

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Baptism of the Lord is closely related to Epiphany and should be considered in relation to that feast. Jesus' ministry to bring in God's rule was inaugurated in his baptism. As he came out of the water, the Spirit rested on Jesus and a sign of God's approval was heard. On this day, we celebrate not only Jesus' baptism but our own as well, for our baptism is rooted in Christ. Baptism joins us to Christ and his church, and with all of the baptized we are called to share in Jesus' ministry. In the waters of baptism we are buried with Christ, cleansed of our sins, and raised to share in his resurrection. The Spirit is given to us and we are declared the children of God.

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Reverend Delton Farmer, Pastor

Email : pastorfarmer@fupcc.org ~ Mobile#: 919-740-2281

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Email: secretary@fupcc.org ~ Website: www.fupcc.org

"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

Baptism of the Lord

**Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

PRELUDE

The March of the Three Kings - *Stewart Landon*

Prelude on "Whence is that Goodly Fragrance?" *Harrison Oxley*

O Hail, This Brightest Day of Days - *J.S. Bach*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

INTROIT #507 (AA)

"He Has Done Great Things For Me"

TESTIMONY, WITNESS AND PRAISE

LIFE IN CHRIST

HE HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME 507

*The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.
Psalm 126:3*

1. He has done great things for me.
2. He has made a way for me.
3. He will give you vic - to - ry.
4. I'm gonna be a wit - ness for Him.
5. I'm gonna let my lit - tle light shine.

Great things, great things.
Made a way, made a way.
Vic - to - ry, vic - to - ry.
Wit - ness, wit - ness.
Shine, shine.

He has done great things for me.
He has made a way for me.
He will give you vic - to - ry.
I'm gonna be a wit - ness for Him.
I'm gonna let my lit - tle light shine.

Text: Jeany Dixon, © Dixon Music, Inc.

Tune: GREAT THINGS, 747; Jeany Dixon, © Dixon Music, Inc.; arr. by Stephen Key, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Where can we go from God's spirit?

All: If we ascend to heaven, God is there; if we make our bed in Sheol, God is there.

Leader: If we take the wings of morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea.

All: Even there God's hand shall lead us, and God's right hand will hold us fast.

*OPENING HYMN #476 (AA)

"Stand Up For Jesus"

LIFE IN CHRIST

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

476 STAND UP FOR JESUS

...take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day...
Ephesians 6:13

1. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol-diers of the cross!
2. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The trum-pet call o - bey;
3. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Stand in His strength a - lone;
4. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The strife will not be long;

Lift high His roy - al ban - ner— It must not suf - fer loss.
Forth to the might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
The arm of flesh will fail you— Ye dare not trust your own.
This day the noise of bat - tle— The next, the vic - tor's song.

From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my shall He lead,
Ye that are men now serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
Put on the gos - pel ar - mor, Each piece put on with prayer;
To Him that o - ver - com - eth A crown of life shall be:

Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished And Christ is Lord in - deed.
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
He with the King of glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818-1888
Tune: WEBB, 7 6 7 6 D; George J. Webb, 1803-1887

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us approach God with confidence, trusting in God's grace as we humbly confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our sins even before we confess. Your knowledge is wonderful, but also challenging. We'd much rather avoid painful truths and deny our role in wrongdoing. Help us face our failings so we can move forward in truth. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting." Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

SPECIAL SELECTION

Praise Team - "Revelation 19:1"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reverend Delton H. Farmer

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. As we approach your Word, Father we ask that you remove anything that would prevent or hinder us from may we be ready to receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT Joshua 1:1-5
NEW TESTAMENT Hebrews 13:15-17

SERMON

"There's A Job To Be Done"
Reverend Delton H. Farmer



LIFE IN CHRIST

DISCIPLESHIP

567 HERE I AM, LORD

*I heard the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"**Isaiah 6:8*

Verses

Descant:

3. Ah

Ah

Unison

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

Ah

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.

My hand will save.

Fin - est bread I

My hand will save.
 They turn a - way.
 My hand will save.

I who made the
 I will break their
 Fin - est bread I

will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

stars of night,
hearts of stone,
will pro - vide

I will make their dark - ness bright.
Give them hearts for love a - lone.
Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

This system contains the first two staves of the hymn. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

This system contains the next two staves. The vocal line continues with the same melody. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

This system contains the third and fourth staves. The key signature changes to two sharps (F# and C#).

I have heard You call - ing in the night.

This system contains the fifth and sixth staves, concluding the hymn. The piano accompaniment features a more active bass line.

