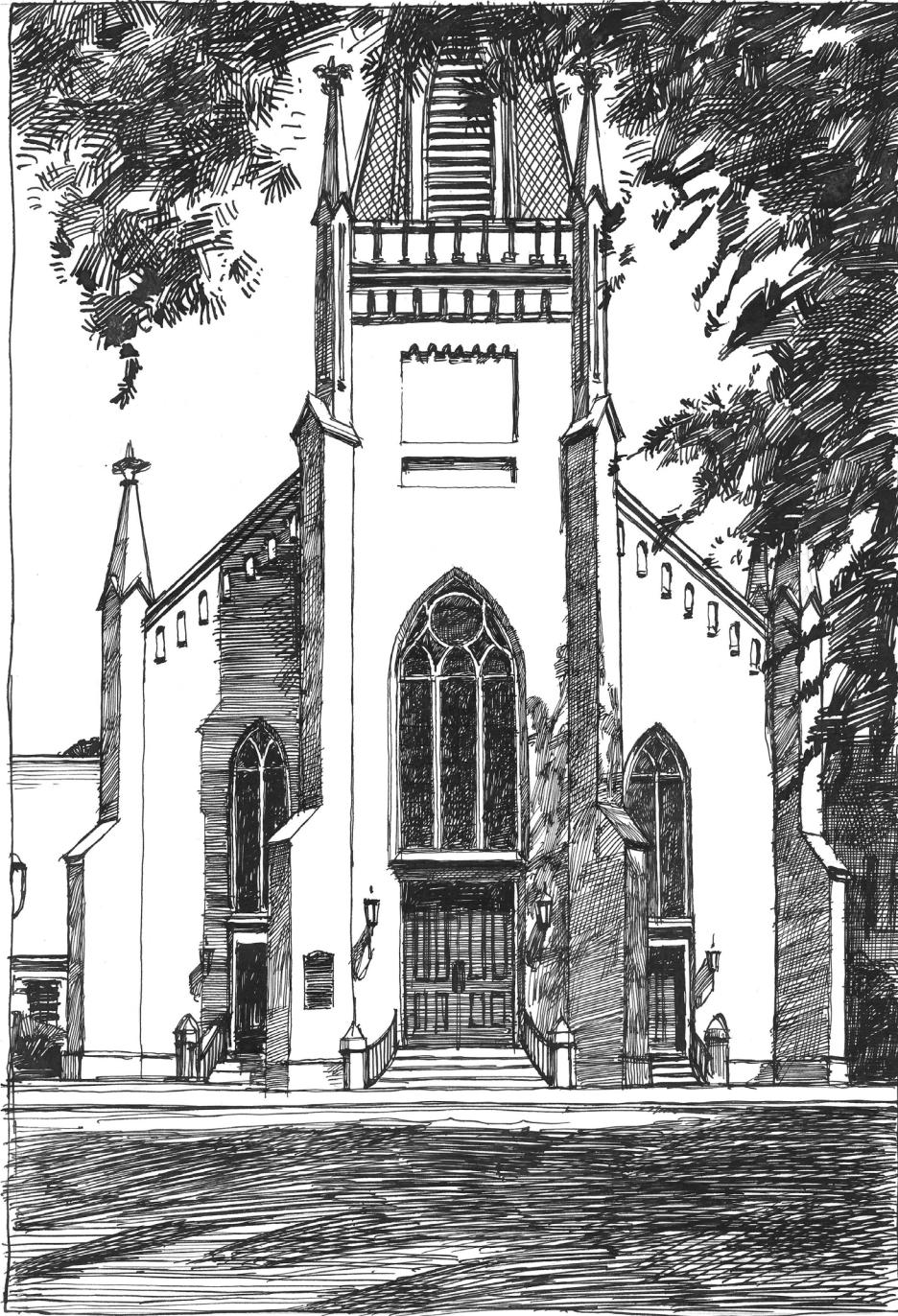


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 17, 2024 | FIFTH 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



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

The Elder assisting with the baptism today is Woods Potts.

PREPARATION

Prelude | Prelude on “Rejoice the Lord is King” | Brenda Portman

Words of Welcome | Robert Galloway

Chiming of the Trinity

ADORATION

Choral Call to Worship | Eric Thiman

O praise God in his holiness; praise him in the firmament of his power!

+Hymn No. 363 | “Rejoice, the Lord is King!” | DARWALL'S 148TH

CONFESSION

Call to Confession | Anna Dickson

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we are blessed with how you show us your love and care. You uphold your covenants. You claim us as your beloved children. You sent your son to us. Yet, we do not respond to these gifts as we should. When we struggle to comprehend your actions, we question your will. In moments of impatience, we turn to false idols. When our desires are unmet, we doubt your power. When we fail to acknowledge your presence, we reject your love. Forgive us, O Lord, for our failings. Grant us the strength to respond to your love with deeper faith and trust. Give us patience so that we may be witnesses to your glory as it is revealed. Fill us with hope, as we strive to live according to your will.

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 Martin Joseph Fordice

+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**Prayer for Illumination****Scripture** | John 11:1-27 | pew Bible p. 104

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Anthem** | “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” | Dan Forrest

Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure, through a world that would deceive us, where to sin our hearts are lured. Ever in his footsteps treading, living here, yet home above, full of faith and hope and love, let us do our father's bidding; faithful Lord, abide with me. Savior, lead, I follow thee. Let us also die with Jesus; by his cross he conquered death, freed us from our souls' destruction, quickened us with life's new breath. Let us mortify, while living, self and pride, and die to sin, and the grave that shuts us in shall be prove the gate to heaven. Jesus, here I die to thee, there to dwell eternally. Let us gladly live with Jesus; he is risen from the dead. Death is swallowed up in victory; Jesus thou art now our head. Living members of thy body, where thou livest we shall be; thou wilt keep us constantly. Even so, dear Lord, come quickly; Jesus, here, I live to thee, there to dwell eternally. Let us ever walk with Jesus.

Sermon | “Encountering Jesus: Finding Hope” | Robert Galloway+**Hymn No. 250** | “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” | HYMN OF PROMISE**PRAYER REQUESTS****GIVE ONLINE****TEXT TO GIVE****RESPONSE****Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** | Chuck Williamson

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** | “Jesus Shall Reign” | arr. Eric Thiman

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun doth his successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore till moons shall wax and wane no more. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song; and infant voices proclaim their early blessings on his name. Blessings abound where'er he reigns; the prisoner leaps to lose his chains. The weary find eternal rest, and all the sons of want are blest. Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King. Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!

+**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.

+Prayer of Dedication**SENDING FORTH**+**Hymn No. 687** | “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” | ST. ANNE**+Benediction****+Benediction Response** | “Amen” | Peter Lutkin**Postlude** | Voluntary on St. Anne | Healey Willan

IN LOVING MEMORY

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Susan Young upon the death of her sister, Jan Looney; and to Susi Lovett upon the death of her brother, Cecil Dale Wright Jr.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Martin Joseph Fordice is the son of Garland and Daniel Fordice.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the parents and brothers of Cynthia Parnell Alexander.

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

The Reverend Robert L. Galloway, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

The Reverend Dr. Charles Williamson, Parish Associate

William P. Young, III, Director of Music Ministries

Dr. Catherine Hicks, Guest Organist