



**FIRST**  

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**PRESBYTERIAN**  

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**CHURCH**

*Welcome*

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

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~ **Gathering Before the Word** ~

**Welcome**

Pastor Eddie

**Prelude**

*Brother James Air*

arr. Wood

**Lighting of the Candles**

Camryn & Cierstyn Lowder

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 90:1-4,14

Leader: Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**All: Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

Leader: You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

**All: For a thousand years in Your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.**

Leader: Satisfy us in the morning with Your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 590**

*Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*  
(verses 1-4, 7)

AZMON

**\*Prayer of Adoration and 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.

**Apostle's 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

**\*Hymn of Assurance No. 675**

OH, HOW I LOVE JESUS

*By Grace We Have Been Saved*

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

**Offertory and Anthem No. 341** Goodson, arr. Abbington  
*We've Come This Far by Faith*  
Chancel Choir

**\*Doxology No. 965** OLD HUNDREDTH

**Scripture Reading** Ephesians 4:20-24 Page 1158

**Sermon** "Principles of Change" Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

**\*Sending Song No. 876** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

**\*Prayer and Benediction**

**\*Postlude** *Allegretto* F. Molitor

\*All who are able, please stand.  
CCLI# 222113

*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 card.

**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. Before the Anthem, they will be escorted to their classroom in the Nursery.

**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!



**As our church family celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion**, we traditionally collect for our Good Samaritan Fund. This fund allows the pastor and staff to assist those in need, in our church and in our community. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the 'Good Samaritan Fund' envelope, or mark your offering 'Good Samaritan Fund'.



## Nominations for the office of Elder at First Presbyterian are being accepted through

**TODAY.** An Elder Recommendation Form may be found as an insert to your bulletin. Please read the form and prayerfully consider any nominations. Return the Recommendation Form to the Offering Plate by TODAY, Sunday, May 3. Elders will be elected at a congregational meeting on Sunday, June 28, and Installed during worship on Sunday, July 5.

**Calling all youth!** We will soon embark on a study of what "the Church" is, who "the Church" is, and where you fit in! Guests will share insights with us as we look at what God designed "the Church" to be, to look like, and to do. **Lesson #1 is "The Church shows up for each other!"** This spring, let Michelle know if your youth has an activity (sport, play, recital, etc.) that we can show up for and support them!



### Our next opportunities are:

**Saturday, May 9:** *Mary-Gray Petersen's volleyball game at West Cabarrus YMCA.* We will meet at Afton Pub & Pizza for lunch at 11:15am (5380 Village Dr. NW, Concord), then walk to the Y for her game at 12:30pm. Pick up will be at the YMCA (5325 Langford Ave. NW, Concord) at 1:30pm.

**Saturday, May 16:** *Cierstyn Lowder's soccer game across from S. Rowan YMCA* (950 Kimball Rd., China Grove). Game begins at 8:30am and lasts about an hour.

**Wednesday, May 20: (note date & time change!) Oliver Townsend's baseball game at Virginia Foil Park in Mt. Pleasant.** We will leave church at **5:30pm**, eat at What-a-Burger in Mt. Pleasant, and then go to the game at **7:30pm**. **Please sign up in the Narthex, especially if you need transportation!!!**



## Mark your calendars for Graduation Sunday, May 17!

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our graduating high school seniors, Amelia Caskey and Abigail Malinovsky. We will have a special moment of recognition during the worship service, and a reception in their honor in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

**Youth Sunday will be May 31!** Our children and youth will lead the worship service using their talents for music, drama, and dance. Rehearsals will be May 6 & 13, with dinner at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall, and practice from 6-7pm. "Dress" rehearsal will be Saturday, May 30 at 10am in the Sanctuary. See Michelle if you need more information!





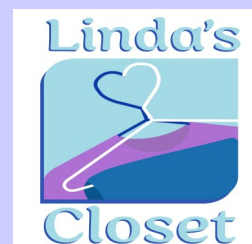
**The Friendship Sunday School Class has begun a journey through prayer, what happens when we pray, and the practical application of prayer.** This journey will take us from Exodus to Revelation. What role do angels have in the Christian's life and in prayer? If Christ is our intercessor, why do we need the help of the angels? Our sources will, of course, be the Bible, Tim Keller's Book on Prayer, John Piper, Desiring God, and the writings of the early reformers. If you are not already a part of a Sunday School Class, we hope you will join us at 10:00 a.m. (The Friendship Class meets across from the Choir Room .)

