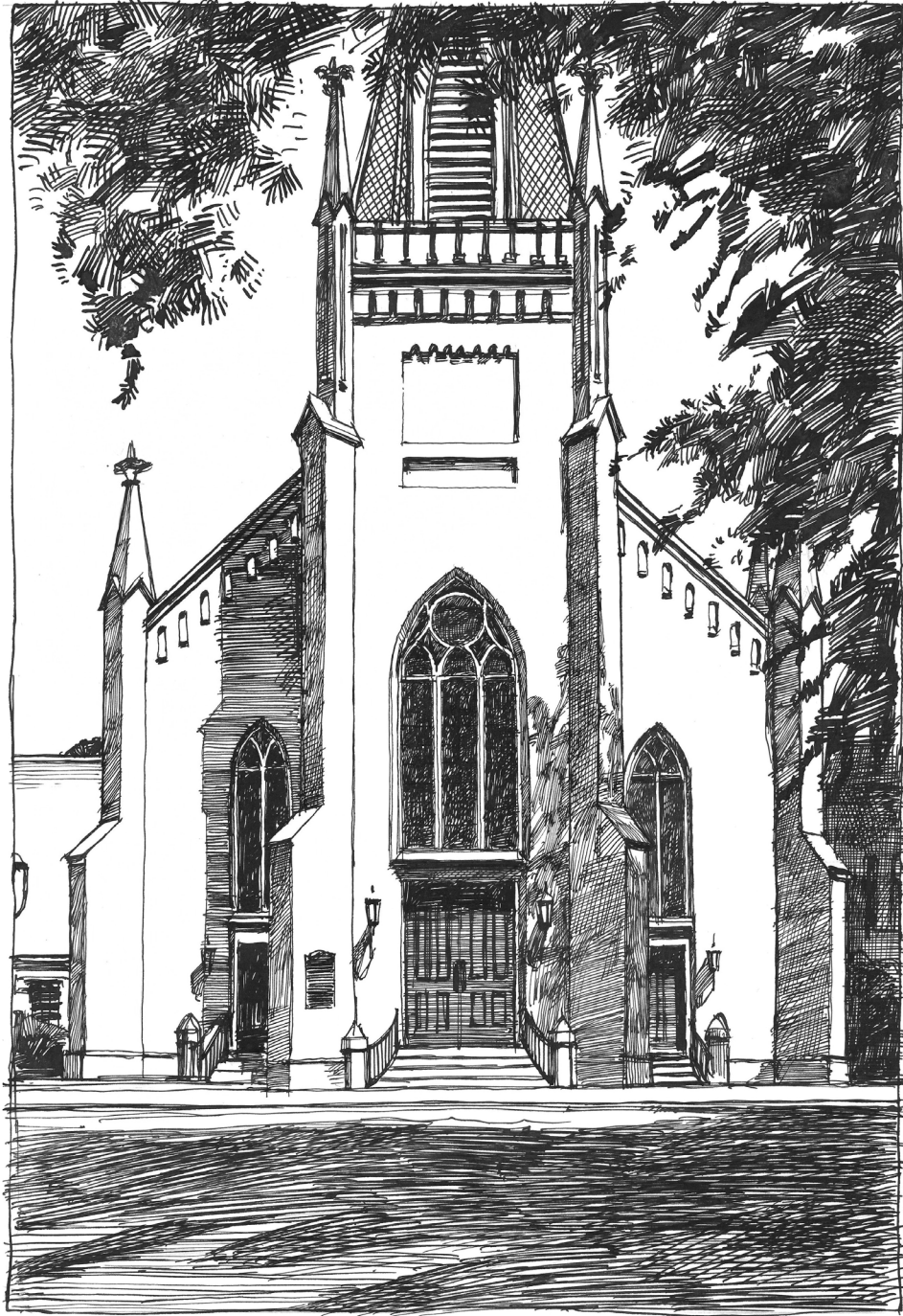


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | OCTOBER 26, 2025 | TWENTIETH 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.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN**PREPARATION****Prelude** | Sonata No. 5 in E minor Andante, BWV 1034 | J.S. Bach

“One Voice” | Robert J. Powell | Carol Choir

One voice is all we have to sing our maker's praise. So worthy is the God of grace who blesses all our days. Holy, holy, holy, we are God's delight. We sing with joy, lift every note and send it to the light. One life is all we have to share the gifts received, perfecting kindness, strength, and faith to honor God in peace. One heart is all we have to offer God above, returning thanks for every gift our sacrifice of love. We sing with joy, lift every song to shine in heaven's light!

Words of Welcome | Anna Dickson**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION****Choral Call to Worship** | Williams | ed. Young

This is the day that the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us rejoice. Amen!

