

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 30, 2025



The Good Samaritan, Jesus Mafa Community, Cameroon

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.

MUSIC FOR PREPARATION

Cantilène (from *Suite Brève*)

Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God,
what are we here to do?

**To love the Lord our God
with heart and soul,
strength and might.**

What are we here to do?

To love our neighbors as ourselves.

With joy and mercy, let us worship God!

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

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN — No. 396

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

HOLY MANNA

*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

Gracious God,

Jesus tells us that our lives are enriched
by loving you and loving our neighbors.

We confess that love is hard for us.

We are too selfish or too pessimistic,
too hollow or too hardened,

or just too tired to give ourselves to love's demands.

Forgive our arrogance and our apathy.

Cleanse our hearts

that we might find the strength

to do what love requires

and the grace to receive what love has to give.

We pray in the name of Jesus,

whose love has no boundary.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life (Psalm 51)

IRISH

Have mer - cy, God, up - pon my life, and
 make me clean with - in: pour out your ev - er -
 faith - ful love and wash a - way my sin.

Text: David Gambrell, Psalm 51
As found at Hymn No. 421

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

How Blest, Those Whose Transgression

AURELIA

How blest, those whose trans - gres - sions have free - ly been for - given;
 whose guilt is whol - ly cov - ered be - fore the sight of heaven.
 Blest, those to whom our Lord God will not im - pute their sin:
 whose guilt has been for - giv - en; whose hearts, made true a - gain.

Text: The New Metrical Version of the Psalms, 1909
As found at Hymn 446, stanza 1

***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

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.

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

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 16:18-20

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 216
Pew Bible, page 173*

Holy wisdom, holy word.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Prayer of Julian of Norwich

Carson P. Cooman (b. 1982)

Chancel Choir

God, of your goodness, give yourself to me.
For you are enough for me:
Only in you do I have everything! Amen.

-Julian of Norwich (1342-1416)

SECOND READING: Luke 10:25-37

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 87
Pew Bible, pages 71-72*

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Empathy, Community, and the Ties That Bind The Reverend Dr. Samuel Adams

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"

WHO'S MY NEIGHBOR



1. They asked, "Who's my neigh - bor and whom should I love; for
2. There once was a trav - el - er set on by thieves who
3. A cer - tain Sa - mar - i - tan then came a - long to
4. I know who's my neigh - bor and whom I should love, for



whom should I do a good deed?" The Mas - ter re - lat - ed a
beat him and left him to die; a priest and a Le - vite each
bind up his wounds and give aid; he took him to stay at an
whom I should do a good deed; for Christ made it clear in the



sto - ry and said, "It's an - y - one who has a
saw him in pain; but they turned a - way and walked
inn un - til well, and for all the ser - vice he
sto - ry he told— it's an - y - one who has a

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



need, yes, an - y - one who has a need!"
by, yes, they turned a - way and walked by!
paid, yes, for all the ser - vice he paid!
need, yes, an - y - one who has a need!

Text and tune: Jan Wesson, 1981
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*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.

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

The Call of Wisdom

Will Todd (b. 1970)