**The Thursday morning Ladies' Bible Study has begun a new book.** They will examine *The Armor of God* by Priscilla Shirer with the aid of a video study. All women are invited to join the group. They meet weekly at 10:30am in the Session Room. See Alpha Barger for more information.



**First Presbyterian will once again partner with the Cabarrus Women's Center for their "Baby Bottle Blessings" campaign.** We will collect from NEXT Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day) through Sunday, June 21 (Father's Day). Beginning May 10, pick up an empty baby bottle from the Narthex. Fill it with cash, change, or a check made payable to Cabarrus Women's Center, and return it when full. The Cabarrus Women's Center is a life-affirming pregnancy support center. For more information, please see Janet Harte.

**Linda's Closet is open the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month, 11:00am - 1:00pm.** Other Tuesdays are workdays. We only accept donations of new or clean, gently used clothing, shoes, or handbags. **See Sue Maiocchi if you can volunteer.**



**Current needs:**

- ◆ spring & summer clothing for all, especially children's
- ◆ new underwear and socks for all



**Thank you for donating to the First Pres Blessing Fence!** See Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help with current needs:

- ◆ **Two-Gallon Size Ziploc Bags**
- ◆ **Ball Caps**

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Help us keep Prayer Concerns current with weekly updates.  
Email the church or note on a prayer card & place in the offering plate.

### CHURCH FAMILY

- Baker & Craft Families—loss of Debby Baker
- Connie Lisenby - recovery from procedure
- Charlene Booth - health concerns
- Jean Bost - transition to Greens of Cabarrus
- Tony Rary - in hospital with pneumonia; multiple myeloma treatments
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- Richard Little - treatment for multiple myeloma

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Semra Goodnight (Mark Goodnight's niece) - cancer treatments
- Natalie Burleson - loss of father, Jim Stowe
- Sammie Dunn (Dave Argabrite's cousin) - shingles & upcoming chemo
- Chalora Leece (Jason Leece's mom) - surgery to remove kidney on May 6th
- Margaretta Cowan (Eric's mom) - in hospice at home
- Robert Ellison (Sparks' in-law) - declining health
- Meredith Milam (Strickers' niece) - undergoing chemotherapy for uterine cancer
- Karen Pless' mom - recovery from stroke & broken clavicle
- Steve Smith (Becky Seaford's brother) - chemotherapy
- Robert Hudak (Diane Belotti's brother) - recovery from spine surgery
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10-yr-old stem cell treatments
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - cancer

### HOMEBOUND

- Barbara Hancock - home; recovering from kidney infection
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks
- Linda Bost - Best of Care under hospice care



# This Week @ FIRST PRES

## Sunday, May 3

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
- GraceFull Movements  
Rehearsal  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service with Holy  
Communion  
2:00pm - Celebration of Life of Debby  
Baker

## Monday, May 4

6:00pm - KBTA Banquet

## Tuesday, May 5

11:00-1:00pm - Linda's Closet  
12:00pm - NA  
3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen  
6:00pm - Missions Team in F. Hall  
6:30pm - Session

## Wednesday, May 6

3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen  
5:30pm - Youth Dinner

6:00pm - Youth Sunday Rehearsal  
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

## Thursday, May 7

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study in  
Session Room  
12:00pm - NA  
3:30-6:30m - Peek NexGen

## Saturday, May 9

11:15am - Youth lunch at Afton Pub &  
Pizza  
12:30pm - Mary-Gray Petersen's  
volleyball game at West  
Cabarrus YMCA

## Next Sunday, May 10

### Mother's Day!

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
- Gracefull Movements  
Rehearsal  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Jeff Barnhardt

**Children's Church This Week:** Sharon  
Stricker

**Children's Church next week:** Michelle  
Walker

**Acolytes This Week:** Camryn & Cierstyn  
Lowder

**Acolytes Next Week:** Noah Walker &  
Mason March

**Nursery:** Sharon Stricker

**Nursery Next Week:** Michelle Walker

**Ushers:** Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan, Mark  
Goodnight, John Hammond

**Ushers Next Week:** Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst,  
Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder

**Greeters:** Sharon Cranford, Dave Argabrite

## FINANCIALS FOR MARCH

**YTD Income** \$76,504.30

**YTD Expenses** \$72,375.86

**YTD Budget** \$81,740.01

**Last week's attendance:** 4/26/2026

**Worship AM - 95**

**Sunday School - 59**

