



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 25, 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.**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Jesus, Lead Thou On

setting by Paul Manz (1919-2009)

David Vaughan, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Be gracious to us and bless us;  
O God, show us favor.

**May your way, O God,  
be known upon the earth;  
may your deliverance be known  
among the nations.**

Peoples will praise you, O God;  
all peoples will praise you.

**Nations will exult and shout for joy,  
for you rule the peoples with equity;  
you guide the nations of the earth.**

The peoples will praise you, O God;  
all people will praise you.

**Let us worship God!**

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

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN – NO. 375**

Shall We Gather at the River

HANSON PLACE

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

**\*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God,  
we equate our judgment with your judgment,  
and often consider our ways to be your ways.  
We define peace as the absence of disruption,  
holding our comfort as your aim  
and thinking our preferences reflect your way.

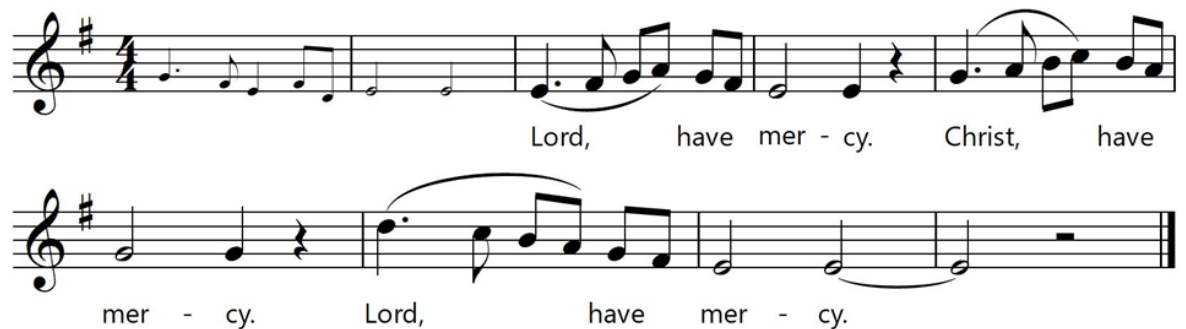
Too often we act as if  
 we are your authoritative witnesses,  
 believing our worldview  
 corresponds with your vision,  
 and that our narrative  
 contains your hope for the future.  
 O God,  
 dislodge us from our sinful assumptions.  
 Forgive our selfish views.  
 Correct us with your truth  
 and teach us by your Spirit.

**\*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Lord, Have Mercy

John Weaver (1937-2021)



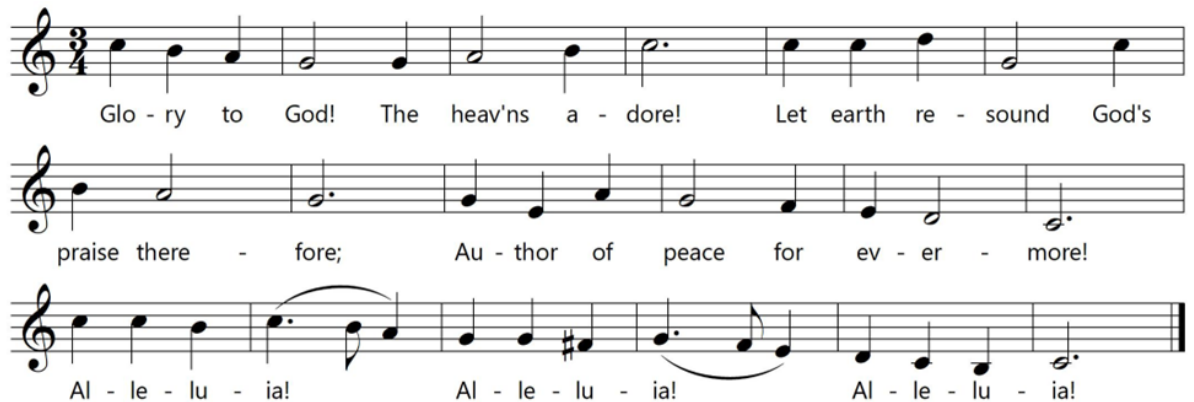
*The astoundingly  
 good news of our  
 reconciliation to  
 God through Jesus  
 Christ frees our  
 tongues to sing  
 mighty praise to  
 God.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Glory to God!

