

First Presbyterian Church

For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte

Founded in 1821

Order of Worship

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021
11 a.m.*

Preparation

Prelude “We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit” Dietrich Buxtehude

Words of Welcome The Reverend Pen Peery

Chiming of the Trinity

Adoration

Choral Call to Worship Christopher Tye

*O come, ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name. From early morn
to setting sun, his might on earth proclaim. His laws are just, and glad the
heart. He makes his mercies known. Ye people, come and bow before his
throne.*



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)
 F C F G7 C



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

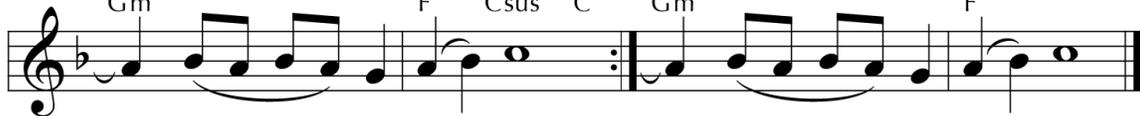
(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)
 Cm F B^b Gm Dm



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3 | 4

(Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)
 Gm F Csus C Gm F



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Confession

Call to Confession

The Reverend Anna Dickson

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and almighty God, your words are given to us so we might be reformed, but we are intent on changing others.

Your words are offered to us so we might be transformed, but we are focused on conforming to our culture.

Your words are spoken to lead us into new life, but we hold our old ways tightly to our chests.

In your mercy, forgive us. Do not remember our sins, but continue to touch us with your steadfast mercy. Show us how to be persistent in living out our faith, even as you were so tenacious in offering us your grace and life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Kyrie (Hymn No. 551)

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

*Response to Pardon (Hymn No. 245)

LLANFAIR

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, earth reply, Alleluia!

Sacrament of Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism

John Banks McCrory

*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.

The 11 a.m. service is televised over WAXN-TV, Channel 64 this morning and streamed live at www.firstpres-charlotte.org and on Facebook Live.

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Larry Maye.

We welcome Mitchell Austin, Marcie and Sanjeev Bhasker, Lacey and Patrick Kavanagh, Teale Long, Frank Schall, and Lauren and Matt Wood into the full life of First Presbyterian Church. We celebrate their commitment to membership and stewardship to God through this congregation.

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Diane Maye on the death of her husband, Larry Maye.

Banks is the son of Lauren and Wilson McCrory.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Anthem

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

arr. Mack Wilberg

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 thy redeeming love. Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good measure, safely to arrive at home. 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. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, 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.

Scripture

Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

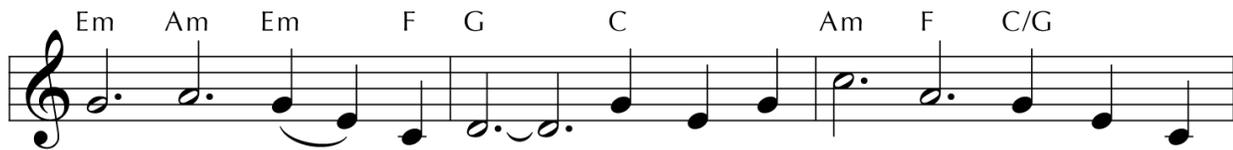
Sermon

“Change”

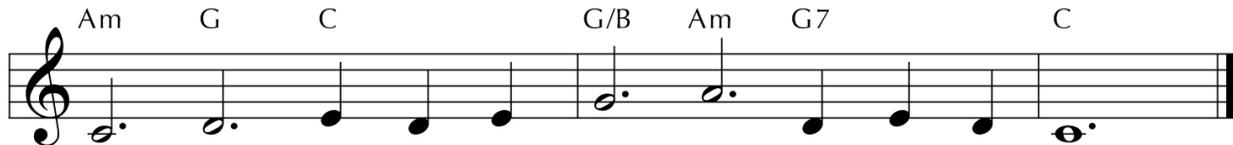
The Reverend Pen Peery



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Response

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

The Reverend Robert Galloway

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.

Stewardship of Life

New Members

Offertory Anthem

“Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me”

K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be; help me now Thy grace to see, I would be like Thee; and, with words that help and heal, Thy life would mine reveal; and, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak. Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; help me now Thy truth to see, I would be like Thee; and, with wisdom kind and clear, Thy life in mine appear; and, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity. Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be; show Thy mercy tenderly, make me more like Thee; separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good, and whatever I can be give Him who gave me Thee. Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be; help me now Thy pow'r to see, I would be like Thee; 'gainst all weapons hell can wield, be Thou my strength and shield; let Thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory. Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like Thee!

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Sending Forth

*Hymn No. 297

“In Christ Called to Baptize”

ST. DENIO

1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,

and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.

In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.

then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

*Benediction

Benediction Response

“Amen”

DANISH

Postlude

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541

Johann Sebastian Bach

We are glad you are worshipping 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
Senior Pastor
ppeery@firstpres-charlotte.org

Robert L. Galloway
Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Young Adults
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Anna R. Dickson
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
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Mary Margaret Porter
Parish Associate
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Charles C. Williamson
Parish Associate
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William P. Young, III
Director of Music Ministries
wyoung@firstpres-charlotte.org

Are you interested in joining our church?

Contact Jane Ives
Membership Coordinator
jives@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

First Presbyterian Church Announcements

Worship Reservations, Each Monday at 8 a.m.

Each Monday at 8 a.m., we will open seating for the upcoming Sunday. Visit bit.ly/reservemay9 tomorrow to register for the May 9 worship service. | If you need to cancel a reservation, please email communications@firstpres-charlotte.org so we can give your seat(s) to someone on the wait list.

May Sunday Classes: Finding God's Solutions in a World of Problems, May 2 – May 23 at 9:00 a.m., Zoom - A study of the book of Nehemiah led by Rev. Robert Galloway | Register at bit.ly/MaySundayFormation

Camp Grier Camp Connectors, June 13th - August 6th

If you are looking for a meaningful way to engage with students and families from Westerly Hills Academy, volunteering with our Camp Grier program is a great place to start! We are recruiting volunteers to help first-time campers and their families navigate camp questions and preparations so that they are excited and ready to go when camp week arrives! | Contact Heather at hherring@firstpres-charlotte.org for more information.

“Telling our Story: A Racial History of FPC”, May 4 & 11, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Zoom
Learn more about FPC's history by hearing and discussing information that has been gathered as part of the work of the Racial Justice Task Force. | Register at bit.ly/RacialHistoryFPC

Even though we are not meeting in person, we ask for your continued support. We encourage you to give by text, online at www.firstpres-charlotte.org, or by mailing a check to 200 W. Trade Street, Charlotte, NC, 28202. Your gift will support the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church.

TEXT GIVING – You can quickly donate to the church through TEXT GIVING. See the example below.

- Text to 73256
- Content of the text needs to be – givetofpc followed by a \$ and the dollar amount.
- You will be prompted to enter your payment information.
- You will receive an email receipt of payment.

