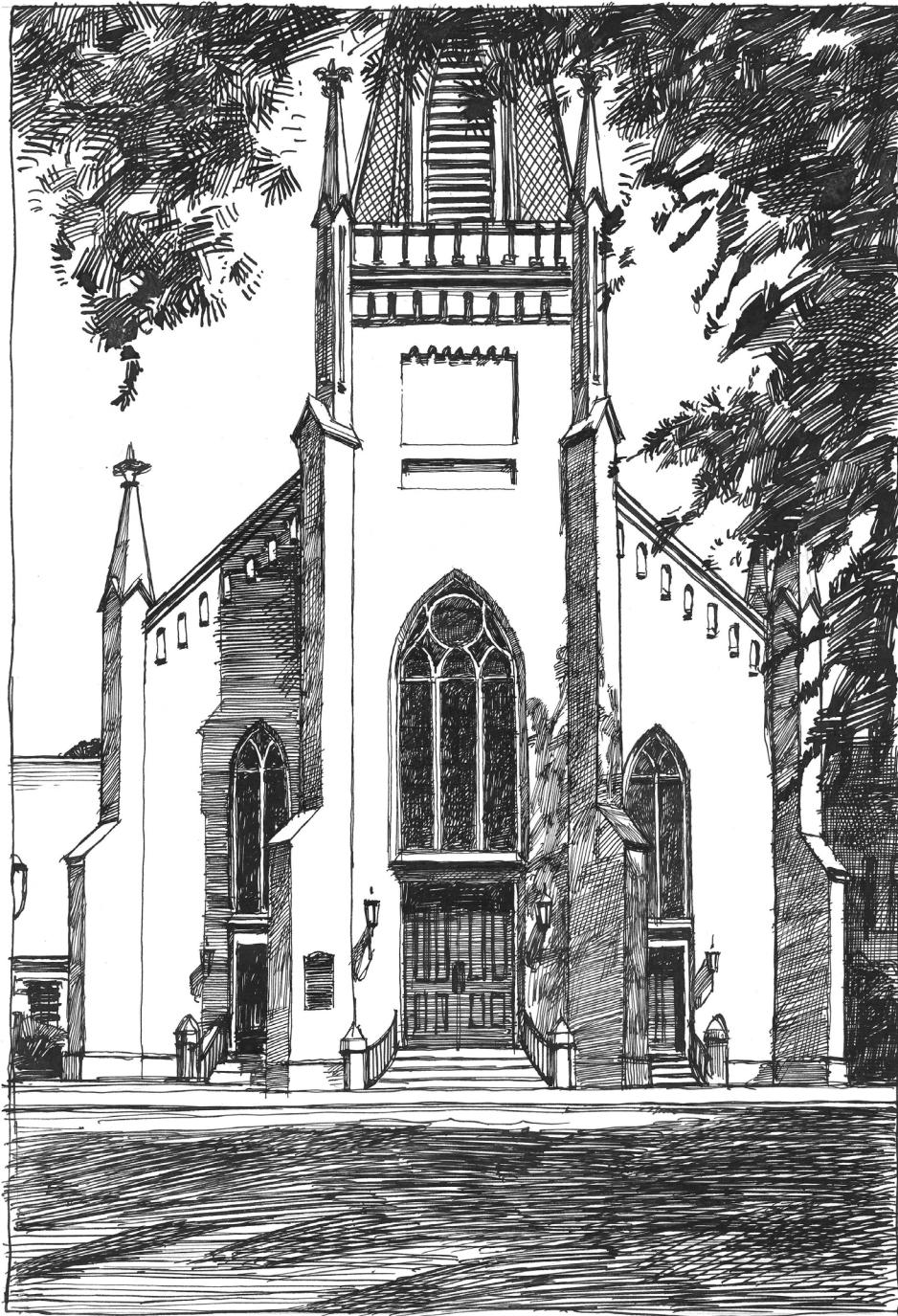


# First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 | SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*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

**PREPARATION**

**Prelude** | Come, Christians, Join to Sing | arr. David Lowe

**Words of Welcome** | Pen Peery

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**ADORATION**

**Choral Call to Worship** | arr. Mark Thallander

*Come, Christians, join to sing; loud praise to Christ our King. Let all with heart and voice before him now rejoice! Come lift your hearts on high; let praises fill the sky. "Alleluia! Amen!"*

**+Opening Hymn No. 267** | "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" | MADRID

**CONFESSION**

**Call to Confession** | Robert Galloway

**Prayer of Confession**

If we are being honest, it can be hard for us to trust that you will provide all that we need. We tend to think we need to compete, or fight, or hoard, or strategize our way into making sure that we have more than enough. We are far more comfortable believing that we can provide for ourselves. Forgive our arrogance, O Lord, and help us to recognize the ways that you shepherd us through the journey that is life.

**Assurance of Pardon**

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

**+Response to Pardon** | Hymn No. 581 | 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 Louise Katherine Hurd

Baptism of Cora Everly Knight

Baptism of Zara James Mohammed

**+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.*



**PROCLAMATION**

**Anthem** | “Shepherd Me, O God” | arr. Marty Haugen  
Carol and Kirk Choirs | soloist, Kelly Potts

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want; I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love; I walk by the quiet waters of peace. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture** | Psalm 23 | pew Bible p. 501

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** | “Songs That Shape Us: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” | Pen Peery

+**Hymn No. 803** | “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” | RESIGNATION

**RESPONSE**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer** | Lucy Crain

**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** | Presentation of Tithes and Offering

**Offertory Anthem** | “Psalm 23” | arr. Craig Courtney

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea though I walk through the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For you are with me; your rod and staff: they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely love and goodness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.*

PRAYER  
REQUESTS



+**Doxology** | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit,**  
**Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GIVE  
ONLINE



+**Prayer of Dedication**

TEXT  
TO GIVE

**SENDING FORTH**

+**Hymn No. 363** | “Rejoice, the Lord Is King!” | DARWALL’S 148TH

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | “Amen” | Peter Lutkin

**Postlude** | “Rejoice, the Lord Is King” | Brenda Porter

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**ABOUT THIS SERVICE**

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. A. J. Alexander and Dr. Alex Alexander by Jean Gilcrest.

*If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at [dianenmaye@hotmail.com](mailto:dianenmaye@hotmail.com).*

Today's Worship Leaders:

**The Reverend Pendleton B. Peery**, Senior Pastor

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

**The Reverend Robert L. Galloway**, Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Young Adults

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

**Catherine Hicks**, Guest Organist

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**IN LOVING MEMORY**

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Jason Snead upon the death of his mother, Martha Snead.