



On the fourth Sunday of the month,
the congregations of First Presbyterian and First United Presbyterian Churches
will be worshipping together.

Many years ago, our churches shared a history as one congregation
before our ties were broken by racism and sin.

Years later, we rejoice that we can participate in Christ's ministry of reconciliation
as we bear witness to God's faithfulness and grace.

Order of Worship

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 25, 2022
11 a.m.*

Preparation

Prelude

Words of Welcome

The Reverend Pen Peery

Chiming of the Trinity

Adoration

Choral Call to Worship

H. Hamilton Smith

He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the rivers to the ends of the earth. Alleluia!

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc-tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Confession

Call to Confession

The Reverend Anna Dickson

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, sometimes your presence feels more like hiddenness to us. We do not have eyes to see it. We do not have the courage to trust it. We tend to place our confidence in our feelings more readily than we do in your faithfulness.

Forgive us, O God.

Remind us again that your steadfast love for us was made plain in Jesus Christ, and that it doesn't falter or change. Give us the courage to cling to that love, even when we cannot see it or sense it. And make us a people committed to sharing that love with one another, that we might draw strength from it together.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

*Response to Pardon (Hymn No. 581)

GLORIA PATRI

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.

Sacrament of Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism

Thomas Livio Parolin

*Apostles' 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Children age 3 through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn. Older children are encouraged to stay and worship with their families.

The 11 a.m. service is televised over WAXN-TV, Channel 64 this morning and streamed live at www.firstpres-charlotte.org and on Facebook Live.

Thomas is the son of Jacqueline and Tommy Parolin.

The Elder assisting with the baptism is Jane Ives.

The guest Elder is Jeff McNeill.

Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program, a hunger relief and at-risk youth ministry of the Presbytery of Charlotte.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Anthem

Richard Smallwood

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from you. Your peace you give me in time of storm. You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life; I lift my hands in total praise to you. Amen.

Scripture

Luke 8:26-39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Sermon

"We've Been Made Well: Being Seen"

The Reverend Pen Peery

1 O God, you are my God a-lone, whom ea-ger-ly I seek,
 2 Your faith-ful love sur-pass-es life, e-vok-ing all my praise.
 3 Through-out the night I lie in bed and call you, Lord, to mind;

though long-ing fills my soul with thirst and leaves my bod-y weak.
 Through ev-ery day, to bless your name, my hands in joy I'll raise.
 in dark-est hours I med-i-tate how God, my strength, is kind.

Just as a dry and bar-ren land a-waits a fresh-ening shower,
 My deep-est needs you sat-is-fy as with a sump-tuous feast.
 Be-neath the shad-ow of your wing, I live and feel se-cure;

I long with-in your house to see your glo-ry and your power.
 So, on my lips and in my heart, your praise has nev-er ceased.
 and dai-ly as I fol-low close, your right hand keeps me sure.

Response

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Reverend Lorenzo Small, Sr.

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.

Stewardship of Life

Counseling Center
 Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Gretchen Bottrill

Offertory Anthem

Elaine Hagenberg

O love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in the ocean depths its flow my richer, fuller be. O joy that seeks me through the pain. O I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

Sending Forth

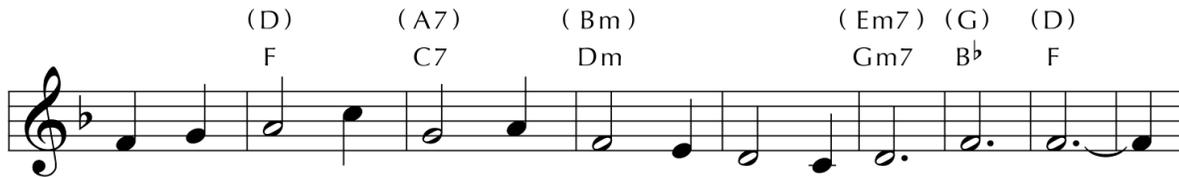
*Hymn No. 726

"Will You Come and Follow Me?"