❧ INVITATION TO DISCIPLSHIP/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER ❧

***AFFRIMATION OF FAITH** (*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

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, who said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise Team “Touch Me, Lord Jesus”

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the good news of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER Invitation to the Lord’s Table

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also, with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise

THE LORD’S PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

***CLOSING HYMN #700 (GG)**

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

2 I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Reverend Farmer

May we leave this house of worship emboldened by the Spirit redeemed by God’s Grace and ready to follow Christ’s call. May the grace, hope, peace and love of the God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us now and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Go, Tell It on the Mountain – arr. Charles Callahan



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP with FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: We will be worshipping with First Presbyterian Church (TBA). Be sure to tune in to their TV ministry on channel 64.



TEN CENTS A MEAL - We Can Make a Huge Difference when ALL participate. Using the same passage Two and Five Cents-a-Meal has been used since 1982. Please consider a gift to Ten Cents-a-Meal every 1st Sunday.

PW BIBLE STUDY/CT Meeting - Saturday, January 20, 2024 @ 11:00 am via Zoom

Meeting ID: 872 5882 5653 **PC:** 758558 **Call in:** +1 301 715 8592

[Lesson 3 – A Bleeding Woman Encounters Christ] [Lesson 4 - Mary and Martha Encounter Jesus]

LOAVES & FISHES 5TH Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be March 29, 2024

CLEANSING WATERS SHOWER MINISTRY - 1st & 3rd Sundays from 9:00 am - 10:30 am

BT EXPRESS (Alcohol/Narcotics Program) Mondays & Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY – (Hybrid) - Bible Study every Wednesday night @ 6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 834 3423 2514

Passcode: 306013

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83434232514?pwd=OU9aMGFkSkt6Z0R6U2ZlM2FRYm90Zz09>

One tap mobile, + 1-301- 715-8592, follow the prompts:
then give meeting ID - 834 3423 2514#, Enter passcode - 306013#

January Birthdays

Amira Williams
Davis Barber
Lolane Yongue
Margaret Freeman
Wayne Mouzon
Jody Williams
Terrence Thomas
Meredith Champion
Zara Brown
Austin Massey
Tadaysha Cannon

January 5th
January 5th
January 5th
January 8th
January 8th
January 10th
January 14th
January 16th
January 22nd
January 23rd
January 30th

❧ Welcome New Member ❧

We are grateful to God to welcome Ms. Shirley H. Evans to our church family. Ms. Evans indicated her interest in joining us during worship on Sunday, December 31, 2023, and was received by the session immediately following worship on Reaffirmation of Faith. Ms.

Evans remarked that she started worshipping/participating in events with our congregation in 2023, encouraged by her good friend, Deacon Valerie Tutt. Ms. Evans further shared that she believed it was important that she join as the year ended on December 31st.

We look forward to a wonderful welcome reception for Ms. Evans after she completes new member classes. As you see her sharing her gifts and talents around the church, make sure you extend a big FUPC welcome!

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, January 20th

From 9:00 -12:00

“CALLING ALL CHURCH OFFICERS!”

REGISTER TODAY!!

bit.ly/church-officer-retreat

“THRIVING IN THE NEW NORMAL”

CHURCH OFFICER RETREAT

Co-Hosted by Bellefonte and Trinity Presbyterian Churches

Saturday, January 20, 2024 from 9:00 am to Noon

Trinity Presbyterian Church

3115 Providence Road, Charlotte

Presenters:

Rev. Dr. Amantha Barbee &

Rev. Jim Kitchens

Event is Free with registration:

bit.ly/church-officer-retreat or QR code

****The first 140 registrants will receive a free copy of**

***Canoeing The Mountains* by Tod Bolsinger**

Opening worship led by

Bellefonte Presbyterian Church and DJ Boyd



A collage of breakfast items including croissants, blueberries, orange juice, and a waffle.

Men's Breakfast

JANUARY 27, 2024

9:30 A.M.

Please contact the church office at
704-376-8014 to RSVP.

CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP

April 18-21, 2024 |

Cost: \$450 per person; \$250 single supplement

Register: <http://fpc.tiny.us/civilrightstripFUPC> or scan QR code

Leaders: Larry Bosc, professional civil rights tour guide and former educator in CMS and Rev. Lucy Crain, Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Members of First Presbyterian and First United Presbyterian Churches will embark on a transformative three-day journey to explore the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama.

We will visit iconic landmarks, engage in meaningful discussion, share moments of introspection, and connect with fellow travelers as we delve into the pivotal events that shaped our nation.



scan to register

<http://fpc.tiny.us/civilrightstripFUPC>

This immersive experience promises not only to educate but also to inspire and renew our commitment to justice and equality for all God's people. Join us as we honor the legacy of those who fought for freedom and continue the journey towards a more just and inclusive future.

