



First Presbyterian Church

For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte

Founded in 1821

Order of Worship

*Baptism of the Lord
January 13, 2019
9 and 11 a.m.*

This is God's house and all are welcome! As you gather for worship, please take a moment to greet one another in the name of Christ.

Preparation

Words of Welcome

The Reverend Katherine Kerr

Prelude

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

A. D. Miller

Chiming of the Trinity

Adoration

*Call to Worship (adapted from Isaiah 43:1-7)

One: We gather in the presence of God who promises to be with us.

All: **When we pass through waters, they will not overwhelm. And through fire, we will not be consumed.**

One: Because we are precious in God's sight. Therefore, we will not fear.

All: **In confidence and with joy, let us worship God.**

*Hymn No. 475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

NETTLETON

Confession

Call to Confession

The Reverend Pen Peery

Prayer of Confession

All: Today, as we prepare to baptize children in your name and celebrate the new life they will have in you, we confess that sometimes we lose sight of whose we are. We get busy, and distracted, and – frankly – enamored of other things and ideas that try to claim our allegiance and our lives. As we witness the waters of baptism splash on the foreheads of the newest members of our church family, remind us of the promise that you made to claim us. And help us to lead lives that evidence our gratitude for the gift of our salvation.

One: In silent prayer, let us confess to God the things we choose not to speak aloud.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Response (Hymn No. 581)

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism

(9:00 a.m.) Edward Boyd and Bennett Gilbert Logan
(11:00 a.m.) John William Edwards

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.

Children in kindergarten through 2nd grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn. Younger children may go to the nursery.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

pew Bible pg. 60

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“This Gift Is Free”

Fred Gramann

DJ Godinez, soloist

Come to the waters, all who are thirsty. O come and drink; this gift is free. Come to the table, all who are hungry. O come and feast; this gift is free. Come to the tree of life laden with fruit for you. O come and taste; this gift is free. Come to the banquet hall. A place is set for you. O come and sit awhile; this gift is free. Why do you buy food which cannot feed the soul or labor on for that which will not make you whole? Come unto me and taste the food I give. Come unto me so that your soul may live.

Large-print hymnals and Bibles are available. Please let an usher know if you would like one.

We believe that God put the wiggle in children, and all are welcome in worship regardless of their ability to sit still. If you'd like to step out of the sanctuary with your child, please feel free to visit the chapel (to the right of the sanctuary), where the service is streaming.

The rosebud in the sanctuary celebrates the birth of Zorah Arielle White, daughter of Ja'Tayia White.

Ben and Teddy are the sons of Missy and Tim Logan.

Jack is the son of Laura and John Edwards.

First Church is a worship education experience for children in kindergarten through second grade. During First Church, children participate in and lead a simplified worship service that follows the same order as our service in the sanctuary.

The 11 a.m. service is televised over WSOC-TV, Channel 9 this morning and streamed live at www.firstpres-charlotte.org.

Scripture Acts 8:26-40 *pew Bible pg. 127*
Sermon "A Baptism Parable"
The Reverend Dr. Anna Carter Florence
*Hymn No. 482 "Baptized in Water" BUNESSAN

Response

Prayers of the People The Reverend Katherine Kerr

Stewardship of Life
New Members
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "Be Not Afraid" Taylor Davis
Be not afraid, for I have redeemed you. Be not afraid, I've called you by name. My love for you is everlasting. My love for you shall have no end. When you pass through the waters, I will surround you. When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er. When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed. You are my child. You are so precious to me. You are my child and I'll love you always. Just hold my hand, and I'll lead you home. When you feel lost, always remember: I am right here, just call out my name. You are my child. You are so precious to me.

*Doxology (Hymn No. 606) OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication and The 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.

Sending Forth

*Hymn No. 463 "How Firm a Foundation" FOUNDATION
*Charge and Benediction
*Benediction Response "Amen" John Rutter
Postlude Toccata-Sortie Auguste Larriu

We are grateful to the Reverend Dr. Anna Carter Florence, Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching at Columbia Seminary, for leading us in worship today.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the marriage of Emily Jane Elliott and Michael Phillip Gaffney on January 12, 2019.

We welcome Ashley and Lee Hardee, John Hopkins and Stuart Williams, Erin and Stephen Kemp, Jennifer Lomax-Self, Marian Lomax, Tommy Mitchell, David Powell, and Laura and Cody Sundberg into the full life of First Presbyterian Church. We celebrate their commitment to membership and stewardship to God through this congregation.

