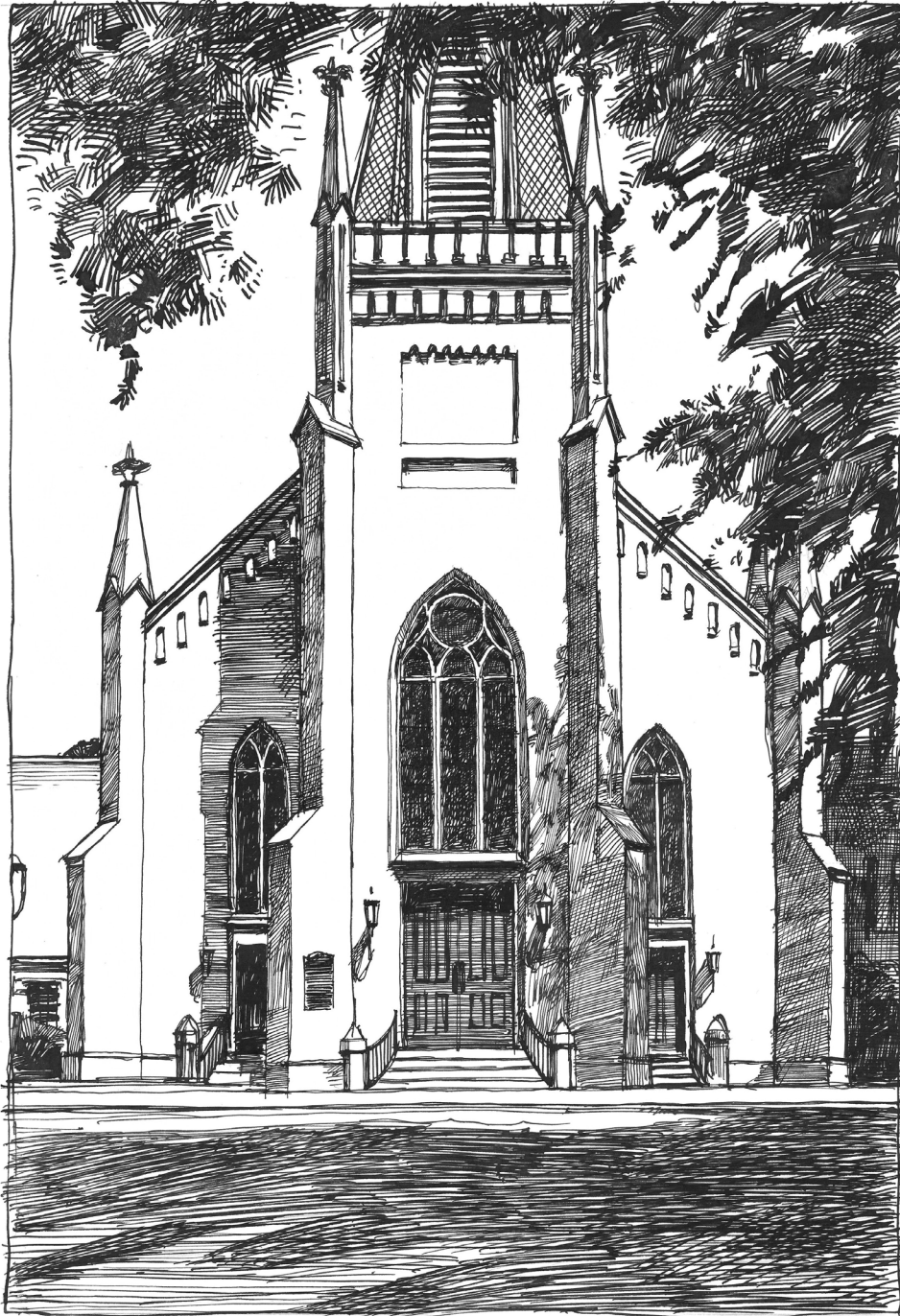


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 23, 2025 | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



We invite you, whoever you are and whoever God is helping you to become, to join First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte in our journey of faith. God is love, and that love is for you. You belong as a child of God, and we welcome you. Come experience how that belonging might change you and our world as we seek to be for Christ in the heart of Charlotte.



