

First Presbyterian Church

Lexington, North Carolina
Organized in 1827



Our Path to Faith

Youth Sunday
Graduation Sunday

First Presbyterian Church

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YOUTH SUNDAY AND GRADUATION SUNDAY

May 15, 2022 - 11:00 AM

Indented **BOLD** indicates everyone speaks.

* Indicates that those who are able may stand.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jackson Greer

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Colson Priddy

PRELUDE

Ken Davis

ENTRANCE OF GRADUATES

Pomp and Circumstance

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Lucy McNeill

One: In the midst of a world where people hunger and thirst...

All: come worship a God who feeds the hungry.

One: In the midst of a world where people are abused and oppressed...

All: come worship a God who calls for compassion and justice.

One: In the midst of a world filled with wars and rumors of war...

All: come worship a God who desires nothing less than peace for the world.

One: In the midst of a world of spiritual emptiness...

All: come worship a God who gives life meaning and whose grace and love know no end.

*HYMN 354

Guide My Feet

1. *Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!*
2. *Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
Hold my hand while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!*
3. *Stand by me while I run this race, stand by me while I run this race,
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!*
4. *I'm Your child while I run this race, I'm Your child while I run this race,
I'm Your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!*
5. *Search my heart while I run this race, search my heart while I run this race,
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!*
6. *Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Luke Staten

I've forgotten a friend

My words have hurt someone

My vision was too narrow

I just think of myself

My pride doesn't let me ask for forgiveness

I did not reach out when I saw someone in need

I need too much to make me happy

I let a day go by without giving thanks

I haven't put into practice what I say I believe

I've acted without thinking

I missed a chance to show I care

I envy others' happiness

I envy others' possessions

I envy others' talents

I envy others too easily

My temper hurt someone

God of grace, have mercy on us. We are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you.

Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE** (responsive)

Luke Staten

Our God is a God of grace, mercy, and love. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

Neida Ramirez, Anne Riley Harman, Kelly Adams

WE HEAR THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 30:20-21

Will Coltrane

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 5:10;
Romans 5:3-5; Acts 14:22*

Jackson Greer

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SENIOR SERMONS

Brady Coltrane, Parker Byerly, Trey Johnson,
Conner Byerly, Harrison Gardner

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***SONG**

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Chorus

Open the eyes of my heart Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see You

I want to see You

Verse

*To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy*

Bridge

*Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You*

***WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE**

Kelly Adams

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator,
Maker of all things visible and invisible.
In Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He came into the world from heaven.
He lived with us. He taught us.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate.
He was crucified and died for us.
He descended into hell so that we don't have to.
The third day he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit living among us and in us.
I believe in the church universal, in the communion of saints.
All of us share in Christ as members of the body.
I believe in the forgiveness of sins.
Grace, God's grace for us.
I believe in the resurrection of the body.
My body will be raised from the dead just as Christ was raised.
I believe in the life everlasting.
I will praise God eternally.
I believe! Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Anne Riley Harman

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Hayden Ayers

Offerings may be mailed to the church at PO Box 586, Lexington NC 27293, or you may give online by visiting our website (www.fpclenx.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.

***Doxology 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.*

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Neida Ramirez

Good and generous God, we pray that Your life would so overflow in us that our neighbors both near and far would be fed by Your spirit. Use the offerings of our resources and our lives to proclaim the gospel, spread Your love and bring forth Your kingdom. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 525**

Here I Am, Lord

1. *I, the Lord of sea and sky, / I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin / My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, / I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? / Whom shall I send?*

Refrain

*Here I am, Lord. / is it I, Lord? / I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, / if You lead me. / I will hold Your people in my heart.*

2. *I, the Lord of snow and rain, / I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, / They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, / Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. / Whom shall I send? (Refrain)*
3. *I, the Lord of wind and flame, / I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, / My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide / Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. / Whom shall I send? (Refrain)*

***BLESSING**

Silas Kennedy

POSTLUDE

If you do not wish to keep your paper bulletin, please deposit it in the blue recycling bin as you leave worship today. Thank you!