A time of personal prayer is offered following both services. If you would like to pray with a pastor or a member of our prayer team, please meet them in the sanctuary overflow area after the 9 a.m. service or in the chapel following the 11 a.m. service.

* Please stand if you are able.

**We are glad you are
with us today!**

We welcome all to
First Presbyterian Church
as we worship together,
knowing that each of us is a
beloved part of the body of
Christ.

Our Pastors

Pendleton B. Peery
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Katherine C. Kerr
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William P. Young, III
Director of Music Ministries
wyoung@firstpres-charlotte.org

**Are you interested in joining
our church?**

Contact Lucy Caldwell
Membership Coordinator
lcaldwell@firstpres-charlotte.org

Pastor on call

If you have a pastoral emergency
outside of regular church hours,
dial 704.927.0256 for the on-call
voicemail. Your call will be
returned promptly.

200 West Trade Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
www.firstpres-charlotte.org
704.332.5123

Coming up at FPC...

We Worship

Global Mission Sunday | January 27 | 9 and 11 a.m. Worship | 10 a.m. Formation

Join us on Sunday, January 27, as we hear about our mission to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Our mission partner Actionnel Fleurisma of Bayonnais, Haiti, is preaching at 9 and 11 a.m., and Bill Nathan, Home Director at St. Joseph Home for Boys in Port Au Prince, will speak at a brunch at 10 a.m. All are welcome to join us. Please RSVP today or next Sunday, January 20, in the Wood Fellowship Hall, or sign up online at <http://bit.ly/globalbrunch2019>.

We Learn

The Apocryphal Gospels | Sundays in January & February | 10 a.m., S203

The Reverend Mary Margaret Porter will lead this class on the Apocrypha, a large body of writings about the Bible and Jesus that cannot be found in the books in our pews or on our bookshelves. In this five-week series, learn why some books appear in the Bible and others do not, who decided what to include and what to leave out, how we know about these other writings and what we should think of them.

Classes will include:

January 20 – Infancy Gospels

February 3 – The Ministry Gospels

February 10 – The Passion Gospels

February 17 – The Post-Resurrection Discourse Gospels

Congregational Breakfast hosted by Youth Ministry | Sunday, February 24 | 9:30 a.m.

Join FPC Youth for an intergenerational Congregational Breakfast to support the Youth Mission Fund. Purchase tickets online by visiting the Tickets & Signups page on the website, or in person on Feb. 3, Feb. 10 and Feb. 17 in Wood Fellowship Hall. Also, be sure to check out our Giving Wall, another way to support our Youth Mission Fund, in the Historical Lobby starting Jan. 27.

We Serve

Loaves and Fishes Needs Help | Tuesdays and the third Saturday of each month

Our Loaves and Fishes pantry has two big needs. The third Saturday team needs two people for the next six months. We also need strong people to lift heavy boxes during Tuesday deliveries. Contact Ministry Team Coordinator Mary Scott Peterson (mpeterson@firstpres-charlotte.org) with questions.

We Care

First Fruits Fellowship | Monday, January 14, 2019 | 6:30 p.m., Napa on Providence

Join us for some January fellowship and fun over wine and cheese at our second monthly First Fruits fellowship gathering at Napa on Providence, 110 Perrin Place. Open to everyone.

Women's Health Discussion | Thursday, January 31 | 7 p.m., Home of Michelle Frenzel

Get some of your questions about women's health issues answered at this informal gathering with other women from First Presbyterian. There will be light snacks and beverages, as well as time for fellowship and a Q&A period with physician and member Dr. Anne Barnard (Schmit). RSVP by Friday, January 25, to Parish Nurse Kristin Foster, RN, (kfoster@firstpres-charlotte.org) to receive directions to the home of our hostess.

Valentine Party | Tuesday, February 12 | 6:30 p.m., Sharon Towers

Mark your calendars for this annual event with homemade cookies for FPC members and other residents of Sharon Towers. This year's event will be in Hunter Hall. If you can help with homemade cookies, please deliver them to the church by noon on that day or to the lobby of Sharon Towers by 5 p.m.

*Hymn No. 475

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,

wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

*Hymn No. 482

“Baptized in Water”

1 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation,
trusting the promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

2 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.

3 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit,
we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.

*Hymn No. 463

“How Firm a Foundation”

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 “Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 “When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

4 “When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 “The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”