



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 20, 2025
9 & 11 AM WORSHIP



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

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.

VIRTUAL
CONNECT
CARD

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

PREPARATION

Prelude | Grand Chœur Dialogué | Eugène Gigout | arr. John Kuzma

Chiming of the Hour

Easter Proclamation

I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here! He is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

ADORATION

Choral Call to Worship | Thomas Matthews

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end. Alleluia!

+Processional Hymn No. 232 | “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” | EASTER HYMN | arr. John Rutter
Please stand as the choir passes your pew.

CONFESSION

Call to Confession | Anna Dickson

Prayer of Confession

We come running, looking for you, but you are not where we expect you to be. As always, you are to be found among the living—those living at the edge, those living with uncertainty, those living in ways we cannot imagine and may not approve. We come running, our hands full of things and our minds full of self-reliance, only to find that you have been here already, you have rolled away the stone and called us to trust your word.

Today as we peer once again into your empty tomb, remind us of all you have told us, and then guide our feet to follow. Fill the empty tombs of our hearts with your love that cannot be contained. Breathe new life into us, into your church, into your world, and overcome our fear of change so that we, too, may be found among the living. Turn our expectations upside down, and lead us into the new and different world you are creating, even now, even here. We ask in the name of the risen Christ.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

+Response | Hymn No. 248, stanza 1 | HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

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.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

Anthem | “My Master from a Garden Rose” | Eleanor Daley

My Master in a garden lay, perfumed with spices rare; for tender hands had laid him there to rest amid the roses. 'Twas on a cross they laid him bare, and pierced his hands with nails, that we poor men might live again and be with him in glory. Alleluia. My Master from a garden rose to go for us to heav'n, and he will come and take us there, to be with him forever. Alleluia. Amen.

Scripture | Luke 24:1-12 | pew Bible p. 90

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon | “Hopepunk” | Pen Peery

+Hymn | “Rejoice This Easter Day” | Jeremy Bankson

Rejoice this Easter day! Christ conquered sin and death!
Rejoice, give thanks, and praise God with your ev'ry breath.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

God's power cannot fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell are to our Savior giv'n;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the judge, shall come
to glorify the saints for their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

RESPONSE

+Affirmation of Faith | Apostles' Creed | Lucy Crain

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.

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

Presentation of Easter Offering | Special Offering for Affordable Housing

PRAYER
REQUESTS



TEXT
TO GIVE



GIVE
ONLINE



Offertory Anthem | “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Anthem” | Howard Helvey

Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem, cleave the skies with shouts of praise; sing to him who found the ransom, ancient of eternal days, God of God, the Word incarnate, whom the heaven of heaven obeys. There, for us and our redemption, see him all his lifeblood pour, there he wins our full salvation, dies that we may die no more; then, arising, lives forever, reigning where he was before. High on yon celestial mountains stands his gem-built throne, all bright, midst unending alleluias bursting from the sons of light; Zion's people tell his praises, victor after hard-won fight. Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever one, consubstantial coeternal, while unending ages run.

+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**SENDING FORTH**

+Hymn No. 268 | “Crown Him with Many Crowns” | DIADEMATA**+Benediction****+Benediction Response** | “Hallelujah” from *Messiah* | George Frideric Handel

Hallelujah, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever. King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

Postlude | Toccata from Symphony No. 5 | Charles-Marie Widor**IN LOVING MEMORY**

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Stacy Lynch upon the death of her mother, Marilyn Collins.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

In partnership with Habitat for Humanity, the funds from this year's Easter offering will provide critical home repair to seniors and families in the Westerly Hills neighborhood whose houses have fallen into disrepair.

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 Lucy M. Crain, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission

William P. Young, III, Director of Music Ministries

Kaitlyn Davros, Assistant Director of Music Ministries

Eric Millard, Trumpet

Jacob Sims, Trumpet

Paige Quillen, French Horn

Joe Skillen, Tuba

Gabriel Crane, Trombone

Trevor Cook, Timpani

Happy Easter!

Welcome! We're so glad you decided to join us for worship today. Whether you are a member, a frequent visitor, or your first time here, keep reading for details about today's worship.

Are you new here? Please fill out a Connect Card, which can be found in the seatback of the pew in front of you, or scan the "Virtual Connect Card" QR code in your bulletin.



Have children with you today?

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Services:

Children of all ages are welcome to worship with their families! A nursery

is available for children ages birth through two years old in room P311 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children will be invited to participate in the Time for Children during worship, after which ages three through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn.