+**Hymn No. 694** | “Great God of Every Blessing” | AURELIA**CONFESSION****Call to Confession** | Lucy Crain**Prayer of Confession**

Generous God, you have entrusted us with abundant gifts of time, talents, and treasure. We confess that we have not always been faithful stewards of all you have given us. We have hoarded when you call us to share, worried about scarcity when you promise abundance, and claimed ownership of what is truly yours alone. Forgive us for prioritizing our own comfort over the needs of our neighbors. Renew in us grateful hearts and open hands, that we may honor you with our whole lives.

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**Anthem** | “I Will Sing!” | Priscilla Murphy | Kirk Choir

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace. I will sing of my Savior; I will tell of his grace. I will shout his mercy to every race. I will give my life to him as an offering. As long as I have breath, I will sing! He breaks the power of darkest sin, he sets the prisoner free. His blood can make the foulest clean; his blood has rescued me. So now, your blessed name I love, your will I make my own. Had I a thousand hearts to give, they would be yours alone!

+ Please stand if you are able

Prayer for Illumination**Scripture** | Acts 4:32-37 | pew Bible p. 121

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Sermon** | “Tomorrow” | Anna Dickson**Anthem** | “Beside a Stream of Living Water” | arr. Thomas Keesecker | Youth Choir

Beside a stream of living water stands a tree of God's blest people, its roots run deep, from those before us. By grace, it grows by grace, the love of God abounding. So many rings, a living history, some are thin from years of struggle, some circle wide from times of plenty. The branches soar beyond the steeple, leaves as varied as its people; so many gifts and yet one body. O tree of life, O tree of glory, may our witness tell God's story for all who follow in the future.

RESPONSE**+Affirmation of Faith** | from *A Declaration of Faith* | Lucy Baum

Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.

God keeps his promises and gives us hope. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus God kept his promises. All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ. But the work of God in Christ is not over. God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen. The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us. In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death. This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

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 | Stewardship | Jordan Wesley**Presentation of Tithes and Offering****Offertory Anthem** | “With a Voice of Singing” | Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honour of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

+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. Amen.

+Prayer of DedicationPRAYER
REQUESTSGIVE
ONLINETEXT
TO GIVE

SENDING FORTH

+**Hymn No. 733** | “We All Are One in Mission” | ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | “Amen” | DANISH

Postlude | Carillon | Herbert Murrill

IN LOVING MEMORY

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Gloria Clark upon the death of her mother, Barbara Brooks.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

The rosebuds in the Sanctuary celebrate the births of William “Woody” Harrison Jr., son of Sarah Schweppe and William Harrison, on October 11; and Miller James Long, son of Laura and Ben Long, on October 17.

Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program which is used to purchase fresh foods for our on-site Nourish Up food pantry.

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*

Lucy Baum, *Director of Formation*

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

Kaitlyn Davros, *Assistant Director of Music Ministries*

Emily Chatham, *violinist*

David Dennis, *accompanist*

Melanie Twyne, *accompanist*

Welcome!

We're so glad you decided to join us for worship today! Whether you are a member, a frequent visitor, or it's 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 the front of your bulletin.



Children's Offerings:

9 a.m. Service: A nursery is available for children ages birth through first grade in room P311.

11 a.m. Service: A nursery is available for children ages birth through 2 in room P311. During the service, children will be invited to participate in the Time for Children, after which ages 3 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 Mary Bowman (mbowman@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.

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CONNECT WITH US!



@firstprescharlotte

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Announcements

Annual Giving Campaign

Pledging helps us plan ministry for next year. Every program, worship service, and outreach effort depends on pledged support. Have you made your 2026 pledge yet? Scan the QR code below to pledge online.

WNC Prayer Request

Today, fifteen members from our church are heading to Western NC to help with flood recovery. Please hold them and the communities they'll serve in prayer as they share hope and care in Christ's name.

Wednesday Night Dinner

October 29

Dinner is served from 5-5:45 p.m. The cost is \$10 for ages 12 and up, \$7 for ages 4-11, and children 3 and under are free. Scan the QR code to register and pay.

Eagle Bucks Store Needs to be Stocked!

WHA scholars are working hard every day to earn Eagle Bucks to spend at the school store on November 7. Can you help us fill the shelves? Scan the QR code to shop.

Operation Sandwich

November 2, 9:45 a.m., FH Overflow

Bring your leftover Halloween candy to put in lunch bags along with the sandwiches we will be making for Roof Above. Scan the QR code to sign up.

Communion Sunday Food Drive

November 2, drop off in the driveway or welcome center

As we come to God's table to be nourished spiritually, please consider bringing non-perishable donations to church to stock our on-site food pantry and feed those of God's children who suffer from physical hunger.

Pajama Party Childcare Fundraiser

November 15, 4:30 p.m., FPC

Parents, give yourself a night off while your kids enjoy a LEGO-themed evening with FPC Youth! All proceeds from this childcare fundraiser support youth missions and summer trips—plus, bring clothing donations for Room In The Inn to receive a discount. Scan the QR code to register.



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

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