



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 11, 2025

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

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**MUSIC FOR PREPARATION**

We pray now to the Holy Spirit

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 103:1-5

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—**

who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,

**who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

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

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN – NO. 265**

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of Goodness and Mercy,

You created us good and we have not lived up to your expectation.  
We have stayed silent when we should have spoken.  
We have spoken when we should have stayed silent.  
We have tried to hide from you rather than trust your protection.

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

We have chosen to be covered by our sin  
 when we could have been covered by your goodness.  
 Bring us bright God from yesterday into today and tomorrow.  
 Hear our prayer this day...

**\*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Lord, Have Mercy

John Weaver (1937-2021)

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

*The astounding  
 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'n's 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**

**FIRST READING:** Psalm 23

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 617*

*Pew Bible, page 501*

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
    he leads me beside still waters;  
    he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
    for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
    I fear no evil;  
    for you are with me;  
    your rod and your staff—  
    they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
    in the presence of my enemies;  
    you anoint my head with oil;  
    my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
    all the days of my life,  
    and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
    my whole life long.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM**

Brother James's Air

James Leith MacBeth Bain (1840-1925), arr. Mack Wilberg (b.1955)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want,  
He makes me down to lie in pastures green;  
He leadeth me the quiet waters by.  
My soul he doth restore again and me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of blessedness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
Yea, though I pass thro' shawdowed veil, yet will I fear no ill;  
For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.  
My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;  
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.  
Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;  
And in my Father's heart alway my dwelling place shall be.  
(Psalm 23 adaptation)

**SECOND READING:** Acts 9:36-43

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 156*

*Pew Bible, page 128*

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**SERMON:** She is Risen!

Rev. Lisa Mullen

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

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE – NO. 247

Now the Green Blade Rises

NOËL NOUVELET

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*New Zealand Prayer Book*

You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us,  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you,  
You have revealed and proved Your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again  
You are with us now,  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are God. We worship you.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of new life, hear our prayer.

### 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

Somebody's Prayin'

John G. Elliott, arr. Mark Hayes (b.1953)

Somebody's prayin', I can feel it. Somebody's prayin' for me.  
Mighty hands are guiding me to protect me from what I can't see.  
Lord, I believe somebody's prayin' for me.  
Angels are watchin', I can feel it. Angels are watchin' over me.  
Weary miles ahead 'til I get home, still I'm safely kept before the throne.  
Lord, I believe angels are watchin' over me.  
Well I've walked the barren wilderness where my pillow was a stone  
And I've been through the darkest caverns where no light has ever shone,  
Still I went on 'cause there was someone who was down on their knees,  
And I thank the Lord for people praying all this time for me.  
Somebody's prayin', I can feel it. Somebody's prayin' for me.  
JT Loveless, baritone soloist

## \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). 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!

## BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN – NO. 233

The Day of Resurrection!

LANCASHIRE

### \*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

The cross, **we will take it.**  
The bread, **we will break it.**  
The pain, **we will bear it.**  
The joy, **we will share it.**  
The Gospel, **we will live it.**  
The love, **we will give it.**  
The light, **we will cherish it.**  
The darkness, **God shall perish it!**

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

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

*Pennies for  
Hunger Offering is  
being received  
today. The  
collection is sent to  
Salem Presbytery  
where it is then  
divided and  
returned to local  
food ministries.*

*The Closing  
Voluntary is a  
musical setting of a  
Christian hymn  
written prior to  
500 AD, Te Deum  
Laudamus (Latin  
for "Thee, God, we  
praise").*

*You are welcome  
to either quietly  
depart the  
sanctuary or  
remain for a time  
of meditation and  
reflection.*

Holy God, We Praise Your Name (Hymn 4, **Glory to God**)

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

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

*Lisa Mullen, M. Div., Parish Associate*

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



### Moment's Meditation

Lord, make my way prosperous not that I achieve high station,  
but that my life be an exhibit to the value of knowing God.

- *Jim Elliot*

## 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.

**MUSIC:** For the month of May, Jane Kolarich is preparing and conducting the Chancel Choir. David Vaughan is playing the organ.

**WITH GRATITUDE** we thank the Elon University music students who have enriched the sound of our Chancel Choir this year. They will soon be completing their year of study and headed home for the summer or off to a variety of enrichment experiences.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in honor of our Mothers and loving memory of Eleanor and Doug Mackintosh and Michie Edens by Charlotte Mackintosh Edens.

**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.

**BOOK CLUB:** The FPC Lunch bunch Group ends in the 2024-2025 season with bestselling author Anne Lamott's book *Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy*. Known as an author of great sensitivity, wisdom, and humor, Lamott explores the concept of "mercy" - "the promise to offer and receive relief and forgiveness." For Lamott, mercy is the "light that shines in dark places." In this book, she invites us to risk being changed by mercy, to take a seat at the table, to become a member of community, to learn how to forgive and to accept forgiveness. Join the group on May 13 at 12 noon in the Witherspoon Room as it explores this Lamott classic and delves deeply into the extraordinary power of "mercy".

**WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER (WRC)** is the May Mission Giving Focus. WRC clients appreciate your donation of full-size toiletries. Other needed items can be found in the weekly church eblast. Drop off donations in the bin outside the CDC/Welcome Center entrance or in the bin in the Welcome Center. Thank you!

**SALTY SAINTS:** Please join your fellow Salty Saints on **Wednesday, May 14th 5:30 p.m.**, outside at Virginia and Hugh Cummings' barn, 2609 Pitts Road, Elon. Sandwich trays and chips will be on hand, and anyone who wants to can bring an appetizer, side or dessert to share. We'll have waters and soft drinks available, and bring your own additional beverages if you like. Relax on the porch, play corn hole, or do a little easy fishing! Hugh will have some rods and bait ready, or feel free to bring your own. Hope to see you there!

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** has been called by the Session for Sunday, May 18 immediately following worship in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a nominating committee.

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, May 11**

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages  
9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary

### **Monday, May 12**

- 5:30 p.m. Mission Elder Meeting via Zoom

### **Tuesday, May 13—Salem Presbytery Meeting—Chapel Hill**

- 6:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study – Witherspoon Room  
7:30 a.m. Dough Devotions for Youth – The Park  
Noon Lunch Bunch Book Club – Witherspoon Room

### **Wednesday, May 14**

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Witherspoon Room  
3:00 p.m. CDC Board Meeting – Room 122  
5:30 p.m. Salty Saints Gathering  
6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, May 15**

- 6:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study – Witherspoon Room  
9:30 a.m. Snack Packing for Andrews Elementary – Witherspoon Room  
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Meets – Room 201

### **Saturday, May 17**

- 1:30 p.m. Huffman Family Reception – John Knox Room

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