



# First Presbyterian Church

Lexington, North Carolina  
Organized in 1827

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 2, 2021 - 11:00 AM

Welcome to worship! Today is Communion Sunday. If you are at home, please gather bread and juice for later in the service. In-person worshipers may pick up a Communion kit at the entrance to the sanctuary.

### WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

#### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

David Durrell

Moment for Mission Study Team

Carol Fortune

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

We have been called to walk the faithful road and to choose the way of God's justice. Let us come together, then, to be God's people, to praise our Maker, and to commit ourselves to follow Christ. Let us worship God!

#### PRELUDE

*Appalachian Sunrise*  
JoAnn Hill, piano

J. Martin

*"He is the light of morning at sunrise..." - II Samuel 23:4*

Silent Prayer and Meditation:

*Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate.  
Light is stronger than darkness. Life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours through Him who loved us.*

~Desmond Tutu

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (please pray along silently)

Lord, sometimes we are confused. We hear the bad news continually shouted on TV, radio and online. The whole world seems to be shrieking in pain. Innocent people are destroyed by the whims of the wicked. Disease invades our families. We turn an indifferent ear to the cries of others, often because we are so overwhelmed by the need. We feel helpless in the chaos, close our eyes, and walk away. Forgive us, merciful God. Help us take the steps in front of us to ease the pain of others, to right the injustices, and to serve you willingly by serving the least of our brothers and sisters. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent Prayer - (How have you disappointed God, others, or yourself?)

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Do not be afraid. God's love is reaching out to you, to touch your hurt and provide healing and wholeness. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

## WE HEAR THE WORD

### FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Amos 5:14-15, 21-24*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*Find a World*

The Gathering Band

#### Chorus

*And I am with You always, and I am with You always  
For all this life and even in death I am with you always*

#### Verse 1

*Go and find a world where My name has never been said  
And say it there, let it ring like a song, ring like a song  
Go and find a world where My face has never been shown  
And show it there, let it shine like the sun, shine like the sun*

#### Verse 2

*Go and find a world where My Word has never been said  
And say it there, let truth fall like the rain, fall like the rain  
Go and find a world where My love has never been shown  
And show it there, with a love that is pure, a love that is pure*

#### Ending

*I am with you always, and I am with you always  
For all this life and even in death I am with you always  
Always always*

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### SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

*1 John 4:7-12, 20-21*

### SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Jo Dederer

*The 5th Great End of the Church: The Promotion of Social Righteousness*

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION** (What is God saying to you this morning through scripture, sermon and song?)

**HYMN FOR MEDITATION** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* (vss. 1 & 3)

#429

- 1. Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,  
Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

3. *Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood."  
Let us all, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward,  
Asking that the world around us share your children's liberty;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

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## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

### **PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Offerings may be mailed to the church at PO Box 586, Lexington NC 27293, or you may give online by visiting our website ([www.fpclexnc.com](http://www.fpclexnc.com)) and clicking on the red "Give Online" button. If you are present, you may place your offerings into the designated containers in the Lobby and Narthex.*

Prayer of Dedication

### **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (please pray silently)

...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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Meal

Prayer after the Meal

## **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD**

**POSTLUDE**

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

arr. J. Carter

**BLESSING**

**RECESSIONAL MUSIC**

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The ushers will dismiss one row at a time, from the back of the sanctuary. Please exit via the center aisle, through the Narthex and front doors of the church. Please remember to social distance. Worshipers needing the ramp are welcome to use the Third Avenue exit.

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Whether this is your first time worshipping with us or you have been with us for years, we welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ. We are so glad you have gathered with us to give thanks to God and respond to Jesus' call to follow him. First Presbyterian Church of Lexington is a loving community in Christ where we *Call People to Faith, Develop them as Disciples, and Send them to Serve*. If you would like more information about our congregation, please speak with Pastor Nancy Dederer or one of our church leaders. Pastor Nancy can be reached at the church office (336/248-2140), by email at [PastorNancy@fpclexnc.com](mailto:PastorNancy@fpclexnc.com), or by text or phone at 708/642-2742.

## **GUEST PIANIST**

Today we welcome our own JoAnn Hill as our guest pianist. Thank you, JoAnn for sharing your gift of music with us!

## **OUTDOOR WORSHIP SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9**

An outdoor worship service has been scheduled for May 9, weather permitting, as it is Confirmation Sunday and Mother's Day. With an outdoor service, we will not need to limit the number of people in attendance. However, we will still take reservations for indoor seating in case of bad weather. Reservations for May 9 may be made beginning 9 AM, May 3, through Noon, May 6.

## **YOUTH SUNDAY**

Youth Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, May 16. We will also honor our graduating seniors on this day.

## **CALLING ALL ASPIRING TECHIES!**

Our Tech Team has been working hard over the course of the last year to install equipment and streamline the process for live streaming our services. They are looking for more folks to join their ranks who would be interested in running the video and sound board for Sunday morning worship services. *Training is available!* The more people we have on board, the easier it will be on the whole team, as a rotation can be set up to lighten the work load on everyone. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact Blake Benton at [blakebenton@gmail.com](mailto:blakebenton@gmail.com).

## **SAFETY TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed for the church's Safety Team. These folks serve on a rotating basis each Sunday and help keep our worshipers safe! If you are interested in serving, or if you have questions, please contact Sammy McFarland at [swmcfarland@gmail.com](mailto:swmcfarland@gmail.com).

## **PRESCHOOL NOW ENROLLING**

The Preschool is now enrolling for the 2021-2022 year! Spaces are available for two year old, three year old, and Pre-K students. If you or a friend are interested in enrolling a child or grandchild, please contact Director Jane Blackerby at 336-248-2140, ext. 4 or [jblackerby@fpclexnc.com](mailto:jblackerby@fpclexnc.com).

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Ministers . . . . .	The People
Transitional Pastor . . . . .	Rev. Dr. Nancy Jo Dederer
Interim Director of Christian Education/Formation . . . . .	Mrs. Karen Carrickhoff
Director of Music . . . . .	Mrs. Shelley Jennings
Director of Contemporary Worship . . . . .	Mr. Jack Harman
Financial Secretary . . . . .	Ms. Alma Carlton
Preschool Director . . . . .	Mrs. Jane Blackerby
Office Manager . . . . .	Ms. Jeanna Carlton

**THE SESSION**

Class of 2021

Donna Bryan	Jan Kiefer
Sol Coltrane	Margaret King
Anna Gobble	Robin Team
Richard Goff	Pat Ulmer
Bill Keesler	

Class of 2022

Meredith Andrews	Jo Leonard
Beverly Black	Sammy McFarland
Jim Beall Graham	Phyllis McGee
Jan Greer	Bill McMurray
Jimmy Holshouser	



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