GELOBT SEI GOTT



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: John 14:23-29

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 133*

*Pew Bible, page 109*

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Acts 16:9-15

*Large Print Pew Bible, pages 165-166*

*Pew Bible, page 136*

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: A Prevailing Hospitality

Dr. Jim Lunde

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE – No. 688

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26*

Life in Christ is life eternal.

The resurrection of Jesus is the sign  
that God will consummate the work  
of creation and reconciliation beyond death  
and bring to fulfillment  
the new life begun in Christ.

### 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

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

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

## MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Martin How (1931-2022)

(The text and tune will be found at hymn 630, **Glory to God.**)

## \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures 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

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

## \*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN – No. 295

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

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

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Now Thank We All Our God      setting by Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

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

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

### IN MEMORIAM

**J. DEAN VAUGHN**

**November 22, 1957– May 19, 2025**

**"I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord."**

*John 11:25*

## 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.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bill and Jo Watts Williams by their family.

**RED ROSE** is given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Parker Lawrence Blackburn born to Joseph and Julia Blackburn and grandson of Marvin and Jin-Jin Blackburn. Joining in the celebration is big sister, Lilly.

**LITURGY** today is liturgy is 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!



**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.

**JUNE SUMMER CHOIR - 2025 EDITION:** Did you enjoy singing in your high school chorus (no matter how long ago) ... and you miss it? Did you sing in college, while majoring in a non-music discipline ... and want to slide in and sing again? SUMMER CHOIR is for you! Rehearsals for easy, meaningful anthems are on Sunday mornings at 9:15am in the sanctuary. Many of our regular singers will be present to welcome and help you - and you'll add immeasurably to our worship. We guarantee a wonderful experience as we sing and worship together. (June 1 anthems include "Let Us with a Gladsome Mind" and "The Tree of Life" - both of which are familiar melodies.) Please come on Sunday, June 1 at 9:15am! Questions? Call/text David Vaughan, 336-512-1115.

**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!

**FPCB FACILITIES** will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observation of Memorial Day.

**The Don't Trash It! campaign with Elon University has begun** with linens being picked up daily.

The Furniture Ministry team is inundated with linens from Don't Trash It! Here are ways you can participate in the annual Don't Trash It! linen collection campaign from Elon University:

**Linens are ready to be picked up for washing!** Pick them up after church on Sunday, May 25, Sunday June 1 or any Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9 am -12N at the Garrison-Joyner Building (Scout Hut)

- **Come and help volunteers sort and package linens** any Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9 am-12N to the Garrison-Joyner Building (Scout Hut).
- **Pick up oversized comforters and mattress pads and take them to the laundromat.** We provide the quarters! A huge pile awaits in the Scout Hut.

Thank you so much for your help with this effort which enables us to deliver a complete "bed-in-a- bag" with every mattress set we deliver —approximately 375 a year!

Donations needed now:

- Upholstered furniture—sofas and chairs
- Pots and pans, especially frying pans, sauce pans and large soup/pasta pots
- Cooking utensils

Kitchen knives  
The Furniture Ministry will be closed Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day.

**VBS MISSION PROJECT** - Care Kits for our neighbors experiencing homelessness in coordination with Allied Churches of Alamance County.

Please bring any or all of these items in June. A collection bin will be located in the hallway across from Charlotte's office (Room 204) near the coffee station.

The kits will be gallon Ziplock-type bags with these items inside; therefore the items need to be small enough to fit in the gallon bag:

Travel size dry shampoo

Travel size deodorant

Packets bathing towelettes

Toothbrush and toothpaste

Hand sanitizer

Small bottles of water

Granola bars

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, May 25

- 9:00 a.m. John Knox Fellowship Meets — John Knox Room  
9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary

### Monday, May 26 — FPCB Facilities Closed

- 8:30 a.m. Team A Serves at Allied Churches

### Tuesday, May 27

- 7:30 a.m. Dough Devotions for Youth — The Park  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting — Room 203  
1:00 p.m. Baxter Family Reception — John Knox Room  
6:30 p.m. BSA Troop 17 Spring Court of Honor — Williams Chapel

### Thursday, May 29

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Meets — Room 201



## Moment's Meditation

As a new day dawns, show us how to not only make a living but a life  
– a life that is truth-telling, justice-seeking, peacemaking, love-breathing,  
grace-giving, joy-instigating and hope-stirring.

*Rev. Dr. Luke Powery*

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