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. If you would like more information about our congregation, please speak with Pastor Nancy Dederer or one of our church leaders. Visitor Information packets are in the Lobby, Narthex, and on the welcome table in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Nancy can be reached at the church office (336/248-2140), by email at PastorNancy@fpclexnc.com, or by text or phone at 708/642-2742.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER

The picture of the path on the cover of the bulletin echoes the path we have created at the front of the church. Both of these are symbolic of the path to faith our youth are traveling.

The Mission of First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, NC:

*United in Christ, grounded in God's word,
First Presbyterian Church offers worship, learning,
and outreach experiences for all ages
so that we grow in our discipleship, care for community,
and commitment to serve.*

Our Vision

*First Presbyterian Church is the body of Christ
connected by our Spirit-given gifts, serving with God's love,
and transforming the Lexington Community
by meeting physical and spiritual needs.*

COOKOUT TO HONOR VETERANS

We will be honoring Active Military Personnel and Veterans with an outdoor cookout on Sunday, May 22, 2022 as we gather at 5:30 PM on the church grounds. Hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, potato salad, plus a southern tradition - banana pudding - will be served. Wes Walser will again be providing all of the goodies! The Crossroads Praise Band will provide entertainment for the evening, and we look forward to welcoming our community neighbors from St. Stephen United Methodist and Shady Side Presbyterian churches.

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS MAY 29

Our Summer Worship Schedule will begin Sunday, May 29. We will have a single worship service at 10 AM in the sanctuary, along with the livestream, which will also begin at 10 AM. Crossroads Worship will be on hiatus until September.

ACTS ALIVE COMMISSIONING JUNE 5

On Sunday, June 5, our Sunday worship hour will begin at **9 a.m.** so that we can send off our wonderful Acts Alive group on their summer work camp mission trip by showing the support of our entire FPC church family. We are so glad that these young people will have the opportunity to travel to Pennsylvania to offer their services in Christian mission after a two year hiatus due to the Covid pandemic.

The June 5 service will be held in the sanctuary with a special blessing for our Acts Alive members and their advisors as they begin their journey. This special event is intended to recognize and consecrate their commitment to the service of Christ in the world. Following this special commissioning and blessing, our regular worship service will continue until 10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Please make a note on your calendar and plan to join us on Sunday, June 5 at 9 a.m!

PRESCHOOL HIRING FOR 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration for the 2022-2023 Preschool year is complete, and enrollment is at full capacity! In addition, all of our Preschool staff will be returning for classes in 2022-2023. Because the Preschool has added a class, they are looking for one special person to fill a three-day-per-week, part-time teacher's assistant position in our Intermediate Class for the coming school year. Our Preschool If you or someone you know might be interested in joining our Preschool family on a part-time basis, please contact Director Jane Blackerby.

VBS 2022

Vacation Bible School will be held July 18-22, 9AM-12 PM, with a musical offering by the children on July 24! Our church will be transformed into a Jerusalem Marketplace, with children creating their own costume to play the part each day. Families interested in signing up your children or grandchildren may contact Jeanna in the church office (office@fpclexnc.com or 336-248-2140, ext. 1) or text Ann Kiefer (336-830-2752). Adult volunteers are welcome to join the fun as well!

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Ministers	The People
Transitional Pastor	Rev. Dr. Nancy Jo Dederer
Interim Director of Christian Education/Formation	Mrs. Ann Kiefer
Director of Music	Mrs. Shelley Jennings
Organist	Mrs. Regina Pozzi
Financial Secretary	Ms. Alma Carlton
Preschool Director.	Mrs. Jane Blackerby
Office Manager.	Ms. Jeanna Carlton

THE SESSION

Class of 2022

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

Class of 2023

Lynnae Benton	JoAnn Hill
David Durrell	Emelie North
Ryan Gobble	Jed Orman
Joy Harman	Katherine Team



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