



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

Our mission is to know Christ, serve Him,
and make Him known.

~ Gathering before the Word ~

Welcome

Eddie Spencer

Prelude and Preparation for Worship

Wright

Precious Memories

Lighting of the Candles

Landon & Noah Walker

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 46

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

All: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

Leader: He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

All: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

***Hymn of Praise No. 776**

EIN FESTE BURG

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

***Prayer of Adoration**

Prayer of Confession

"Heavenly Lord, Your name is a strong tower. The righteous run to it and are safe, for You are the only refuge in troubled times. Yet, we confess that our fears are legion. We are afraid to love, afraid to commit ourselves, afraid of what others think, afraid of rejection, afraid of being hurt, afraid of failure, and afraid of what the future might bring. Show us that Jesus Christ is Your protection of us, Your presence with us, and Your power in us. Forgive us, for the glory of our Savior's name, Jesus Christ the Lord."

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Ephesians 2: 8-9

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

Celebration of Life

Family members will light a candle in honor of those who have gone before us and who, in Christ, are more alive than they have ever been!

*Hymn of Hope No. 405

ST. ANNE

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Word with Our Children

Michelle Walker

Offering and Special Music

A Living Prayer

Block

Michelle Walker, soprano

*Scripture Reading

John 7

page 1057

Sermon

The World and Worldliness

Eddie Spencer

*Doxology

*Prayer and Benediction

*Postlude

Promised Land

Traditional American Tune

*All who are able please stand
CCLI# 2221136

To Our Guests

Welcome! We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and hope you find today meaningful and refreshing. Visitors are asked to fill out a Visitor Information Card, located in the pew, and place it in the offering plate. Prayer Requests may be noted on the reverse side of the same card.

Children's Activity Bags are available for children age 3 to grade 5. They include a children's bulletin related to the Sunday sermon, crayons, and scrap paper. **Children's Church** is available for children 4 years through 2nd grade. After the "Word with our Children," they will be escorted to their classroom on the choir hallway. Parents should report to the classroom immediately following worship to pick up their children.

A Nursery is available for newborns through age 4. It is located in the Educational Building. If you need assistance or directions, an usher would be happy to help you!

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

First Presbyterian gives thanks to God for our wonderful
Pastor Eddie and his wife, Roxanne.

The church has purchased a gift card for them to
demonstrate our gratitude for all they do to serve, lead, and teach our church family.
Please take a moment today to express your own appreciation to Eddie and Roxanne!!!

ALL SAINTS' DAY

Today, we pause to remember, celebrate, and give thanks for those in our First Presbyterian family who spent their lives faithfully serving our Lord and Savior - impacting us, our church, and our community. They have now been ushered into the presence of the Lord. We will join in a time of reflection, honoring the lives of those within our church family who died within the past year, and are deeply missed:

Paul Barnhardt 10/31/2021

Ken Boucher (wife of Barbara Boucher; father of Sandy Boucher-Bessent) 2/23/2022

Michael Deal (son of Joyce Deal) 3/25/2022

Donald McDaniel (father of Mallory McDaniel) 5/5/2022

Elizabeth Cook (mother of Cookie Hamilton) 5/24/2022

Clarice Poole (mother of Susan Baker) 5/25/2022

Gary Burris (cousin of Debbie McDaniel) 8/8/2022

Betty Overcash (step-mother of Cris Bayne) 8/22/2022

Shelby Jean Stanford (mother of Patricia Hartsell) 9/29/2022

Robert Ackerman (father of Roxanne Spencer) 10/3/2022

Linda Sampson 10/14/2022

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Today, many Protestant churches celebrate Reformation Day. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 Thesis/Protests on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. These protests were surreptitiously printed into the German language and became a catalyst for a movement which eventually became widely known as the Protestant Reformation.

Luther, Calvin, and the other Reformers believed that the church of their day was drifting away from the essential and foundational truths of the Christian Faith. Guided by biblical convictions, the reformers sought to reorient Christianity on the foundations of the Apostles and Prophets with Jesus Christ as the Chief Cornerstone. (Ephesians 2:19) The five "Solas" (Latin phrases) which gave unity and summarized the core theological convictions of the Protestant Reformation are as follows:

- Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone): The Bible alone is our highest authority.
- Sola Fide (Faith Alone): We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.
- Sola Gratia (Grace Alone): We are saved by the grace of God alone.
- Solis Christus (Christ Alone): Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.
- Soli Deo Gloria (To the Glory of God alone): We live for the glory of God alone.

In these days, may God grant us deeper faith and courage to hold fast to the Word of God, rest in the Gospel of Christ, and live for the glory of our great and glorious God.

UPCOMING



ALL Journey Youth and their families are invited to a Fall Cookout & Hayride at the Walker Farm THIS AFTERNOON at 5:00pm!
See Ryan or Michelle Walker for more information.

Hurricane Ian Relief

New Hope Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers, Florida, has set up a disaster relief fund following the devastation of Hurricane Ian. If you would like to contribute, place your donation in the offering plate (checks made out to First Presbyterian) marked "Hurricane Ian Relief." The deadline to donate is Sunday, November 20th. Please continue to lift up in prayer all those impacted by this horrific storm.



