



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 21, 2024

*Please join in reading
aloud those parts of the
service printed
in bold.*

*– based on Matthew
18:20, taken from The
Worship Sourcebook,
CRC Publications,
2004.*

When this symbol ()
precedes an element of
the service, please rise
in body or spirit.*

*We lay before God our
own sins,
the sins and
brokenness of our
fellow worshipers,
the church universal,
and the world.*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us now prepare our hearts to worship God.

MUSIC FOR PREPARATION

Scherzoso (*Sonata No. 8*)

Joseph Rheinberger (1839-1901)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.

Thankful is the song we sing!

For this day moves us past darkness and despair.

Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.

Jesus said, “Where two or more are gathered in my name,

I am there among them.”

Christ lives here and now.

He is among us at this and every moment!

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN – NO. 664**

Morning Has Broken

BUNNESAN

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Ever present God,

we join our voices today asking for forgiveness

for the mistakes we make;

for the times we assume the worst about others;

for the times we dehumanize people;

for the time we choose not to use our power for good;

for the times we don't listen to your voice.

Sometimes we struggle to know how to help others;
 we do not always believe we can make a difference in the world;
 we do not always trust that things will get better;
 we do not always have quite enough faith in you.
 Help us be the people you call us to be.
 Set us free to work together in hopes of caring for our neighbors.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Lord, Have Mercy (*Kyrie eleison*)

John Weaver (1937-2021)

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
 mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

The astoundingly good news of our reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ frees our tongues to sing mighty praise to God.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Glory to God!

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Glo - ry to God! The heav'ns a - dore! Let earth re - sound God's
 praise there - fore; Au - thor of peace for ev - er - more!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Michael Morgan

We exchange reconciling words and gestures among the people of God.

***PASSING THE PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY OF CHRIST TO OTHERS**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
 And also with you.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

STORY TELLING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM

Out of the Stillness

Richard Shephard (1949-2021)

Chancel Choir

*We listen for what
God is saying to
God's people
through scripture,
song, and sermon.*

Out of the stillness of dark before dawn,
In the still and the quiet and damp of the night
The morning Star glimmers alone in the sky,
Signal of day – herald of light.

Deep in the stillness of anguish and fear, lie
Hopes that were shattered by death and by doubt;
The husk of a dream lies empty and crushed.
Mind seeks for meaning, heart flickers out.

Out of the stillness the dawn comes again.
Darkness is vanquished, hope is renewed.
This Sun has risen, never to set;
A new day is dawning with heaven suffused.

Death with its terrors at last overcome
By one burst of light, by one gift of love.
Wholeness and healing and hope in his arms,
The Sun has arisen with life for the world.

-John Draper

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Amos 7:10-15

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 1048
Pew Bible, pages 855-856*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Who tells your story?

April Martin

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN OF RESPONSE – NO. 462**

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

*Our response to
hearing God's Word
includes singing and
saying what we
believe.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

- The 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.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Women's Resource Center in Alamance County Susan Watson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!

arr. Raymond Haan (b. 1938)

Chancel Choir

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord! Sing with a cheerful voice;
Exalt our God with one accord, and in his name rejoice.
Ne'er cease to sing, O ransomed host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
until the realms of endless light your praises shall unite.
There we to all eternity shall join the angelic praise,
and sing in perfect harmony to God, our Savior's raise;
He hath redeemed us by his blood, and made us kings and priests to God;
for us, the Lamb was slain! Praise ye the Lord! Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be -
low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heavenly
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

BEARING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN – No. 360**

Christ Is Coming!

UNSER HERRSCHER

VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune in E-flat

David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

Carrie Tuttle, M. Div., Temporary Acting Head of Staff

J. Patrick Murphy, M. Mus., Organist-Choirmaster

Charlotte Nance-Allbright, M.A, C.C.E., Director of Christian Formation and Education

*God blesses and
sends us in mission
to the world.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all who worship with us. . We hope in this service you will encounter the living Christ and experience the warmth of our caring family of faith. If you are not receiving the weekly e-newsletter, please feel free to pick up a copy today in the narthex and then contact the church office to be added to the weekly email list. If you are visiting with us and in search of a church home, we invite you to become a part of our church family here at First Presbyterian Church. Please let us know of your interest by way of the friendship register, or by speaking to a minister. The Church Office phone number is 336-228-1703.

MUSIC NOTES: Music texts and impressions, along with streaming music, are provided with permission from One License, License #A-715495. All rights reserved.

LIVE VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE: *Boxcast* will stream to our website and Facebook page each Sunday morning.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS: Copies of today's hymns are available in the Narthex.

