

First Presbyterian Church

Lexington, North Carolina
Organized in 1827

ORDER OF WORSHIP
January 22, 2023 † 11:00 AM
Third Sunday After Epiphany

Indented **BOLD** indicates everyone speaks.

* Indicates that those who are able may stand.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Berry

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One: One thing I asked of the Lord,

All: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. Let us worship God!

***HYMN #469**

Morning Has Broken

- Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*
- Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.*
- Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light, Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Great God, in Jesus Christ you call us to repent of our sin, to believe the good news, and to rejoice in kingdom life. Like the first disciples, help us hear that call, especially when we are distracted by the worries of the day, or troubled by our old ways. Forgive us, we pray, and help us proclaim the gospel of new life into a broken world for the healing of the nations and in Jesus' name. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

1 Peter 1:18-19

You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

Gloria Patri

#579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end.
Amen. Amen.*

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:12-23

Robin Team

ANTHEM

River in Judea
Chancel Choir

arr. Leavitt

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

One: This is the word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

How Do You Start a Kingdom?

Rev. Jon Martin

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***HYMN #374** (Tune: #335)

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

- 1. Lord, make us servants of Your peace: Where there is hate, may we sow love;
Where there is hurt, may we forgive; where there is strife, may we make one.*
- 2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
Where all is night, may we sow light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.*
- 3. Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek to be consoled, but to console,
Nor look to understanding hearts, but look for hearts to understand.*
- 4. May we not look for love's return, but seek to love unselfishly,
For in our giving we receive, and in forgiving are forgiven.*
- 5. Dying, we live, and are reborn through death's dark night to endless day:
Lord, make us servants of your peace, to wake at last in heaven's light.*

***WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE**

Westminster Confession of Faith, 6.062 and 6.069

When God converts sinners and translates us into a state of grace, God frees us from our natural bondage under sin, and by God's grace alone, enables us freely to will and to do what is spiritually good. However, by reason of our remaining corruption, we are unable solely to will what is good, and as a result we will what is both good and otherwise. Acutely aware of this ongoing brokenness, we affirm that we rest alone on Christ and his righteousness.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

Offertory

Adagio

Mozart

*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 Thanksgiving (unison)

God of Mercy, you call us to follow and become fishers of people. Help us use these gifts for that work and give us wisdom and endurance and shine your light on our path we walk in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #411

Arise, Your Light Has Come

1. *Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.*
2. *Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door;
Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.*
3. *Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born,
Bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.*
4. *Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in A

Johnson

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 the pastor or one of our church leaders. Information about the church is available in the Lobby and Narthex.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Burr and Rebecca Sullivan to the glory of God and in honor of Rev. Jon Martin on the occasion of his installation as pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR PASTOR JON

Everyone is invited to Pastor Jon's installation service in the sanctuary this afternoon at 4:00 PM. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall. This is an important event in the life of our church. Come share in the celebration.

BREAKFAST ON FEBRUARY 5

Today is the deadline to sign up for our breakfast on February 5, which will be prepared by the Men of the Church. If you plan to attend, please fill out the card in today's bulletin and drop it in the offering plate or contact Jeanna in the church office at 336-248-2140 or office@fpclexnc.com.

ACTS ALIVE AUCTION

On Sunday, March 5, at 5:30 PM, Acts Alive will host a dinner and auction to raise money for their summer mission trip to the Dominican Republic. We hope you will make plans to join us for this fun evening in support of our youth. They are currently seeking donations for the auction. If you would like to help, suggestions and ideas are listed on the back of their flyer.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 1:00 PM at Brookdale Assisted Living (161 Young Drive, Lexington). Anyone who is interested in being part of this ministry is invited to join them. If you do not know how to knit or crochet, they will be happy to help you learn. For more information, or if you know of someone who could use a prayer shawl, please contact Emelie North at 336-237-9507 or emkanorth76@windstream.net.

THURSDAY PRAYER GROUP

Each Thursday, our intercessory Prayer Group meets in the church parlor at 11:00 AM to pray for the needs of church members, friends and loved ones of the church family, and others in our community and around the world. Anyone is welcome to participate any week. Praying aloud is not required.

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Our Men's Breakfast Fellowship meets at Cagney's Kitchen (1244 Fairview Drive, Lexington) each Tuesday morning at 7:15 AM. All men are welcome and encouraged to invite church members, especially visitors and new members, as well as friends, to join in.

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TWO CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

Helping agencies within Salem Presbytery on a mission to combat hunger are eligible to apply for grants funded by monies received from the Two Cents a Meal offering. In our community, Pastor's Pantry and the Crisis Ministry have both previously received hunger grants from the Presbytery. In 2021, our congregation donated \$1804.68 to this important offering.

For those worshipping in-person, you may place your donation in one of the offering plates. Envelopes for this purpose are located near the offering plates. For those worshipping virtually, you may drop your donation off at the church during business hours, or you may mail your check, made payable to First Presbyterian Church, to us at PO Box 586, Lexington NC 27293. Please note "2 Cents A Meal" in the memo line of your check.



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