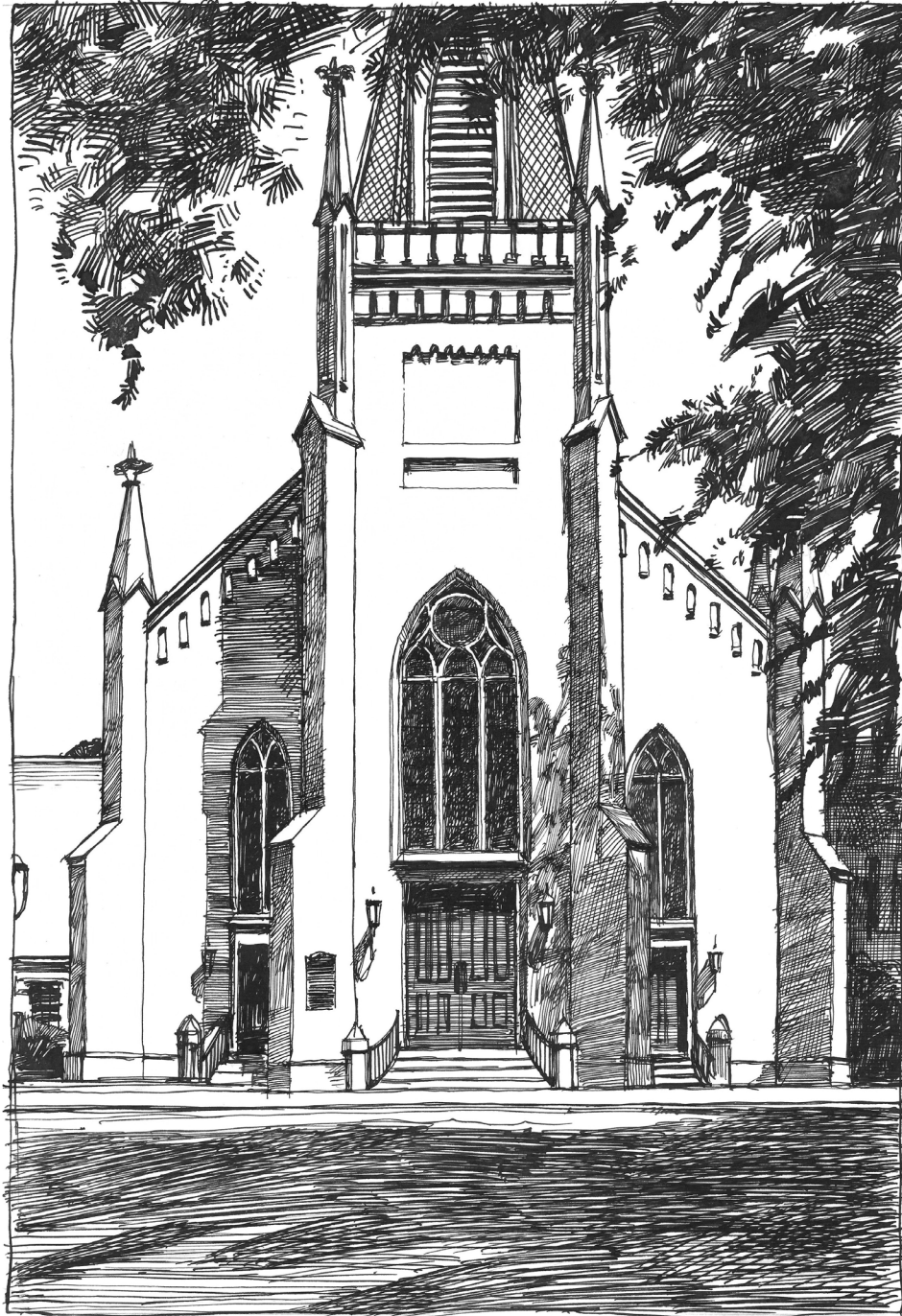


# First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



*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.

**PREPARATION****Prelude** | Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645 | J.S. Bach**Words of Welcome** | Lewis Galloway**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION**+**Lighting of the Candle of Hope** | Meg & Tommy McReynolds

Look, the stump that seemed dead has produced a green shoot;

**Something new is growing.**

Soon a little child shall lead us;

**In him we will place our hope and trust.**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus.

**Hope of all the earth.**+**Hymn No. 82** | "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" | HYFRYDOL**CONFESSION****Call to Confession** | Anna Dickson**Prayer of Confession**

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you. We study the trends of our times and ignore the signs of your reign. We trust in things that pass away and forget your eternal promise. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us watchful eyes and open hearts so that we may be ready for that day when you come to reign in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Choral Response** | IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the good news.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**+**Response to Pardon** | IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptism of Chase Noel Cunningham  
 Baptism of Christopher McNeill Parolin (Mac)

The Elders  
 assisting with  
 the baptisms  
 today are Carol  
 Childress and  
 Jeff McNeill.

**+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** | Matthew 3:1-12 | pew Bible p. 2

**Scripture** | Mark 13:24-37 | pew Bible p. 50

**Sermon** | "The Mystery of Time" | Lewis Galloway

**Music Offering** | "My Lord, What a Mornin'" | arr. H. T. Burleigh | Loretta Giles, soloist

*My Lord, what a mornin', when the stars begin to fall. Done quit all my worldly ways; join that heavenly band.  
 Oh, my Lord, what a mornin', when the stars begin to fall.*

**RESPONSE**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** | Lucy Crain

**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** | "Keep Your Lamps" | André Thomas

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. The time is drawing nigh. Children don't get weary 'til your work is done. Christian journey soon be over. The time is drawing nigh. Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. The time is drawing nigh.*

**+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 Dedication**

**FIRST  
 CHURCH  
 MOBILE  
 CHECK IN**



**PRAYER  
 REQUESTS**



**GIVE  
 ONLINE**



**TEXT  
 TO GIVE**



## SENDING FORTH

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+**Hymn No. 348** | “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending” | HELMSLEY

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore! Amen.*

**Postlude** | “Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates” | Wilbur Held

## ABOUT THIS SERVICE

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Chase Cunningham is the son of Xue and Charles Cunningham.

Mac Parolin is the son of Jacqueline and Tommy Parolin.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William Kimbrough by his wife Royce.

*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 Dr. Lewis Galloway**

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

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

**Kaitlyn Davros**, Assistant Director of Music Ministries

**Trevor Cook**, Guest Musician