



First Presbyterian Church

For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte

Founded in 1821

Order of Worship

*Palm Sunday
April 14, 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

Prelude "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" Johann Sebastian Bach
Words of Welcome The Reverend Pen Peery
Chiming of the Trinity

Adoration

*Call to Worship (Psalm 118)
One: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, and whose mercy endures forever.
All: **Let Israel now proclaim, "The mercy of the Lord endures forever!"**
One: Hosanna, Lord, hosanna!
All: **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

*Processional Hymn No. 196 VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Confession

Prayer of Confession

The Reverend Dr. Rebecca Davis

All: Lord, we prefer you ride in majesty. We like the image of you high up the horse, basking in the adulation of the crowd, disciples in tow. But like those disciples, we confess we tend to turn away when things get difficult. We turn to other sources of strength when faith leads to suffering. We avert our eyes so as to not see the reality of your pain.

Forgive us, we pray, and give us courage to follow you, especially this Holy Week as we witness the lengths to which you will go to demonstrate your love.

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

Response (Hymn No. 698, sung multiple times)

TAKE ME AS I AM

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Response (Hymn No. 197, stanza 1)

ELLACOMBE

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

Sacrament of Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism

(9:00 a.m.) Benjamin James Leskanic
(11:00 a.m.) Robert Edward O'Connor, III

*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

Psalm 47

pew Bible pg. 518

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"Ride On, King Jesus"

arr. Larry Fleming

Loretta Giles, soloist

Ride on, King Jesus. No man can hinder you. When I look around me to find someone who's gentle and kind, someone to show me the way, I look to Jesus and I pray. When I need someone to hear, to help me conquer my fear, when I can't find the way, I look to Jesus and I pray. Ride on, King Jesus.

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.

Benjamin is the son of Julia Wood and Todd Leskanic.

Robert is the son of Millicent and Rob O'Connor.

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

The anthem contains a section near the end where you hear multiple voices that may resemble the excitement and chaos of the crowds as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Scripture Luke 19:28-40 *pew Bible pg. 83*
 Sermon "Train Your Eyes" The Reverend Pen Peery
 *Hymn No. 215 "What Wondrous Love Is This" WONDROUS LOVE

Response

Prayers of the People Natalie Raygor
 JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH

Stay with Me 204

Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and
 pray. Watch and pray.

Stewardship of Life
 Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Gilbert Martin
When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down; did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

*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. 216 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" ST. CHRISTOPHER
 *Charge and Benediction
 *Benediction Response "Amen" DANISH
 Postlude "Have Mercy, God, Holy Ghost" J. S. Bach

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

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William P. Young, III
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**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
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Coming up at FPC...

We Worship

Palm Sunday | Today | 9 and 11 a.m., Sanctuary

Today, as we celebrate Palm Sunday, we will do so with palms from communities in Mexico and Guatemala where workers are paid fairly and engage in sustainable harvesting in order to protect the local ecosystem. These palms were purchased directly from harvesters at five to six times the normal payment per frond which helps improve standards of living and protects forests.

Maunder Thursday Tenebrae Service | April 18 | 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Join us for this evening service with scripture read by candlelight which reminds us of Jesus' final hours from the Last Supper to his death on the cross.

Easter Sunday Worship | Sunday, April 21 | 7, 9, and 11 a.m.

This year's Easter Sunrise service at Romare Bearden Park will be at 7 a.m. Gail Henderson-Belsito, Director of Congregational Care and Worship at Caldwell Presbyterian Church, will preach. In the sanctuary, worship will be at 9 and 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. there will be a time of fellowship for all including the flowering of the cross (please bring flowers) and a butterfly release.

We Learn

Preschool Egg Hunt | Today | 12 p.m., Front Lawn

Toddlers through TK children are invited to an egg hunt on the lawn immediately following the 11 a.m. service today. We will have a few extra baskets for those who don't have one!

Peace by Piece: Youth & Confirmation Sunday | April 28 | 9 and 11 a.m., Sanctuary

Our church youth lead both worship services. We will celebrate confirmands in worship at 11 a.m.

2019 Willard Lecture | Tuesday, May 7 | 7 p.m., Sanctuary

Rise Above: Becoming a Healer in an Ailing World with Dr. Jonathan Haidt, social psychologist, author and professor. Purchase tickets online at bit.ly/Willard2019.

Middle School Sabbath Retreat | May 18-19 | Montreat, NC

Middle School Youth will travel to Montreat to explore sabbath, rest, and renewal. The youth will join the FPC family on the lawn for the food truck lunch at noon on Sunday. Register online at tinyurl.com/fpcmsr19.

Vacation Bible School | Monday - Thursday, June 24-27 | 9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Join us this summer for *To Mars & Beyond*, a Vacation Bible School experience that will help children discover the wonders of God's universe. Register online at bit.ly/VBSFPC2019.

We Serve

Bible & Beverage and First Fruits Fellowship | Tuesday, April 23 | 7:30 p.m., 2101 Central Ave.

Join us to support the Streets to Peaks (S2P) program at Camp Grier. S2P participants ages 11-18 learn to overcome obstacles, set goals and imagine a future with endless possibilities. Admission is free at Resident Culture Brewing; food and beverages are available for purchase.

We Care

First Fellowship | Thursday, April 25 | 6:30 p.m., Offsite

Spring into a New Restaurant Routine is the topic when Charlotte historian Tom Hanchett speaks on little-known restaurants. Contact the Reverend Mary Margaret Porter (mporter@firstpres-charlotte.org) for details.

First Fellowship for Dads & Kids | Saturday, April 27 | 3-5 p.m., 1717 Cleveland Ave.

Dads and children are invited to gather in fellowship and shop for Mother's Day at Fashion & Compassion, a non-profit organization that supports and empowers impoverished women. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

*Hymn No. 196

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One. (Refrain)

2 The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems
before thee we present. (Refrain)

3 To thee, before thy passion,
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. (Refrain)

4 Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)

*Hymn No. 215

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

*Hymn No. 216

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat,
and the burden of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus
mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One
who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love
and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain or loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all the cross.