



Welcome

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

~ Gathering before the Word ~**Prelude and Flowering of the Cross**

Llanfair (Welsh tune)

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Brass Quintet

Welcome

Eddie Spencer

Lighting of the Candles

Amias & Violet Hamilton

Call to Worship

John 11:25-26; Revelation 5:12

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die."

All: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

***Hymn of Resurrection No. 182**

EASTER HYMN

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today****Prayer of Adoration****Corporate Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, by raising Jesus from the grave, You shattered the power of sin and death. Yet, we confess, we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. By raising Jesus from the grave, You crowned Him Lord of all. Yet, we confess, we have not bowed before Him or acknowledged His rule in our lives. Forgive us, Father of Mercies. Transform us and make us new by Your Spirit, so that we may know the joy of abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever.

Silent Prayers of Confession**Assurance of the Gospel**

Revelation 5:12

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Celebration of the Gospel*Worthy of It All*

CeCe Winans

GraceFull Movements Dance Ministry

Hymn of Praise No. 186Low in the Grave He Lay*

CHRIST AROSE

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~**Word with Our Children**

Acting Out Drama Ministry

Offering and Special Music *Christ is Alive* Musica Sacra c. 1778
David Hamilton, tenor; Kay Yates, piano

***Scripture Reading** I Corinthians 15:3-8 page 1139
Sermon “Observations at the Open Tomb” Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

***Hymn of Resurrection No. 365** ACKLEY
I Serve A Risen Savior

***Litany of Resurrection Praise**

Leader: This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: This is the good news—death is swallowed up in victory; Christ has won.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: This is the good news—just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too may live a new life in Him.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: This is the good news—He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for us.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: Rejoice, for Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude** *Hallelujah Chorus* Handel
Brass Quintet

*All who are able, please stand
CCLI# 2221136

The Flowering of the Cross

All worshippers are invited to select a flower from the baskets in the Narthex as you enter the Sanctuary, then take it to the front of the altar to place on the white cross. As you do, remember how Jesus' sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection transformed the ugliness of our sin into the beauty of eternal life with Him.

Thank you to our guest instrumentals for adding such beautiful music to our worship service today! They are: Zach Snively (trumpet), Don Angel (trumpet), Kim Wise (french horn), Bob Amos (trombone), and Chris Aleman (bass trombone). Please extend to them your own welcome and words of appreciation!

Welcome

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.

Wifi is accessible throughout our common areas. You may log in to First Presbyterian Guest with the password: Praise!!

Children's Activity Bags are available for children aged 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!

UPCOMING

Fulfilling Our Purpose... Growing by Grace.

First Presbyterian has been gifted an opportunity not only to improve our facilities but expand our ministry capabilities! A generous couple has agreed to fund the majority of this project, which will leave us with a new outdoor pavilion dedicated in memory of Dr. Joe Crawford and in honor of his wife, Diane. If you would like to contribute toward this project, please pick up a 2023 Campaign brochure from the Narthex and return the Donation Card with your offering. Donations to date - \$14,625!



You are invited to an authentic, Mexican Fiesta!

Next Sunday, April 16, immediately following worship, the Missions Team will host a Mexican-themed luncheon to support our Mexico Missions Team. The menu will consist of: cheese quesadillas, chicken tamales, Mexican rice, black beans, guacamole, pico de gallo, and chips and salsa. The meal is provided on a donation basis. Proceeds will go towards projects at the Sitpatch School or supplies for the Missions Team.



Let's go out to the ballgame!

First Pres has secured group tickets for the Cannon Ballers' game against Charleston on Sunday, April 23 at 1:00pm. Each ticket is \$11, which includes \$2 worth of "Baller Bucks" to be used at the stadium. See Michelle Walker by NEXT SUNDAY, April 16, to secure your spot!

The JOY Group

will meet for lunch in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, April 28th at noon. The Argabrites will provide ham; others are asked to provide sides and desserts. The program will consist of a devotional by Charlene Booth and instructions on cell phone operation. Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend!



You are invited to the Kannapolis Bible Teaching Association's Annual Fundraising Banquet!

The event will be held at Shoe Show, Inc. (2201 Trinity Church Road, Concord, NC 28027) on May 1, 2023 from 6:00-7:30pm. RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex by **Sunday, April 23** if you would like to attend!



Training Opportunity!

If you are interested in becoming CPR & AED certified, please see Ryan Walker as soon as possible! The class will require 3.5 - 4 hours and a cost of \$25.

*Donations
are Greatly
Appreciated!*

Collection for our "fence ministry" continues with new items for spring.

If you can donate any of the following items, please see Kay McAllister: ball caps, washcloths, shampoo, small brushes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair accessories, flashlights, batteries, gallon/quart size storage bags. Thank you for your continued support!

PRAYER CONCERNS

CHURCH FAMILY

Danny Bost - Battling cancer
Hank Cranford - Health concern
Betty Sechler - Severe knee pain
Donna Hancock - Surgery on April 21

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

Kathy Joyce (friend of Jane Jacobs) - battling cancer
Ellen Morrison (Judy Hammond friend) - cancer
Kimberly Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - recovery from surgery
Robert Little (Richard's brother) - treatment for cancer
Mike Allen (Bargers' family) - Beginning a 5 week radiation treatment at Emory
Buddy Troutman (Judy Hammond's family) - health concern
David Buckland (friend of Sparks) - Young man battling lymphoma, who came home from hospital

HOMEBOUND

Shirley Faust - TerraBella in Salisbury
Peggy Barnhardt - Morningside
Barbara Hancock - Home
Iris Efird - Home
Barbara Wise - Oaks at Hampton, Cummings, Georgia
Loretta Young - Five Oaks

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Lynn Sechler
Children's Message: Acting Out Drama Ministry
Children's Message next week: Amelia Caskey
Children's Church: Tracy & Amelia Caskey
Children's Church next week: Vickie Ellington & Jane Argabrite
Acolytes: Violet & Amias Hamilton
Acolyte next week: Erica Efird & Caylin Lowder
Nursery: Lynn Efird
Nursery next week: Chariti Lowder & Amelia Caskey
Ushers: Phil McLain, Jill McLain, Lynn Sechler, Ryan Walker
Ushers next week: Jeff Barnhardt, Danny Bost, Fred Caskey, Mark Goodnight
Greeters: Dave Argabrite, Debbie McDaniel

FINANCIALS FOR MARCH

YTD Income	\$75,479.26
YTD Expenses	\$71,345.97
YTD Budget	\$72,876

Last week's attendance: 4/2/23
Sunday School - 80
Worship -141

THIS WEEK@FIRST PRESB

Sunday, April 9 **Easter Sunday**

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- GraceFull Movements & Acting Out Rehearsal
9:45am - Choir Rehearsal
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Resurrection Service
12:15pm - Handbell Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 11

12:00pm – NA

Wednesday, April 12

5:30pm - Small Ensemble Rehearsal

Thursday, April 13

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study
12:00pm - NA

Saturday, April 15

12:00pm - Mexican Fiesta prep in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 16

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
9:45am - Choir Rehearsal
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service
12:00pm - Mexican Fiesta Missions Benefit in Fellowship Hall
12:15pm - Handbell Rehearsal



SERMON NOTES