Ami Hill and Jane Kolarich, sopranos

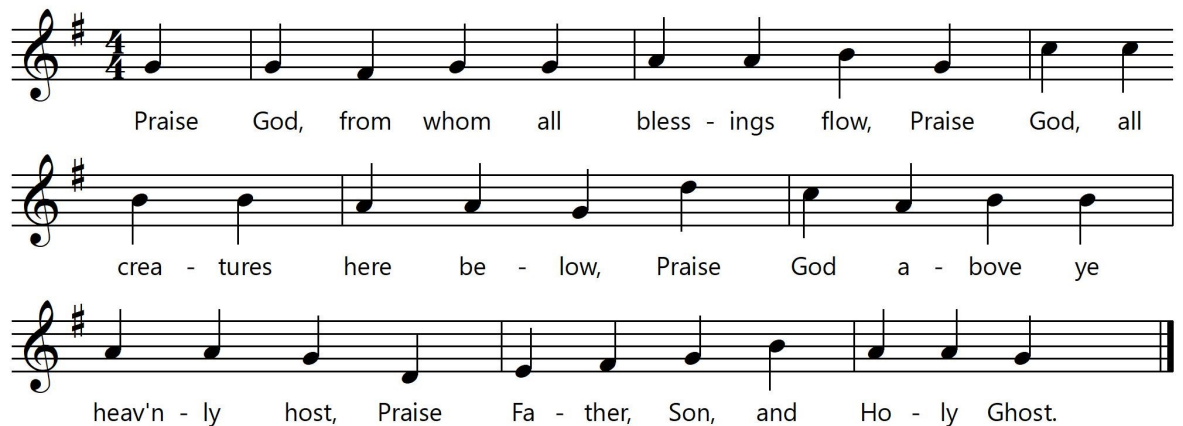
Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy;
walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.
Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,
entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value,
jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.
Those who know me know my love; those who seek me find their answer.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit co-eternal.
Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?

-Michael Hampel (based on Proverbs 8)

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

TALLIS' CANON



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low, Praise God a - bove ye
heav'n - ly host, Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Tune: TALLIS' CANON, as found
at Hymn No. 675

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN — NO. 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

*CHARGE AND BEDICTION

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

Lisa Mullen, M. Div., Parish Associate

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.*

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.

WORSHIP NOTES: During the season of Lent, it is our tradition at FPC to remove Alleluias from worship; to sing the Doxology without Alleluias; and to offer no closing voluntary. These will return with the Joy of Easter Sunday.

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

LITURGY from *Call to Worship*, PCUSA

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!



RECEPTION HONORING J. PATRICK MURPHY: Patrick's retirement from FPCB is approaching. He has honored and protected and advanced our church's legacy of music being a foundational piece of our worship, of our healing, and of our joy. Please make plans to join us on April 27, at 11:15 a.m., in Shive Hall, for a reception and thank you to Patrick.

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.

2025 PRITCHETT SYMPOSIUM at The First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, NC welcomes the Rev. Dr. Samuel L. Adams, Mary Jane and John F. McNair Chair in Biblical Studies at Union Presbyterian Seminary.

DONATIONS FOR FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your many years of donating food for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. We are thankful we can continue to partner in this important ministry and mission. Donations can be dropped off in the designated bin outside the CDC entrance during the week or inside directly into the Food Pantry closet in the Welcome Center during office hours or on Sundays. Please note that food left in the outside bin is frequently brought inside to the closet, however, there are occasions that our neighbors experiencing hunger and/or homelessness may find the resources in the bin and take those to meet their need. Interested in volunteering with this meaningful mission? Please contact Bruce Shields (bruce.shields@yale.edu).

REFUGEE SUPPORT NEEDED

We, at First Presbyterian Church, embrace our call to be a Matthew 25 Church and serve Christ by helping those in need in our community. For the past few years, our church has been working with agencies to help fully vetted refugees resettle in Burlington. Christ is calling us to continue in that service with our newest neighbors. With reductions in government funding, some of the refugees relocated to Burlington have had their monetary and support assistance severely reduced or eliminated altogether. Perhaps you feel called to help and might serve in one or both of these ways:

A few members of our church and sister churches are forming a Support Team to help with transportation needs. If you are interested and would like to learn more or serve in this way, please contact Bruce Shields (203-668-2488 or bruce.shields@yale.edu).

If you are led to give a financial gift, cash or checks payable to First Presbyterian Church with note/memo "Refugee Assistance." For more information or to learn more, contact Kent Byrd (336-516-1592 or kentbyrd@gmail.com).

