



First Presbyterian Church

Statesville, North Carolina

Founded 1753
Organized 1764

Upon entering the sanctuary, let us be reverent in silence, fervent in prayer, hearty in praise, and expectant of God's presence.

Please sign and pass the register and, noting one another's names, return it.

Based on Psalm 25

Notes on the Bulletin:
(*) Those who are able in the congregation are asked to stand
(**) Ushers will seat late arrivers

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

Eleven o'clock

THE PRELUDE

"Prelude on RESIGNATION"

Sanders

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ,
let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

*The people may greet one another or exchange,
by words and gesture, signs of peace and reconciliation.*

THE PRELUDE *(continued)*

THE ANTHEM

"Hear Now Our Prayer"

arr. Shafferman

Cherub and Junior Choirs

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

People: let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**People: for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

People: let all the peoples praise you!

***THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 260**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

EIN'FESTE BURG

***THE PRAYER OF ADORATION**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Jesus said: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

We confess that often we have failed to be an obedient church:

we have not done your will;

we have broken your law.

Jesus said: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind"

and "you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

We have rebelled against your love;

we have not loved our neighbors;

we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

THE KYRIE

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

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: . . . Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(356)

*O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, 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.*

THE CONVERSATION WITH THE CHILDREN

*This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
This is where children belong.*

The Congregation is invited to sing as the children come forward. Children younger than kindergarten age may go to the nursery following the children's sermon.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 31:1-8

(following each reading)

Pew Bible, O.T., p. 186

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

46:1-7, 10-11

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

People: **Therefore we will not fear
though the earth should change;
though the mountains shake
in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

Leader: There is a river whose streams
make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city,
it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

People: **The nations are in an uproar,
the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice,
the earth melts.**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.
People: **The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

THE ANTHEM

"The Lord Is My Shepherd" from "The Requiem" Rutter

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 14:15-18
Pew Bible, N.T., p. 109

THE SERMON

"Around the Corner" Jack Causey

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery
which the Scriptures describe in various ways.
It is called the sacrifice of a lamb,
a shepherd's life given for his sheep,
atonement by a priest;
again it is ransom of a slave,
payment of debt,
vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty,
and victory over the powers of evil.
These are expressions of a truth
which remains beyond the reach of all theory
in the depths of God's love for humankind.
They reveal the gravity, cost,
and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.
The risen Christ is the savior of all people.
Those joined to him by faith are set right with God
and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling
community.
Christ is head of this community, the church,
which began with the apostles and
continues through all generations.**

*THE HYMN 172

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" RESIGNATION

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.**

THE OFFERING

– from The Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Written in the midst of the Civil Rights movement, the confession highlights reconciliation through Jesus Christ as its theme.

The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness though the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.

THE OFFERTORY

“When in the Hour of Utmost Need”

Bach

***THE DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH (592)

*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. Amen.*

***THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***THE HYMN 354**

“Guide My Feet”

GUIDE MY FEET

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

“Sevenfold Amen”

Stainer

Sanctuary Choir

***THE POSTLUDE**

“Mighty Fortress”

Pachelbel

The African American spiritual is based on the imagery of “the race that is set before us” in Hebrews 12:1-2. Its call-and-response structure allows for the improvisation and addition of stanzas related to an athletic metaphor that is as vivid today as it was centuries ago.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 18, 2018

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

Lynn Kunkle Preaching

A WARM WELCOME in the name of Jesus Christ is extended to everyone worshipping with us. If you have any questions about our church or if you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, please speak to a minister or one of the elders. You may join the Presbyterian Church by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by reaffirmation of faith, or by transfer of your letter from another church.

