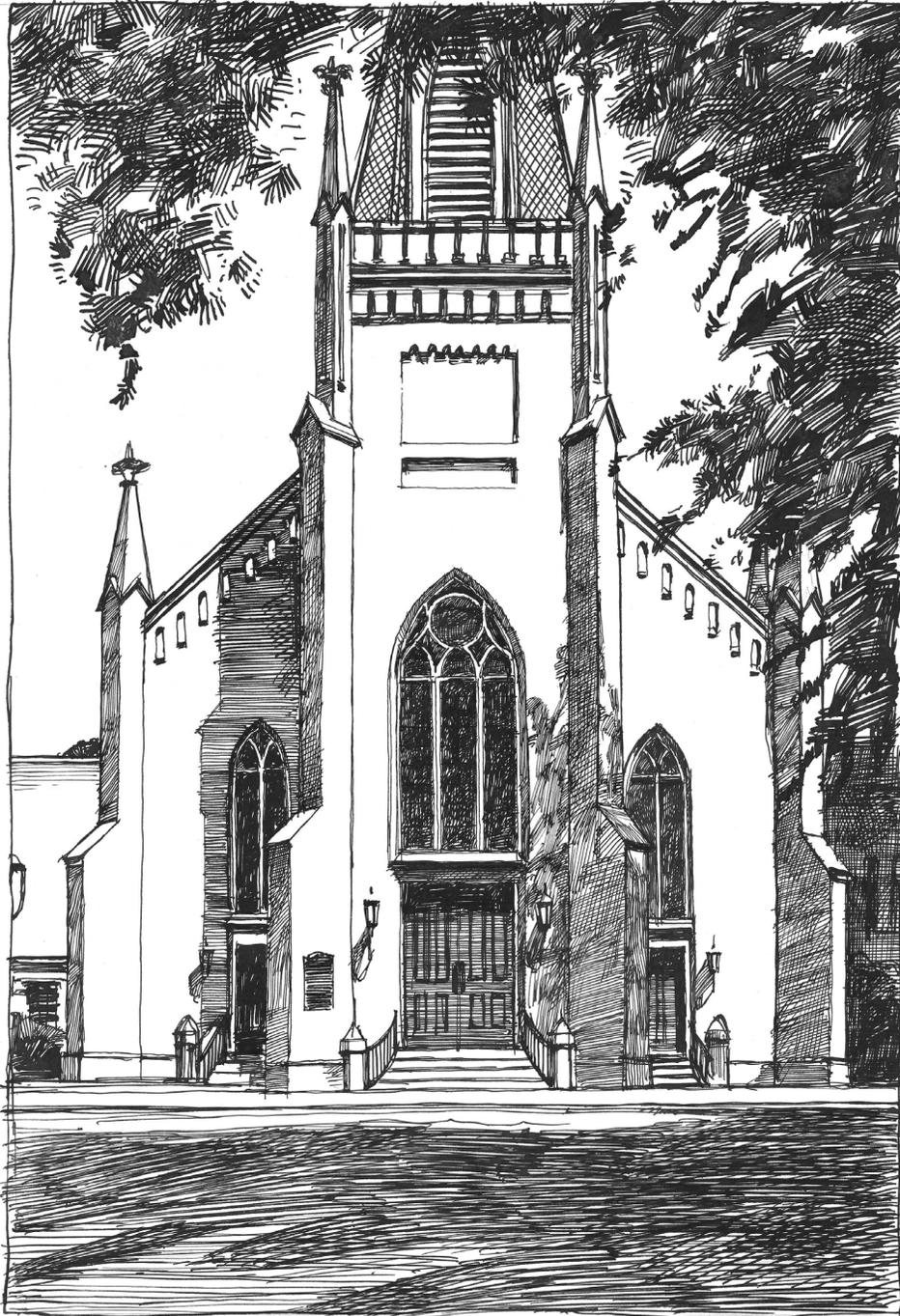


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | FEBRUARY 8, 2026 | FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



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 | Prelude on *Nettleton* | arr. Gilbert Martin

Words of Welcome | Anna Dickson

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!

+**Call to Worship** | Psalm 34

I will bless the Lord at all times; God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt God's name together.

Yes, let us worship God!