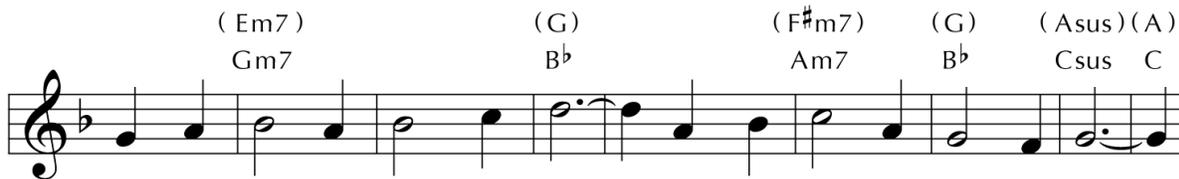
KELVINGROVE



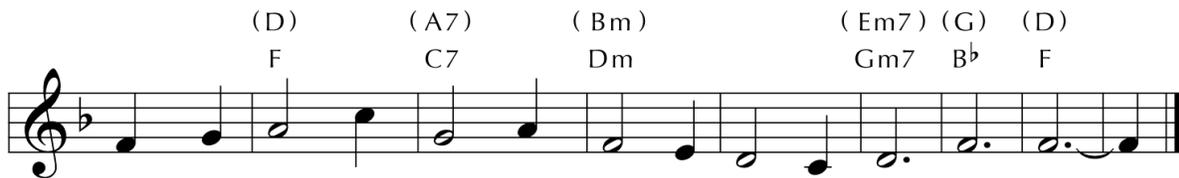
1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

"Amen"

DANISH

Postlude

We All Believe in One True God

Johann Sebastian Bach

We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

We welcome all to First Presbyterian Church as we worship together, knowing that each of us is a beloved part of the body of Christ.

Our Pastors

Pendleton B. Peery
Senior Pastor
ppeery@firstpres-charlotte.org

Anna R. Dickson
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
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Robert L. Galloway
Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Young Adults
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Mary Margaret Porter
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Charles C. Williamson
Parish Associate
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William P. Young, III
Director of Music Ministries
wyoung@firstpres-charlotte.org

Are you interested in joining our church?

Contact Jane Ives
Membership Coordinator
jives@firstpres-charlotte.org

Pastor on call

If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 704.927.0256 for the on-call voicemail. Your call will be returned promptly.

200 West Trade Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
www.firstpres-charlotte.org
704.332.5123

First Presbyterian Church Announcements

Westerly Hills Academy Food Pantry

Support the food pantry at Westerly Hills Academy with a monthly contribution of food items or by delivering food to the school. | Contact: dawnpweber@yahoo.com.

City Bridge Afterschool Program, Weekdays in October, 3 p.m., Core Church

Support our partners at City Bridge by providing snacks or serving as a homework helper. | Contact: hherring@firstpres-charlotte.org.

Plowshares Books Available for Purchase, Today - October 11, Welcome Center "Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World" will be available

for a discounted price of \$10 in advance of the Plowshares book discussion on October 13. | Register: tinyurl.com/SavingUsPlowshares

Emotional Life of Jesus Passages Class, Sundays, 9:45 a.m., S203 & Zoom

The gospel stories portray Jesus with a range of emotions. If God truly understands and welcomes our emotions, how does that change our Christian life? Led by Rev. Dr. C. Nolan Huizenga, Highland Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY. | Contact: gkeesler@firstpres-charlotte.org.

Faithful Living, Faithful Learning Sunday Class, Sundays, 9:45 a.m., P206 & Zoom

A blend of formal teaching and open discussion led by Robert Galloway, this class studies scripture using academic research, input from modern Christian thinkers, and participants' own experiences with a goal of making the Bible accessible, applicable, and joyful. | Contact: rgalloway@firstpres-charlotte.org.

Congregational Meeting, October 9, 12 p.m., Fellowship Hall

There will be a congregational meeting immediately following worship on October 9 for the purpose of electing the Class of 2025 officers.

Sanctuary Re-opening Celebration, October 23

We hope you will join us for this special Sunday. | For more info, please visit the church website.

First United Presbyterian Church Announcements

Marriage Monday will meet via Zoom on October 3 at 7 p.m. We will be discussing communication. For Zoom info please see weekly email blast or call church office.

We will observe World Communion Sunday on October 2 during 11 a.m. worship. We will also participate in the Peace & Global Witness special offering on this Sunday. Please plan to join us.

TEXT GIVING – You can quickly donate to the church through TEXT GIVING. See the example below.

- Text to 73256
- Content of the text needs to be – givetofpc followed by a \$ and the dollar amount.
- You will be prompted to enter your payment information.
- You will receive an email receipt of payment.