2023 Mission Trip to Mexico!

Anyone interested in traveling to Sitpatch, Mexico next year to work with Missionaries Don & Martha Wehmeyer should meet in the Parlor immediately following the worship service TODAY. If you can't attend, please let Debbie McDaniel know of your interest!



Dig Deeper into God's Word this Wednesday!

- 4:30pm:** OCC pre-packing (assembling our 400 shoeboxes)
- 5:30pm:** Fellowship Meal (donation basis) of stir-fry chicken and vegetables, rice, salad, drinks and dessert.
- 6:00pm:** PraiseMakers Kids' Choir
- 6:30pm:** Small Groups and Explorers children's class. All other youth are invited to OCC **Craft Night** in the Fellowship Hall, where we will paint drawstring bags for our shoeboxes.

Update on Hamilton Family Mission

Please continue to remember the Hamilton family in prayer, as they travel home today from a Vision trip to France through Greater Europe Mission (GEM). More information about the Hamilton Mission and ways to support them can be found in the Narthex. Thank you for your prayers and support!

The Piedmont Choral Society presents "A Service of Remembrance"

TODAY, October 30, at 4:00pm. The concert, dedicated to all who were lost and all who mourn, will offer choral works of comfort, hope and peace. The performance will be held at Calvary Lutheran Church - 950 Bradley Street, Concord. No tickets are required, and admission is free.



The church family is invited to Thanksgiving Dinner in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 27!

Those attending are asked to provide a side dish, drink, or dessert. Look for more information in coming bulletins and a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



The Countdown is ON! There are less than 2 weeks before our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party on November 9!!! Help your Missions Team secure the following items OR make a monetary donation, and the Missions Team will purchase what we need in bulk. Just mark your offering for 'Shoeboxes' and place it in the offering plate. **The deadline to donate items or money is TODAY, Sunday, October 30th!!!**

Needed NOW:

300 small foam/sponge balls approx. 5" (football, basketball, soccer ball)
304 hand-held LED flashlights with batteries
200 slim, plastic water bottles
120 sets of marbles in bags

First Presbyterian will once again serve as an Operation Christmas Child Drop-off Location during National Collection Week, November 14-21.

Area churches, organizations, and individuals will bring their packaged shoeboxes for us to collect, count and cartonize. On Monday, November 21 we will transport all the boxes we have collected to the Central Drop-Off Location at Pitts Baptist Church in Concord. Volunteers are needed to staff our collection and to help load all the boxes for transport on the 21st. See the shifts and sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or Michelle Walker, for more information.

First Presbyterian has secured a shift to serve at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte on Saturday, November 26, from 3pm-7pm.

Volunteers must be at least 13 years old. We will leave from the church (carpooling available!) at 4:45pm, and we will stop for dinner on the way home. This is a great time of fun service and fellowship. Sign-up in the Narthex, or see Michelle Walker for more information.



PRAYER CONCERNS

CHURCH FAMILY

Cindy DeVoe- loss of sister, Linda Sampson

Roxanne Spencer- Loss of her father, Bob Ackerman

Kay Yates- Recovery from Covid

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF Church Family

Mike Allen (Bargers' family)- Cancer diagnosis and is struggling

Lisa Threatt (Chariti's mom) -treatment for trigeminal neuralgia is helping

McKenzie Hampton (Sandy Bessent's daughter) - health concerns

Kimberly (Kay McAllister's daughter) – health concerns

HOMEBOUND

Cindy Fisher- Transitional

Donna Mauldin- Landings of Cabarrus

Peggy Barnhardt – Morningside

Barbara Hancock- home

Iris Efird- home

Barbara Wise - Oaks at Hampton, Cummings, Georgia

Loretta Young - Five Oaks

THIS WEEK@FIRST PRESB

Sunday, October 30

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast

9:45am - Grace-Full Movements Dance Ministry

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

12:00pm - Missions Trip Interest Meeting in Parlor

2:30pm - Journey Youth Cookout at the Walkers

Tuesday, November 1

12:00pm - NA

6:30pm - Session

Wednesday, November 2

4:30pm – OCC Shoebox Assembly

5:30pm - Fellowship Meal

6:00pm - PraiseMakers

6:30pm - Small Groups & Journey Youth OCC Craft Night

7:30pm - Alleluia Ringers

Thursday, November 3

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

Sunday, November 6 *Daylight Savings' Time*

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast

9:45am - Grace-Full Movements Dance Ministry

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with Holy Communion

4:30pm - Women Without Reservations at Walker Home

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Lynn Efird
Children's Message: Michelle Walker
Children's Message next week: Alpha Barger
Children's Church: Chris & Chariti Lowder
Children's Church next week: Ryan & Michelle Walker
Acolytes: Landon & Noah Walker
Acolyte next week: Violet & Amias Hamilton
Nursery: Kaitlyn Maxwell
Nursery next week: Jenna Baker
Ushers: Fred Caskey, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond, Tony Hunter
Ushers next week:
Greeter: Renee Goodnight, Roxanne Spencer

FINANCIALS FOR SEPTEMBER

YTD Income	\$195,565
YTD Expenses	\$199,704
YTD Budget	\$221,533

Last week's attendance: 10/23/22
Sunday School 70
Worship 101

SERMON NOTES