+**Hymn No. 475** | "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" | NETTLETON

CONFESSION

Call to Confession | Lewis Galloway

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have boasted in our own knowledge and strength rather than in your weakness made powerful through the cross. We have pursued worldly wisdom and feared appearing foolish, forgetting that Christ crucified is our only wisdom. Forgive us for relying on our own understanding instead of on your Spirit's power, and open our hearts to receive the depths of your truth, freely revealed to those who love you.

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 James Francis Hurd

Baptism of Nolan Alexander Tuttle

+**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.

The Elder assisting with the baptisms today is Linda Henley.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

+ Please stand if you are able

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination | Lucy Crain**Scripture** | Exodus 4:10-16 | pew Bible p. 51**Anthem** | “Glorious Everlasting” | M. Thomas Cousins

*Glorious, everlasting, I will praise thee, O Lord among the people; I will sing unto thee among the nations.
Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above the earth.*

Scripture | 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 | pew Bible p. 166

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Sermon** | “Form and Content” | Anna Dickson**+Hymn No. 288** | “Spirit of the Living God” (*sung twice*) | LIVING GOD**RESPONSE**

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 | Vacation Bible School | Susannah and Clara Curry, James Allen, and Julia Harnett**Presentation of Tithes and Offering****Offertory Anthem** | “Be Thou My Vision” | John Rutter

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; be all else but naught to me save that thou art. Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, the presence my light. Be thou my wisdom; be thou my true word. Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord. Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son; be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one. Be thou my breastplate, my sword of the fight. Be thou my whole armor; be thou my true might. Be thou my soul’s shelter; be thou my strong tower. O raise thou me heavenward, great power of my power. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise. Be thou mine inheritance now and always; be thou and thou only the first in my heart. O sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art. High king of heaven, thou heaven’s bright sun, O grant me its joys after victory is won. Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

+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
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SENDING FORTH

+**Hymn No. 694** | “Great God of Every Blessing” | AURELIA

Congregational Meeting

+**Benediction**

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

Postlude | Toccata in Seven | John Rutter

IN LOVING MEMORY

William (Bill) Thomas Wallace, June 1, 1946 – January 26, 2026

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Barb Neidinger upon the death of her brother, James Ingram, on January 27, 2026; and to Kent Buzard upon the death of his brother, Brian Buzard, on January 27, 2026.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

James is the son of Olivia and Anthony Hurd.

Nolan is the son of Elena and Eric Tuttle.

The rosebud in the Sanctuary celebrates the birth of Frances Olivia St. George (Livvie), daughter of Sara and Worth St. George, on January 16, 2026.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmayer@hotmail.com.

Today's Worship Leaders:

The Reverend Dr. Lewis Galloway, *Transitional 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*

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.

CONNECT WITH US!



@firstprescharlotte

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Announcements

Congregational Meeting

Today, following worship

The Session has called a congregational meeting to present the 2026 budget, act on any changes in the terms of call for installed pastors, and elect the Officer Nominating Committee.

Second Saturday Service

February 14, 9 a.m., Crisis Assistance

Show some love this Valentine's Day by serving with us at Crisis Assistance. Scan the QR code to register.

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 18, 11 a.m., Sanctuary

Please join us for a joint service with the imposition of ashes with First United Presbyterian Church.

Interfaith Conversation with MeckMIN

February 18, 12 p.m., Frances Brown Dining Room

Join guests from the Charlotte community for an interfaith conversation. We'll discuss how different faith traditions address mortality and suffering. To keep the conversation intimate, guests are limited to the first 15 registrants. Lunch will be provided. Scan the QR code to register.

Marriage Enrichment Retreat

February 14 & 15

In this two-day retreat, we'll name common stressors in marriage and explore practical ways to respond that build resilience. Scan the QR code to register.

Habitat for Humanity Bonus Work Day

February 21

Join us as we install siding at 5401 Keener Ridge. Scan the QR code to register.

Youth Fundraiser Weekend

Rescheduled to February 21-22

Here are the ways you can participate and support our youth:

PJ Party, February 21, 4:30 p.m., ages 3 - 5th grade

Church-wide Breakfast, February 22, 10 a.m.

Silent Auction, bid online

Scan the QR Code to sign up.

Civil Rights Trip

June 11-14, 2026

Join Westerly Hills Academy teachers and others on a visit to civil rights sites in Alabama. Scan the QR code to register.

VBS Registration Coming Soon

Registration will open February 15-22 for church members, followed by February 22-29 for the wider community.



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

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