

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 2, 2025



The Great Banquet

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
508 WEST DAVIS STREET
BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27215
www.fpcburlington.org
336-228-1703

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

And also with you.

Let us prepare our hearts to worship God.

MUSIC FOR PREPARATION

Adagio from *Sonata No. 1*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In you, O Lord, let us take refuge,
so we might never be put to shame.

In your righteousness, O Lord,
let us find deliverance,
so we might experience your saving power.

In your presence, O God, let us place our trust,
so we might find confidence in you alone.

You are our rock and our refuge,
our fortress and shield.

We turn to you again this day. Let us worship God!

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

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN — NO. 301

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

*CALL TO CONFESSION

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

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous God, when we set our tables,
we imagine who belongs.

We are satisfied to welcome
those who we call our own.

Our boundaries are drawn
for our own family, our own congregation, our own neighborhood.

We limit the seating to those
who make us comfortable,
and lay out the welcome mat
for those who we choose to welcome.

But your kingdom has no boundary.

Restore us to your vision
of who belongs at the table.

Renew us with your abundant mercy and love,
which know no end.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Forgive Our Sins

DETROIT

"For - give our sins as we for - give," You taught us Lord, to pray,
But You a - lone can grant us grace To live the words we say.

*Text: Rosamond E. Herklots,
as found at Hymn No. 444*

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

Hear the good news of sal - va - tion: Je - sus died to show God's love.
Such great kind - ness! Such great mer - cy! Come to us from heaven a - bove.
Je - sus Christ, how much I love you! Je - sus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look u - pon me. Love me still and cleanse with - in.

*Text: Native American, version by Jane Parker Huber, 1989
As found at Hymn No. 441*

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

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

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

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

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

STORY TELLING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING: Psalm 71:1-6

*Large Print Pew Bible, pages 654-655
Pew Bible, page 532*

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

Holy wisdom, holy word.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

How Lovely Are the Messengers

Felix Mendelssohn

Chancel Choir

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words.

-Romans 5:15, 16

SECOND READING: Luke 4:21–30

Large Print Pew Bible, page 75

Pew Bible, pages 61-62

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Let it Shine...Even Through Rejection

Dr. Jim Lunde

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN OF RESPONSE — NO. 506**

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

COPELAND

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

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

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

He Comes to Us as One Unknown setting by John Ferguson (1941-2025)
Chancel Choir

He comes to us as one unknown, a breath unseen, unheard;
as though within a heart of stone, or shriveled seed in darkness sown,
a pulse of being stirred.

He comes when souls in silence lie and thoughts of day depart;
half-seen upon the inward eye, a falling star across the sky
of night within the heart.

He comes to us in sound of seas, the ocean's fume and foam,
yet small and still upon the breeze, a wind that stirs the tops of trees,
a voice to call us home.

He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and birth;
to bear within our mortal frame a life, a death, a saving Name,
for every child of earth.

He comes in truth when faith is grown; believed, obeyed, adored;
the Christ in all the Scriptures shown, as yet unseen, but not unknown,
our Savior and our Lord.

-Timothy Dudley-Smith (1916-2024)

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The musical notation is written on four staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 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 heaven - ly 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!

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy...Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every
time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: Richard Proulx, Land of Rest

The sacrament of The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with our crucified and risen Lord. In the Lord's Supper, the Church gives thanks to God for all God's gifts, is renewed and sustained by the power of Jesus Christ, and is in communion with Christ and with all who belong to Christ. Today's celebration is by intinction. Come forward to receive the communion elements. All bread is gluten free.

God blesses and sends us in mission to the world.

All are invited to remain seated for the voluntary. If you must leave, please do so quietly.

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN — No. 536

Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen

SURGE ECCLESIA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

Allegro maestoso from *Sonata No. 2*

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all who worship with us this Sunday. We hope in this service you will encounter the living Christ and experience the warmth of our caring family of faith. Please take a moment to sign our friendship register when it is passed to you. 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 one of our ministers. 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 at 336-228-1703 to be added to the weekly email list.

LIVE VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE: *Boxcast* will stream to our website and Facebook page each Sunday morning. Click here to view: [on our website](#) and on [the FPC Facebook page](#).

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

LITURGY FROM *Call to Worship*, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

OFFERING RITUAL: In the pew racks you will find "Offering Ritual" cards. The giving of our offerings and ourselves is vital part of worship in which we express our gratitude for God's blessings. The passing of the offering plate is a visible demonstration of our commitment to devote our time and treasures to Christ's ministry. If you give monthly, quarterly, annually; or through stocks, credit cards, or e-giving, you may still participate in the offering ritual by placing this card in the offering plate. If you are interested in giving electronically through our secure e-giving process, you will find instructions on the back side of this card. Scan this QR code to access FPC's online Giving with your Smartphone. It's easy to download a QR Code reader from the App Store!



PASTOR ON-CALL 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 pastor on call by calling the church at 336-228-1703 and pressing 9. You will then be connected to the pastor on call.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called for Sunday, February 9 immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service for the purpose of approving the Pastor's terms of call.

ENRICHMENT CLASS invites you to join us in Room 228 at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, February 2, 9, & 16, Paul Reeves will lead the class discussion using the resource "After Jesus Before Christianity: A Historical Exploration of the First Two Centuries of Jesus Movements" by Erin Vearncombe, Brandon Scott, Hal Taussig, and The Westar Institute, and with Forward by Sue Monk Kidd.

FURNITURE MINISTRY CHURCHWIDE WORKDAY

Saturday, February 8

9:00 am- 12 Noon

Want to give back? Make a difference? Come out for a morning of fellowship and service and help deliver household furnishings to our Alamance County neighbors in need. We will also pick up donations and sort and shelve items in the warehouse to ready for future delivery. Donuts and coffee available at 8:45 a.m. Come and be a part of this FPC ministry that gives a leg up for over 200 individuals and families in our county each year.

The Furniture Ministry is open every Monday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 p.m. to accept donations. Call 336-212-2937 to arrange pickup of larger items. More information on how to help can be found in the eblast.

FEBRUARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP: A Musical Serenade—Thursday, February 20 at 11:00 a.m. in Shive Hall

The February meeting of Friendship Group will feature the restored Steinway piano given in memory of William Sharpe (1960's). The piano was beautifully restored by Mosaic Piano this past summer with all new parts! Joining Patrick Murphy will be violinist **Jorge Rodriguez Ochoa** and clarinetist **Mark Payne** as they present a program of old and new music! All followed by a delicious lunch! RSVP by February 17 to pmurphy@fpcburlington.org or call the church office, 336.228.1703

James Lunde, D. Min., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Lisa Mullen, M. Div., Parish Associate

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

IN MEMORIAM

BARBARA JANE LEWIS

August 30, 1946- January 21, 2025

“I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.”

John 11:25



Moment's Meditation

And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 2

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Shive Hall
- 6:00 p.m. PW Circle #1 Meeting – Witherspoon Room

Monday, February 3

- 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Council Meets – Room 122
- Noon Furniture Ministry Committee Meeting – Room 228
- 5:30 p.m. Mission Elder Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, February 4

- 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.)
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting – Room 203

Wednesday, February 5

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Game Night – Room 401
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 17 – Garrison Joyner Activities Building
- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 6

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

Saturday, February 8

- 9:00 a.m. Furniture Ministry Workday
- Youth Ski Trip