Our church is a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, which seeks equity still not fully realized for LGBTQIA+ people in church.



Do you need support? We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministers are trained to engage in confidential, structured, and caring relationships with people who are going through a difficult period. If you are in a tough season and need extra support, email Anna Dickson (adickson@firstpres-charlotte.org).

If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 704.927.0256 for the on-call voicemail. Your call will be returned promptly.

CONNECT WITH US!



@firstprescharlotte

Announcements

Church Closure

Monday, April 21

Contemplative Service Livestreaming

The contemplative service is now available via livestream on a trial basis. We recommend accessing the bulletin for this service so you can participate in the moments of reflective prayer.

Westerly Hills Proctors Needed

Scholars are preparing for end-of-grade testing and need your help! They are looking for volunteers to serve as test proctors. Scan the QR code to sign up.

Operation Sandwich

April 27, 9:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall Overflow

Help make sandwiches for Roof Above.

Parent Connection: Rewriting the Scoreboard

April 27, 6 p.m., Frances Browne Dining Room

Join us for a relaxed evening of conversation, using clips from "Soul Boom" to explore how we can help our kids know their value beyond the grades, the trophies, and the achievements.

Youth Leadership Team Application

Due May 1

Apply for the Youth Leadership Team! YLT members will work together to plan and lead youth programming. All youth who will be high schoolers in the 2025-2026 school year are invited to apply.

PW Birthday Dinner

May 8, 5:30 p.m., Courtyard and Fellowship Hall

The evening will begin at 5:30 with drinks in the courtyard, followed by a festive dinner and a brief program. We will recognize Honorary Life Memberships and install PW's new officers for 2025-2026. Scan the QR code to register.

Church Officer Nominations

Deadline May 18

Help us identify faithful leaders to serve as Elders and Deacons at First Presbyterian Church. All confirmed members—including high school youth—are eligible. Scan the QR to access the online form and make a recommendation.



SCAN HERE TO ACCESS ALL LINKS
FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS
[FPC.TINY.US/LINKS](https://fpc.tiny.us/links)

The Easter lilies are given to the glory of God and in loving memory or honor of:

(honoraria in italics)

Belle Ward and Sid Abernethy
Jack and Anne Alexander
Bev and Joan Barksdale
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bateman, Jr.
Kent Brock

Harlan Carroll and Nancy Brock

Gail Weaver Bunn

Virginia Carpenter

Ken Carroll

Russell and Sue Carroll

Marilyn Chester

Circle 13

J.J. Clark, Jr.

Eugene W. and Mary T. Cochrane

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Coggins, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Emberson

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Young Farabow

Jean Gilcrest

Lee Mynatt Given

Dr. and Mrs. Edward H. Hagerty

Dorothy and William Halligan

Cornelia and Dick Harbison

Taylor Harbison

Will Harbison

Norene and Bill Hart

Francis and Bob Hasty

Bill and Tet Henley

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse G. Hite, Sr.

Barbara and Pressley Hoover

Noel Howard

Nancy and Robert James

Baxter and Sandra Jenkins

Mim and Al Jones

Frank Kirk

Judith Phillips Langston

Robert C. Langston

Jack Lomax

Helen Collins, Nina Dingus, Ginger Long

Lydia Miller, Brenda Long, Laura Long

Arlene Main

Roswell and Martha Mallory

Paul H. and Margaret C. Mann

Jim Martin

Dowd Maye

Larry Maye

Bill and Elise McClung

Kathy McElroy

Rex McGuinn

Michael Minsker

Jim and Aline Mohr

John M. Murchison

Dr. William Mynatt

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Neikirk

Helen Neil

Margaret and Joe Neil

Kirk Raymond Orrell

The Parents of Gibbs and Bryan Ives and Jane
and Frasier Ives

Pete and Margaret Peery

Dottie Pendergrass

Nancy O. Porter

Thomas Baker Price

Rick and Arlene Rickenbaugh

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Ridenhour, Jr.

Mary and Fred Schultze

Mr. and Mrs. Johnston Reid Shoemaker, Sr.

David Sidbury

John Spears

Hattie Mae Spells

Elder William Spells, Sr.

Harris Squires

Kathy and Mac Squires

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

Becky Temple

Clara Spencer Vandenburg

Jody Vandenburg

Dr. and Mrs. Richard C. Wallace

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Richard C. Ward

David and Kathy Wells

Lib and John Williams

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Wingfield

Donna Wright

Margaret Wright