INCLUDED IN FEE:

All transportation and accommodations, three breakfasts, one lunch, guides and tips

Contact gkeesler@firstpres-charlotte.org for more information.



Civil Rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965

*"We've learned to fly the air
like birds, we've learned to
swim the seas like fish, and
yet we haven't learned to
walk the earth as brothers
and sisters."*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte



CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP

April 18-21, 2024

Connect with the pivotal events
that shaped our nation

Registration for the Civil Rights Trip is NOW open.

14 spaces for First United and 14 spaces for First Presbyterian

Contact the FUPC church office if interested 704-376-8014

Or email: secretary@fupcc.org

Cost: (\$450 Dbl occupancy) (\$700 single)

Contact: Rev. Farmer if Scholarship assistance is needed.

~CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE~

Hello First United Family,

Your monthly support for the Capital Campaign means so much.

Your Capital Campaign Pledge is your financial commitment to our 3-year funding drive to raise needed capital for major repairs and possible future renovations.

The roofs on the Sanctuary and the Education Building have been completed and paid for, but to continue to give our church new life and remain a part of the up-town landscape, your support is vital and needed more than ever.

ARE YOU COMMITTED TO DOING YOUR PART?

ARE YOUR PLEDGES UP TO DATE?

Thank you so much for those of you who continue to support this church, have faith and hope by paying your pledges to help move forward with the Lord's work on the corner of
7th and College Streets

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus". [Philippians 1:6]

Yours in Christ,
The Capital Campaign Leadership Team

7 Marks of Congregational Vitality

1. A commitment to forming disciples over every member's lifetime. This leads first to personal transformation, as people put on the heart of Christ, and then to social transformation, as people joyfully go forth into the community and tackle the issues facing today's culture.
2. Embracing the call to evangelism. We show forth the love of Christ by our actions and our lives even more than by our words. Our relationships are genuine and caring. People know we are Christians by our love.
3. An outward focus. Our church is not a place to escape from the world, but rather our gateway to our community where we may be the hands, feet, heart and mouth of Jesus Christ for people who are suffering or marginalized.
4. Empowering every member to discover their individual calling and the gifts God has given them so they can go forth and serve.
5. Spirit-inspired worship that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.
6. Caring relationships modeled on God's love. We open our doors and hearts to all people, and we build relationships modeled on God's love, which leads to genuine reconciliation and peace.
7. Congregations with healthy systems. Our mission focuses are clear. There is fiscal responsibility and accountability. We have thoughtful decision-making structures. Our leaders and staff enjoy a sustainable balance of work/rest time.



History of our Partnership

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN + SUN COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

The Opening Doors campaign identified mental health as an outreach priority after Charlotte's Opportunity Task Force included access to mental healthcare as a major factor in socioeconomic mobility and flourishing. First Presbyterian Church recognized barriers to quality, accessible mental health counseling within the uptown community (cost, location) and set out to partner with excellent therapists to provide care in uptown.

COVID-19 underscored the widespread need, not only for direct services for people of all income levels, but also for more opportunities to destigmatize education about mental health and wellness.

After receiving proposals from many potential partners, Sun Counseling was identified as the church's clinical partner for this project. First Presbyterian values Sun Counseling's proven excellence in clinical practice, as well as their commitment to compassionate, engaging education about mental health concerns that are familiar to many of us.

The Opening Doors Capital Campaign will fund income-based scholarships for clients seeing the therapists at the First Presbyterian location. FPC will also provide two offices in the Fresco Lobby during business hours.

Sun Counseling will provide educational opportunities throughout the year for the congregation and community of First Presbyterian Church.



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

Sun Counseling and Wellness

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

About Sun Counseling and Wellness

Sun Counseling and Wellness is made up of a consortium of providers that have many years of experience working with individuals, couples, families, and groups. We are passionate about helping clients achieve a balanced and fulfilling life and treating the WHOLE person. We use modern and evidence-based therapeutic techniques and are individualized and creative in our work with clients. Some of our specialty areas include trauma, grief, eating disorders, anxiety, depression, self-esteem, body image, life transitions, integrative wellness, yoga, acupuncture, and more.



VALUES

Authenticity, Creativity, Compassion, Education, Service, Showing up. This spells ACCESS. By definition, access is "a means of approaching or entering a place and the ability, right, or permission to approach, enter, speak with, or use." Our hope is for every person to find permission to tend to their wellness and to have the opportunity to do so.

