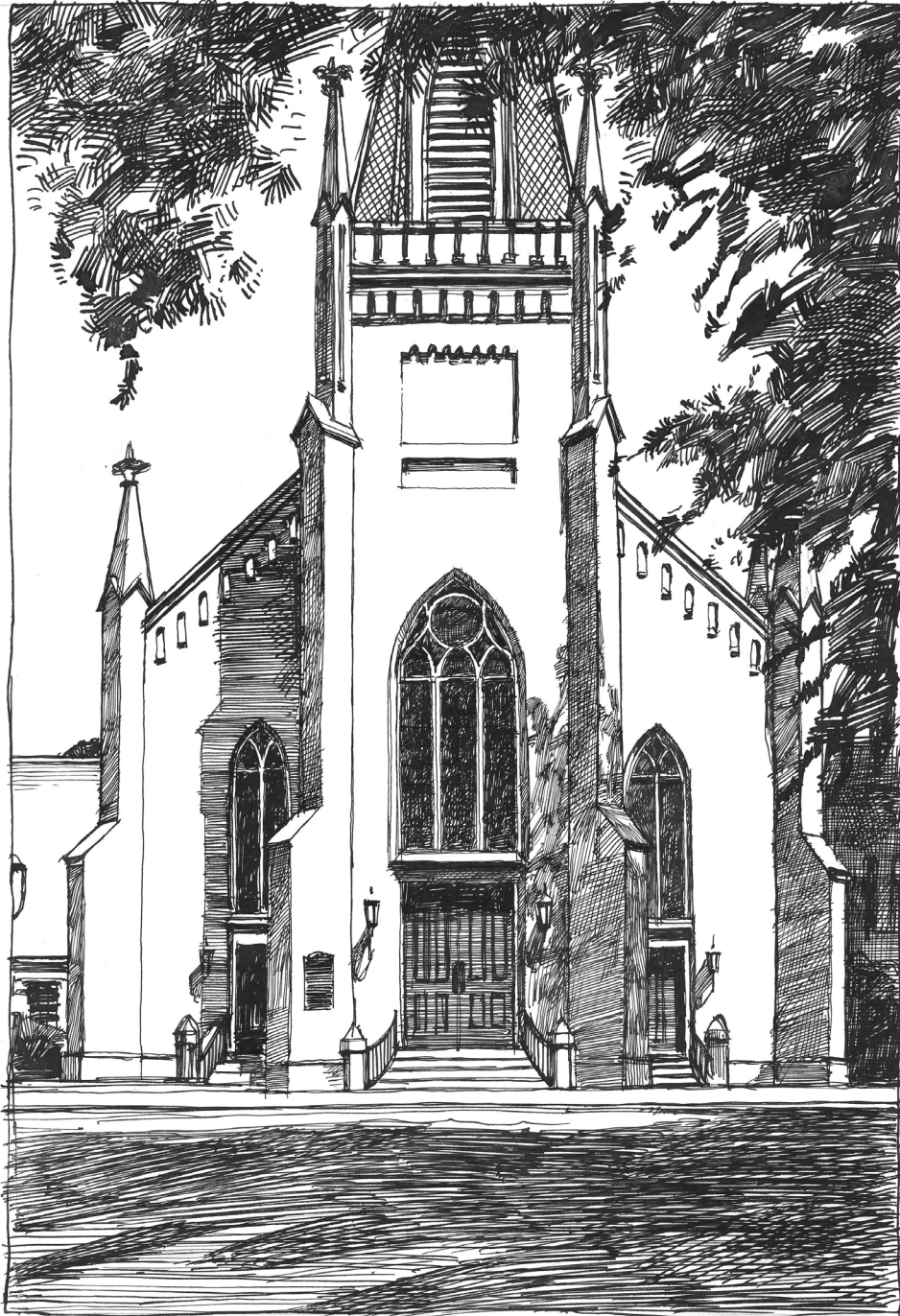


# First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 | SEVENTEENTH 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

VIRTUAL  
CONNECT  
CARD

Are you interested in joining our church? Contact Jane Ives, Membership Coordinator, [jives@firstpres-charlotte.org](mailto:jives@firstpres-charlotte.org).

**PREPARATION** 

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**Prelude** | Variations on *Azmon* | Robert Hobby**Words of Welcome** | Robert Galloway**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION** 

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**Choral Call to Worship** | Hal Hopson*O be ye joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with a song.*+**Hymn No. 63** | “The Lord Is God” | AZMON**CONFESSION** 

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**Call to Confession** | Pen Peery**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, you call us to worship you alone and to turn away from the idols that we revere. Yet, we have failed to worship you alone. We let comfort, pride, and fear become the false gods of our hearts. Our devotion has been empty. Our praise has been hollow. Forgive us, Lord, for raising idols above you. Please help us to remember how you have not forsaken us, even when we have forgotten you. Renew our spirits, so that we joyfully proclaim the goodness of your name.**

**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.**

**Time with Children**

*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** 

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**Prayer for Illumination****Anthem** | “Fight the Good Fight” | arr. John Gardner

*Fight the good fight with all thy might; Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right. Lay hold on life and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally. Run the straight race through God's good grace; lift up thine eyes and seek his face. Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path and Christ the prize. Cast care aside, lean on thy guide; his boundless mercy will provide. Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove Christ is its life, and Christ its love. Faint not, nor fear, his arms are near; He changeth not, and thou art dear. Only believe, and thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee. Amen.*

**Scripture** | Joshua 24:14-28 | pew Bible p. 216

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

+ Please stand if you are able

FIRST  
CHURCH  
MOBILE  
CHECK IN

**Sermon** | “Taking Back Our Story: A People of Allegiance” | Robert Galloway

+**Hymn No. 329** | “God Is Our Refuge and Strength” | WINCHESTER OLD

## RESPONSE

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+**Affirmation of Faith** | from *The Scots Confession* | Anna Dickson

We confess and acknowledge one God alone,  
to whom alone we must cleave,  
whom alone we must serve,  
whom only we must worship,  
and in whom alone we put our trust.

Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable,  
incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;  
one in substance and yet distinct in three persons:  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

By whom we confess and believe all things  
in heaven and earth, visible and invisible,  
to have been created,  
to be retained in their being,  
and to be ruled and guided  
by God’s inscrutable providence,  
for such end as God’s eternal wisdom, goodness,  
and justice have appointed,  
and to the manifestation of God’s own glory.

### Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

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 Scotland Trip Participants

### Presentation of Tithes and Offering

**Offertory Anthem** | “God Be in My Head” | K. Lee Scott

*God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking. God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in mine heart and in my thinking. God be at mine end and my departing. Amen.*

+**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!

+**Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYER  
REQUESTS



GIVE  
ONLINE



TEXT  
TO GIVE



**SENDING FORTH**

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+**Hymn No. 69** | “Here I Am, Lord” | HERE I AM

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | “Amen” | John Stainer

**Postlude** | Variations on *Azmon*: Toccata | Robert Hobby

**ABOUT THIS SERVICE**

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*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 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*