GUEST PREACHER: April Martin is the Pastoral Associate for Youth and Young Adults at Shandon Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC. She is pursuing a Masters of Divinity at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte and hopes to graduate in June 2025. Prior to that, Ms. Martin served as the Director of Youth Ministries and Associate for Congregational Engagement at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City. She had a great career as an opera singer after graduating from the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2013 and worked with numerous opera companies and symphonies including the Kansas City Lyric Opera, Piedmont Opera, Aspen Music Festival, Central City Opera, the Bar Harbor Music Festival, Virginia Opera, the Richmond Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra, among others. She grew up at First Presbyterian Church in Burlington and is grateful to be leading worship today!!!

RED ROSE is given to the glory of God and in honor of the birth of Collin Edward Tate Miller who was born on April 10, 2024 to Christopher and Katherine Miller. Grandparents include Denny and Cynthia Tate.

CHANCEL FLOWERS is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Betsy Blake Henjes and in loving honor of her family by James and Elizabeth Hooten.

PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION: If you have a personal emergency, hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call the church office. If it is after office hours or on the weekend, you may contact the minister on call: John Johnson (336-214-5859)

EXPLORE FPC TODAY: All visitors are invited to join the FPC staff and New Member Team today at 11:15 a.m. in the Witherspoon Room to learn more about FPC. A light brunch will be provided.

SALTY SAINTS BEGINS!—Please join us for the first gathering of the Salty Saints, a fellowship opportunity for those 60(ish) to 80 (ish). We will meet at the Mini Dingo on Thursday April 25 at 5:30 p.m. (111 E Front St.) to reconnect with old friends and maybe make some new ones. Please bring your ideas as we explore opportunities for fellowship, food, and service with the Salty Saints of FPC.

APRIL MISSION GIVING FOCUS: FURNITURE MINISTRY: Please keep Furniture Ministry in your prayers during April, the FPCB mission giving focus month for Furniture Ministry, and consider how God is calling you to give. Requests for help from the Furniture Ministry are increasing sharply and straining their ability to meet all needs. Monetary gifts would be especially appreciated. Please see a list of needed items in the e-blast. Small items can be dropped off in the donation bins by the Welcome Center doors. larger items can be dropped of on Mondays between 1:00-4:00 p.m. or contact furnmin3@gmail.com to coordinate. The phone number for the Furniture Ministry is 336-212-2937.

ENRICHMENT CLASS: Join the class at 9:00 a.m. in Room 228 for a study based on the book *Thoughtful Christianity* by Ben Daniel thru April 28.

JOHN KNOX CLASS APRIL 21: Join the class at 9:00 a.m. in the John Knox Room as they explore the spiritual novel, *Burning Faith*, with its author, Chip Bristol. It is a tale about a church that burns on Christmas morning and how the people find their faith without a building. An allegory, *Burning Faith* speaks to the nature of the spiritual journey as well as what it means to be the church. Books are available for purchase (\$20) in the church office.

SAVE THE DATE FOR LUNCHESES WITH THE FPC PROGRAM STAFF!

The Village at Brookwood—Wednesday, May 1 at 12:00 noon in the Village dining room

Twin Lakes—Thursday, May 2 at 12:00 noon at the Terrace

*Invitations will be coming soon, but please make sure that you get this on your calendar!

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Vacation Bible School is just around the corner - June 17-20 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. - and it is time to get our volunteers lined up. If you are able to assist with VBS in any of these ways, please let Charlotte Nance-Allbright know (callbright@fpcburlington.org or 336-228-1703 x 223).

Shepherd a group (guide the children from one room to the other);

Decorating (vision for what the spaces could be, assist with getting supplies, help on decorating day);

Shepherd/Driver for Mission Mania group.

CAMP FIRELIGHT: A SUMMERCAMP ADVENTURE WITH GOD- Vacation Bible School at FPCB June 17-20 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.



(optional dinner at 5:00 p.m. \$8 per person). Children 3 years (as of August 2023 and potty trained) to 5th grade will enjoy this opportunity for faith formation and fellowship. Join Firefly "Lu" each evening as we explore Psalm 53:3 through hands-on activities, music, and play. For more information or to volunteer, contact Charlotte Nance-Allbright (callbright@fpcburlington.org (336)228-1703 x 223) Scan the QR code to register

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for Adults – Room 203, Room 228, and the John Knox Room
9:00 a.m. Sacred Art for Children
9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. FISHin (Faith in Small Hearts) – Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Explore FPC Gathering – Witherspoon Room
5:00 p.m. High School Youth Group – Room 406
5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group – Room 403

Tuesday, April 23

- 6:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
7:30 a.m. High School Dough Devotions – The Park (S. Church St.)
8:00 a.m. Walk and Talk – Shive Hall or Outside
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting – Room 122
7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 17 Meets – Garrison Joyner Activities Building

Wednesday, April 24

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Room 225

Thursday, April 25

- 6:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – Room 201

Friday, April 26

- WRC Herb Festival
6:00 p.m. Take Root Dinner

Saturday, April 27

- WRC Herb Festival
6:00 p.m. The Point Dinner



A Moment's Meditation

The silence of prayer is the silence of listening.

Elizabeth O'Connor

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