These are approachable, safe, inclusive, nonjudgmental counseling relationships to fit your needs. It is our privilege to work with clients and we are on a mission to destigmatize, elevate the conversation, and normalize dialogue around mental health. We want people to feel proud to say "Yep, I go to therapy!"

Scheduling an Appointment

Sun Counseling and Wellness will handle all scheduling for appointments in the First Presbyterian counseling center. The new client form can be accessed on their website: suncounselingandwellness.com/new-clients

You do not need a referral from a First Presbyterian minister to make an appointment.

About the Scholarships

The cost of therapy can be a barrier to many. Sun Counseling therapists will work directly with individual clients to identify the appropriate rate for services rendered, using the income-based charts provided below.

If you think you qualify for a reduced rate, please fill out the form at fpcfirst.org/scholarship or speak directly with your therapist during or prior to your first session.

For adult clients or guardians with FEWER than four dependents:

YOUR INCOME	SESSION COST
Up to \$15,000	\$10 / \$15
\$15,001-30,000	\$25 / \$35
\$30,001-40,000	\$50 / \$75
\$40,001-50,000	\$75 / \$100
\$50,001-55,000	\$100 / \$150
\$55,001-60,000	\$125 / \$165
\$60,001+	\$150* / \$200*

For adult clients or guardians with MORE than four dependents:

YOUR INCOME	SESSION COST
Up to \$20,000	\$10 / \$15
\$20,001-40,000	\$25 / \$35
\$40,001-50,000	\$50 / \$75
\$50,001-60,000	\$75 / \$100
\$60,001-65,000	\$100 / \$135
\$65,001-70,000	\$125 / \$165
\$70,001+	\$150* / \$200*

* fee for session with a provisionally licensed therapist

* Full-rate fees: \$175 for a 60-minute intake / \$150 for subsequent 50-minute sessions

* fee for session with a fully licensed therapist

* Full-rate fees: \$250 for a 60-minute intake session / \$200 for subsequent 50-minute sessions

Meet the Therapists

Sun Counseling and Wellness provides two full-time therapists who are available for appointments on the First Presbyterian campus.



Dr. Sheba Surratt, DBH, LCMHC

I have 15 years of experience providing counseling, professional development, and consultative services. I work with children, teens and adolescents, and adults. I provide services to individuals with emotional, psychological, lifestyle changes, and various other problem-situations. I work to reduce behavioral and/or mental health symptoms that impair quality of life in order to improve overall self-care management and wellness. *Specialty areas:* Anxiety, depression, grief and loss, developmental concerns, adjustment and life transitions, self-esteem and self-concept, interpersonal conflict and relationship issues, substance use.

Andrea Juarez, LCSWA

I am a Latino, Bilingual (English/Spanish), Licensed Clinical Social Worker Associate. I am passionate about breaking the stigma surrounding mental health and helping individuals find healing in their life. My aim is to work collaboratively with you to empower and support through life's ups and downs. It is my priority to create a safe and inclusive space for you to process and explore your feelings. *Specialty areas:* complex trauma, intergenerational trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship dynamics, First Gen experience, LatinX experience, change/life transitions, navigating family of origin experiences.



More info at firstpres-charlotte.org/counseling-center

Participating in Worship – January 7, 2024

Communion: Elder Mabel Williams

Deacons Preparing Communion: Deacons Charles Jackson and Valerie Tutt

Offering: Monica Carr and Elder Sharon Kelley

Usher: Stephanie Davis

Guest Organist : Dr. Pam Dennis

Guest Flautist: Karen Solis

❧ SICK AND SHUT-INS ❧

AT HOME

Mrs. Louise Ezell 1850 Magwood Dr. #212, Charleston SC 29414

Mrs. Yvonne Thomas 1319 Dean Street, Charlotte, NC 28216

Mrs. Shirley Carelock 731 Harwyn Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215

SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES , HOSPITALS & SENIOR LIVING

Dr. Mildred Y. MosleyWALTONWOOD AT COTSWOLD

5215 Randolph Rd Apt 2018, Charlotte, NC 28211-5164

Mrs. Margaret Freeman SUMMIT PLACE OF SOUTH PARK

2101 Runnymede Lane, Room #116, Charlotte, NC 28209

PRAYER LIST Email: prayer@fupcc.org

Barbara Cannon ~ Caryle Blakeney-Bennett ~ Abby Flanders

Shepard Foley ~ Ms. Jane Reid ~ Margaret Freeman ~ Connie Patton



God of the circling years, we await the day when all hearts shall love you and Christ shall reign supreme. In the meantime, we shall continue to call on your guidance, and pray that our efforts will be found worthy of your mercy and grace. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

Scripture:

[illegible]