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

VIRTUAL
CONNECT
CARD

Are you interested in joining our church? Contact Jane Ives, Membership Coordinator, jives@firstpres-charlotte.org.

The Elder assisting with the baptism today is Caroline Ford.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN**PREPARATION**

Prelude | Going Home from *Symphony No. 9, Op. 95* | Antonín Dvořák, adapt. James H. Westerhouse

Words of Welcome | Pen Peery

Chiming of the Trinity

ADORATION

Choral Call to Worship | Christopher Tye

O come, ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name; from early morn to setting sun his might on earth proclaim. His laws are just and glad the heart; he makes his mercies known. Ye people, come, and bow before his throne.

+**Hymn No. 307** | “God of Grace and God of Glory” | CWM RHONDDA

CONFESSION

Call to Confession | Lucy Crain

Prayer of Confession

God of freedom, Jesus came to bring good news: to mend and to heal, to release and redeem, to proclaim your reign. We confess that we have ignored his message. We remain captive to sin, bruised and broken by our transgressions. We are convinced that the news is always bad, and that we are forever stuck where we are, as we are. Help us to hear the truth of the gospel. Inspire us with your liberating word. Let your spirit cleanse us and change us so that we may receive all that you declared in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

+**Response to Pardon** | 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism of Graham Patrick Mooney

Baptism of Reilly Olivia Mooney

+**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.

Children ages three through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn. Older children are encouraged to stay and worship with their families.

+ Please stand if you are able

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination**Anthem** | “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” | arr. Moses Hogan*Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.***Scripture** | Luke 13:1-9 | pew Bible p. 76

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Sermon** | “The Cost of Following Jesus: Changing While There’s Time” | Pen Peery**+Hymn No. 697** | “Take My Life” | HENDON
*verses 1, 3, 5, 6***RESPONSE**

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer | Anna Dickson**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.****Stewardship of Life** | Recognition of Civil Rights Trip and Western NC Relief Trip**Presentation of Tithes and Offering****Offertory Anthem** | “I Stood on the River of Jordan” | arr. Burleigh | Billy Mancini, soloist*I stood on the river of Jordan to see that ship come sailin’ over, stood on the river of Jordan to see that ship sail by. Oh, mourner, don’t you weep when you see that ship sailin’ over, when you see that ship sailin’ by! Oh, sister you’d better be ready to see that ship come sailin’ over, to see that ship sail by. Shout “Glory, Hallelujah!” when you see that ship sail by. I stood on the river of Jordan.***+Doxology** | OLD HUNDREDTH**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****SENDING FORTH**

+Hymn No. 441 | “Hear the Good News of Salvation” | NETTLETON**+Benediction****+Benediction Response** | GOD BE WITH YOU*God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd’s care enfold you. God be with you till we meet again.***Postlude** | Tuba Tune | C. S. LangPRAYER
REQUESTSGIVE
ONLINETEXT
TO GIVE

IN LOVING MEMORY

Robert Holmes Brown (Bob), November 18, 1932 - March 14, 2025

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Lee (Garrell) Keesler and David (Susan) Keesler upon the death of their brother, Tom Keesler.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Graham and Reilly Mooney are the children of Sara and Patrick Mooney.

Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program which is used to purchase fresh foods for our on-site Nourish Up food pantry.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmayer@hotmail.com.

Today's Worship Leaders:

The Reverend Pendleton B. Peery, *Senior Pastor*

The Reverend Anna R. Dickson, *Executive Pastor and Associate for Congregational Care*

The Reverend Lucy M. Crain, *Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission*

William P. Young, III, *Director of Music Ministries*

Kaitlyn Davros, *Assistant Director of Music Ministries*