TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

First Presbyterian Church

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



from
season to season.

OCTOBER 18, 2026 | 11 AM WORSHIP | TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome!

Scan to fill out our Virtual Connect Card to help us get to know you.

Prayer Request

Scan to submit a confidential prayer request.

Preparation

Prelude | Tuba Tune | C. S. Lang

Words of Welcome | Anna Dickson

Chiming of the Trinity

Adoration

Choral Call to Worship | "Be Still" | Michael Beford | Carol Choir

Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted, I will be exalted, I will be exalted in the earth. I am always with you. I will be your strength. Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted, I will be exalted, I will be exalted in the earth.

+Hymn No. 321 | "The Church's One Foundation" | AURELIA

Confession

Call to Confession | Lucy Baum

Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you have given each of us gifts to equip your people and build up the body of Christ. Yet, in our self-centeredness, we have used these gifts to set ourselves apart rather than to serve others. We have feared failing, held back, and risked little. Forgive us for the times we have hoarded what you have given us, and for the times we have overlooked the gifts of others. Renew us in Christ, we pray, that we may offer ourselves freely, welcome every gift among us, and grow together in love.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

+Response to Pardon | 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 3 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 | "Yesu Kweti Ni Rafiki" | Mark Burrows | Kirk Choir

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! Oh what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.
Swahili: Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki. Maombi asikia.
Translation: What a friend we have in Jesus. Take it in prayer.

+ Please stand if you are able

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture | Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25 | pew Bible p. 129

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

Scripture | Ephesians 4:1-7,11-16 | pew Bible p. 193

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

Sermon | "The Full Stature of Christ" | Anna Dickson

+Hymn No. 300 | "We Are One in the Spirit" | THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Response

+Affirmation of Faith | from *A Brief Statement of Faith* | Lewis Galloway

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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 | Linda McKnight

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Offertory Anthem | "The Gift of Love" | Hal Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin. Come, spirit, come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship and are freed. Amen.

Ways to Give

In Person
Place your gift in the offering plate during **Presentation of Tithes and Offering**

Give Online
fpc.tiny.us/give

Text to Give
Text "givetofpc" to 73256

Venmo
@FirstPresofCharlotte

+ Please stand if you are able

+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

Sending Forth

+Hymn No. 761 | "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" | BEECHER

+Benediction

+Benediction Response | "Amen" | John Rutter

Postlude | Fanfare | Jacques Lemmens

About Today's Service

Sanctuary Flowers

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

From Season to Season

The artwork on today's bulletin cover was created by Lucy Caldwell for First Presbyterian's 2027 annual giving campaign, *From Season to Season*.

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 Baum
Associate Pastor for Formation and Fellowship

William P. Young, III
Director of Music Ministries

Kaitlyn Davros
Associate Director of Music Ministries

Trevor Cook
Carol Choir Director

Kelly Harder
Kirk Choir Director

Melanie Twyne
Children's Choir Accompanist

Members of Youth Music

In Loving Memory

We join our prayers with Travis Wilson and his family upon the death of his mother, Kinie Wilson, on October 7, 2026.

Welcome!

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

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 on page 2 of your bulletin.

Children's Offerings:
A nursery is available for children ages birth through 2 in C101 and C102. During the 11 a.m. service, children will be invited to participate in the Time with Children. Afterward, children ages 3 through first grade may leave for First Church and will return to the Sanctuary during the last hymn. **If your child will be attending First Church, please scan the QR code to check them in using mobile check in.**

COVENANT NETWORK OF PRESBYTERIANS

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

stephen MINISTRY

Do you need support? We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministers are trained to support members through all of life's seasons. They offer one-on-one confidential care during difficult times through listening, caring, and praying. When you are in a tough season and need extra support, email Parish Associate Mary Bowman (mbowman@firstpres-charlotte.org) for more information.

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

Interested in something you see below? Visit **FPC.TINY.US/LINKS** or scan the QR code to learn more, register, or take the next step.

Flower Ministry

Today following worship, Driveway

The Flower Ministry Team will offer small bouquets made from the sanctuary flower arrangements. It is our hope that you will take a bouquet to a church member, friend or neighbor in need of a visit and encouragement.

Boo Bash

Supply collection through October 25

We are collecting bags of individually wrapped candy, stickers of all shapes, sizes and themes, gently used Halloween decorations and gently used children's costumes. Place donations in the Boo Bash bin in the Welcome Center.

Boo Bash on October 29, 4:30 p.m., Front Lawn

Bring your little boos for an evening of bounce houses, games, candy, free pizza for the whole family, and tons of festive fun. Scan the QR to register or volunteer.

Westerly Hills Academy Opportunities

Block Party Trunk or Treat

October 24, 11:30 a.m., Westerly Hills Academy

Join us for one of the most fun days of the year at WHA! We need you and your car for trunk or treat(candy and decorations provided).

Eagle Bucks Store

Scan the QR to shop so the scholars at WHA have fun rewards to choose from during their first Eagle Bucks store of the school year!

Plowshares Book Club

November 1, 12:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Join us for lunch and a discussion of *On Tyranny*. This #1 NYT Bestseller offers lessons from 20th century totalitarianism to help preserve democratic freedoms against modern authoritarian threats in the uncertain years to come.

Habitat for Humanity

Kickoff Dinner, November 5, 6 p.m., Dilworth UMC

Join Charlotte Church Partners to celebrate the start of our 39th Habitat home! Cost is $12 per person, payable by cash or check at the door. RSVP by October 28 to Marwen McDowell(grandmarwen@gmail.com).

Habitat Build, various dates, 1523 Mystic Pines Rd.

Help build Charlotte Church Partners' first townhouse! This project needs more volunteers than a single-family home, so join us for a build day.

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