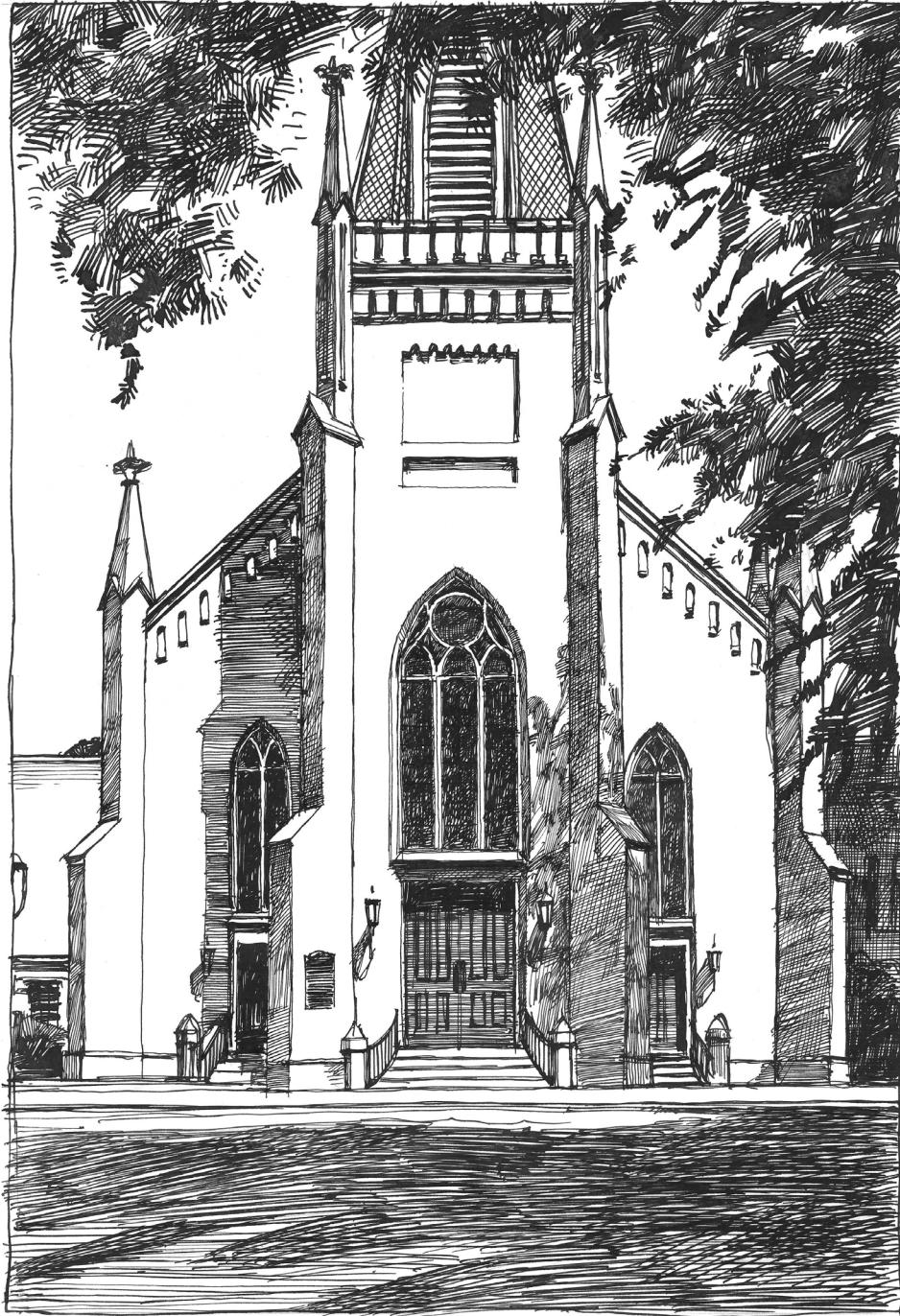


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | JANUARY 28, 2024 | FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



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



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

PREPARATION

Prelude**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 heard; he makes his mercies known. Ye people come, and bow before his throne.

+Hymn No. 33 | "Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show" | LLANFAIR

CONFESION

Call to Confession | Anna Dickson**Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, you call, but we are hard of hearing. You beckon, but we turn the other way. Sin keeps us from responding to you, and so we fail to love mercy, show kindness, and walk humbly with you. Forgive our lack of attention to the things that matter. Focus us on your call to worship and service. Release us from all that prevents us from being the people you would have us be, so that we may choose the path that points in the way of Jesus Christ, whose love is stronger than death.

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

Baptisms of Isabella Anne Bradley and Margaret Lamb Bradley

+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.

PROCLAMATION**Anthem** | “For Everyone Born” | FOR EVERYONE BORN | Carol and Kirk Choirs

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy. For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy.

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.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

**Prayer for Illumination****Scripture** | Mark 1:21-28 | pew Bible p. 35

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon | “Authority” | Pen Peery**Anthem** | “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” | arr. Eric Nelson

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace! My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name. Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease, 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace. He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free; his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me. Hear him, ye deaf! His praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ! Ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy! O leap and sing for joy!

PRAYER
REQUESTS

**RESPONSE****Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** | Robert Galloway

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.

GIVE
ONLINE

**Stewardship of Life** | Presentation of Tithes and Offering**Offertory Anthem** | “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” | arr. Trevor Cook | Ivey Handbell Ringers**+Doxology** | Hymn No. 606 | 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.

TEXT
TO GIVE

**+Prayer of Dedication**

SENDING FORTH

+Hymn No. 839 | "Blessed Assurance" | ASSURANCE**+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 | Prelude on Blessed Assurance | Gordon Young**IN LOVING MEMORY**

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Brian Craver upon the death of his father, Comann "Penn" Penry Craver, Jr.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Isabella Anne Bradley and Margaret Lamb Bradley are the daughters of Anna and Cooper Bradley.

The rosebuds in the Sanctuary celebrate the births of Steele Snedeker Hoke, daughter of Katherine and Ben Hoke; and Callum Thomas Overbey-Babcock, son of Carlisle Overbey and Evan Babcock.

Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program, a hunger relief and at-risk youth ministry of the Presbytery of Charlotte.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the baptisms of Isabella Anne Bradley and Margaret Lamb Bradley and in memory of grandfather, Charles Lamb Bradley. The flowers are sponsored by grandparents, Richard Houden and Margaret Cauthen and Jeff and Anne Bradley.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmaye@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 Robert L. Galloway, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

William P. Young, III, Director of Music Ministries

Dr. Catherine Hicks, Guest Organist