MARCH RESPONSIBILITIES

Elders on Call:

March 11 — March 17

Sarah Davis, Jane Lentz

March 18 — March 24

Carole Pickett, Scott Zanotti

March 25 — March 31

Dick Sears, John Downs

Sanctuary Guild:

Sandra Milholland,

Michelle Dodick

Joanne Dodick

Opening/Closing the Church:

John Downs

USHERS TODAY

Dennis Setzer, Matt Carbone,

Dick Sears, Andrew Setzer,

Gina Terry, Judy Watts,

Wendell Worthington

USHERS MARCH 18

Matt Austin, Lilly Beaty,

Richard Hanson, Donnie Haynes,

Nate McElwee, Clay Speaks,

Thomas Tuck

NURSERY TODAY

Beth Bush, Karen Kauffman

NURSERY MARCH 18

Lynn Brennan, Liz Petree,

Gina Terry

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Ann Brady

Mattie Meech

Mary Sanders

At home

Maureen Snoddy

Elaine Steele

The Pines Health Center, Room 151

Fielding Deaton

Dennis Woodall

Brookdale Peachtree

Bill Gilliam

The Gardens

Becky Kirkman

John Frazier

Iredell Memorial

THE FLOWERS in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in honor of the hard work and dedication by the members of the Transition Team by Jane Lentz .

HYMN NOTES are borrowed from the hymnal *Glory to God*.

COVER ART: "Moses" by Irving Amen

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH will be today, immediately after worship. Please join us for a time of great food and fellowship. The menu is: Parmesan Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Cooked Carrots, Rolls, and a variety of homemade desserts. The cost is \$8.00 per person and \$25.00 for a family.

What a joy for our church to have hosted **The Children's Choir Festival** last Sunday afternoon! The individual choirs and solos were outstanding. The combined choirs created a community chorus of nearly 40 children's voices! The love offering that was received will go to MacDowell Music Club scholarships.

**PENNIES FOR
HUNGER
OFFERING NEXT
SUNDAY**



MARCH MISSION MADNESS: It's March Madness time-a great time for us to cheer for our favorite teams and donate to support those in need! Don't forget our annual mission challenge. Get your spirit on bring non-perishable food to place in the decorated bins outside of the church office. Remember, all proceeds go to support community members in need. The challenge will run through the tournament, March 13 thru April 2.

CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Youth Choir will be singing the next two Sundays, March 18 and 25. Warm-up rehearsal will be at 9:30 a.m.

The Handbell Choir will be ringing in worship next Sunday, March 18. Warm-up rehearsal will be at 9:00 a.m.

The Cherub and Junior Choirs will continue to sing each Sunday of Lent and on Palm Sunday, March 25.

The Youth Choir along with help from the **Junior and Cherub Choirs** will present, "Share the Good News! He is Risen", on Sunday, March 25 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fourth Creek Meeting Hall. A mission fund raiser dinner prepared by Dick Sears and Lamar Austin will be served following the musical. Save the date and invite a neighbor.

EASTER EGG CANDY is needed for the big egg hunt on March 31. There is a beautiful Easter basket located outside of the Fellowship Room waiting to be filled with bags of small candies to fit inside plastic eggs. We are also in need of volunteers to fill 300 plastic eggs. Please contact Carol Oliphant at (704) 881-8475 if you are interesting in helping.

WE SHARE the hope we have in the Risen Christ with the Cherry family in the death of Bill Cherry, Saturday, February 24. Memorial service will take place on Friday, March 16 at 2 p.m.

Holy Week Worship Services

March 25

Palm Sunday

In the sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.
Youth musical and dinner at 5:00 p.m.
Palm branches will be available with the bulletin from the ushers.

March 29

Maundy Thursday

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
In the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.
Childcare available by reservation.
(704.873.7244)

March 30

Community Good Friday Service

First Presbyterian Church at 12:00 p.m.
Broad Street UMC will provide preacher.

March 30

Tenebrae Service

In the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.
Childcare available by reservation.
(704.873.7244)

April 1

Easter Sunday

In the sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.
John Milholland will preach.

THE CHURCH AT WORK: STUDY, SHARE, SERVE

Today	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Second Sunday Lunch
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Choir
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Dinner
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Advisory Council
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Circle 2
	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Study
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Staff/Prayers
	12:00 p.m.	The Gospels
	4:00 p.m.	Cherub Choir
	4:45 p.m.	Junior Choir
	5:45 p.m.	Handbell Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Clinkers
Friday	2:00 p.m.	Bill Cherry Memorial Service
NEXT Sunday, March 18	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 a.m.	CE Ministry
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Choir
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Dinner
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group

Wes Pitts Director of Christian Education
Melody Morrison Beaty Director of Music
Neal Hayes Organist



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