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 30

- 9:00 a.m. Symposium Lesson – Shive Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Learning to Use My Bible Class— Room 403
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Symposium Luncheon and Second Lesson – Shive Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Band Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Shive Hall

Monday, March 31

- 6:00 p.m. What LIES Between Us Class – Witherspoon Room

Tuesday, April 1

- 6:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Men’s Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
- 7:30 a.m. Dough Devotions for Youth – The Park
- 10:00 a.m. Weekly Staff Meeting – Room 203
- 7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 17 Meets – Garrison Joyner Activities Building

Wednesday, April 2

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
- 5:30 p.m. Massenetta Springs Capital Campaign Meeting – Witherspoon Room
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Game Night – Room 401
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 17 Meets – Garrison Joyner Activities Building
- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 3

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

Saturday, April 5

- 9:00 a.m. Refugee Assistance Team Meeting— Room 122

IN MEMORIAM

BARBARA BEAMAN HIGGS

March 9, 1943 - March 22, 2025

“I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.”
John 11:25



Moment’s Meditation

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go.

Psalms 32:8a

HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE COMMUNION SERVICE – 7:00 p.m. – Sanctuary – Thursday, April 17

Thursday of this week is called “Maundy Thursday.” This term is derived from the Old French *maunde* and from the Latin *mandatum novum*, “a new commandment.” This new commandment of Christ was to love one another and was given on the night before his death (John 13:34). On this night we remember and celebrate the final supper Jesus shared with his disciples in the context of Passover. This event, which reveals the holiness of all subsequent meals eaten in his name, institutes the mystery of his abiding redemptive presence in the church’s celebrations of the Lord’s Supper. This evening also marks the beginning of the most solemn and joyful celebration of the entire Christian Year.

This service commemorates the suffering and death of Christ. Dating from the 8th century, Tenebrae was originally celebrated on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of Holy Week. Tenebrae is Latin for “shadows” and a Tenebrae Service is one in which light fades into darkness, as the sanctuary candles are extinguished with each of the scripture readings that tells the story of the betrayal and death of Jesus. This is symbolic of the physical darkness that fell over the earth as the Son of God was crucified; symbolic of the fading spiritual light of the world as Christ, the Light, was leaving it; and symbolic of the fading of loyalty of the disciples and our own betrayal of Christ. With its movement from light to dark, the Tenebrae Service prepares us to receive the Light of Easter morning ~ to celebrate the joyous news of the resurrection.

Join us for this Holy Week communion service as we enter what Augustine referred to as “the triduum (three days) during which the Lord died, was buried, and rose again.”

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – Noon – Williams Chapel – Friday, April 18

All are welcome to join this service of contemplation.

EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 20

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP– 10:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

On this day celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we join with the community of believers in every time and place as the Gospel is proclaimed, the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper is shared, and hymns and anthems are sung, accompanied by brass, timpani and organ.

EASTER SUNDAY FLOWERING THE CROSS: Bring fresh flowers to “flower the cross,” planted in the Davis Street lawn.

EASTER ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN: Children are invited to come to a special Easter Sunday class including an egg hunt at 9:00 a.m. PreK in Room 223 and K-5th in Room 224. Adults and Youth are needed to help hide eggs at 9:00 a.m. Please let Charlotte Nance-Allbright know if you are able to help with these activities (callbright@fpcburlington.org).

EASTER SUNDAY ANNUAL BUTTERFLY RELEASE: The annual Butterfly Release will be on the front lawn at the flowering cross after worship (weather permitting). All are invited to join us as we celebrate the resurrection through the symbolism of the butterfly.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS) Special Offering of the PC(USA) will be received. The three programs supported by OGHS - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Thank you for giving to this Special Offering.

Easter Lilies: Easter lilies will be present for worship in the sanctuary and will beautify the sanctuary chancel for Live Streaming and Facebook Live worship on Easter Sunday (April 20, 2025). To order a lily as a memorial or honorarium (\$33 each) please complete the order form below and return it to the church with your check (make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and notate "Easter Lilies" on the memo line). Please contact the church at 336-228-1703 if you have questions.

The deadline to order is Monday, April 14.

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM:

In Memory of _____

Donor _____

In Honor of _____

Donor _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____



MATTHEW 25