assistance and large print hymnals are available upon request from any usher.

"I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Psalm 121:1-2

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"

Walcha

APPROACHING THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Baker

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

INTROIT

"In You, Lord, I Have Put My Trust"

ICH GEHOFFET

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From where will our help come?

All: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

One: Who is our keeper?

All: The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.

One: How long will God protect us?

All: God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore.

*HYMN 417 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" REGENT SQUARE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE Hymn 574

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn 579

*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

TIME WITH CHILDREN Mary Scott

*All children are invited to come forward at this time and may bring their offering for collection.
After the closing prayer, children kindergarten age and younger will be escorted to the
Children's Nursery using the door closest to the baptismal font.*

ANTHEM "Out of the Depths" Frost

*Out of the depths have I cried unto you. Lord, hear my voice.
Lord, let your ear be attentive to my cry; Lord, hear my cry for mercy.
If you, O Lord, kept a record of sin, who, then, could stand?
But with you, Lord, there is forgiveness. Therefore, you may be feared.
I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait and in his word do I hope.
Meredith Cooper, violin*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 121 (Pew Bible, OT pg.571)
John 3:1-17 (Pew Bible, NT pg.93)

One: This is the word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Lenten Climbing" Matt Baker

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 87 "The Glory of These Forty Days" ERHALT UNS, HERR

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debts and debtors)*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "A Simple Song" Bernstein

*Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laude. Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laude.
Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, for God is the simplest of all.
I will sing the Lord a new song, to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord.*

*I will sing His praises while I live, all of my days.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord. Blessed is the man who praises Him. And walks in His ways.
I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help.
I will lift up my voice to the Lord, singing Lauda, Laude.
For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand.
And the sun shall not smite me by day, nor the moon by night.
Jim Lee, soloist*

*DOXOLOGY Hymn 592

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*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.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 443 "O Christ, the Great Foundation" AURELIA

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" hymn #81 verse 2

*As Thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in Thee to fight, in Thee to conquer sin.*

*POSTLUDE "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" Bach

**Those who are able, please stand
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