

**FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

*Fourth Sunday*  
OF EASTER

**Reverend Delton Farmer, Pastor**

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*"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"*

# Order of Worship

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Easter

*\*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT #174 (AA)

"We Have Come Into This House"

JESUS CHRIST

HIS ADORATION AND PRAISE

### 174 WE HAVE COME INTO THIS HOUSE

*Worship the LORD with gladness; come into His presence with singing.  
Psalm 100:2*

1. We have - come in - to this house to  
2. So, for - get a - bout your - self,  
3. Let us - lift up ho - ly hands,

gath - er in His name and wor - ship Him. We have  
con - cen - trate on Him and wor - ship Him. So, for -  
mag - ni - fy His name - and wor - ship Him. Let us

come in - to this house to gath - er in His name and  
get a - bout your - self, con - cen - trate on Him and  
lift up ho - ly hands, mag - ni - fy His name and

wor - ship Him. We have come in - to this house to  
wor - ship Him. So, for - get a - bout your - self,  
wor - ship Him. Let us lift up ho - ly hands,

gath - er in His name and wor - ship Christ the Lord.  
 con - cen - trate on Him and wor - ship Christ the Lord.  
 mag - ni - fy His name and wor - ship Christ the Lord.

Wor - ship Him, Christ the Lord.

Text: Bruce Ballinger, b.1945, alt., © 1976, Sound III  
 Tune: WORSHIP HIM, 16 16 18 6; Bruce Ballinger, b.1945. © 1976, Sound III; arr. by Stephen Key. © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

FUPC License number: 11348664

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place

**All: He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul**

Leader: Even though we walk through dark valleys, even though we are fearful and in need of comfort.

**All: Our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy; we shall dwell in the in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.**





CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

## 41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!  
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,  
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?  
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:  
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,  
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;  
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;  
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,  
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.  
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

TEXT: Robert Grant, 1833, alt.  
 MUSIC: Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784, alt.

LYONS  
 10.10.11.11

**\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION**(*unison*)

**Author of life, you have given us breath to praise you, eyes to behold your mercy, and words to proclaim your abiding love. You have set apart a people to worship you in thought, word, and deed, and through Christ you have numbered us in the midst of them. We sleep with the assurance that you will never forsake us and we awaken each day to the glory of your creating goodness. Breathe upon us the promised Holy Spirit, that our minds may be opened to your wisdom and our tongues boldly declare that you alone are God. Amen.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: The joy of this Easter season continues as we are called to Word and worship. Let us pause to confess our sins to our Good Shepherd, as we pray together our prayer of confession.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

**Savior God, you guide us, but we are slow to follow and stubborn. You welcome us to your fold, but we make others feel as if they don't belong. Forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment; the way we evaluate and compare, demean and degrade. Redeem us. Restore us. Help us be faithful as your flock. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings. We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace.

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

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**SPECIAL SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir - "Lord, Help Me To Hold Out " by Rev. James Cleveland**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION ..... Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler**

God our helper, guide us into and through your Word, that we might be shaped by your Spirit's message to us today and transformed for service in your world. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS ..... Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler**

**SERMON ..... Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler**



COMMITMENT AND CONSECRATION

LIFE IN CHRIST

I SURRENDER ALL 396

...there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers... who will not get back very much more in this age.  
 Luke 18:29-30

1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,  
 I will ev - er love and trust Him,  
 2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,  
 World - ly pleas - ures all for - sak - en,  
 3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,  
 Fill me with Thy Ho - ly Spir - it -  
 4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,  
 Fill me with Thy love and pow - er,

All to Him I free - ly give;  
 In His pres - ence dai - ly live.  
 Hum - bly at His feet I bow;  
 Take me, Je - sus, take me now.  
 Make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly Thine;  
 Tru - ly know that Thou art mine.  
 Lord, I give my - self to Thee;  
 Let Thy bless - ings fall on me.

I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.  
 I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.

All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

Text: Judson W. Van De Venter, 1855-1939

**❧ INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER ❧**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from a Brief Statement of Faith) (unison)*

Leader will lead the Congregation

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raise this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

Leader: Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and Christ's church. You may give through our website@fupcc.org; mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, or leave with the officers as you exit.

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir - "Oh It Is Jesus" by Andrae Crouch**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Leader: God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to Christ's ministry. Amen.



LIFE IN CHRIST

TESTIMONY, WITNESS AND PRAISE

# 504 LOVE LIFTED ME

*...in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.  
Isaiah 63:9*

1. I was sink - ing deep in sin, Far from the peace - ful  
 2. All my heart to Him I give, Ev - er to Him I'll  
 3. Souls in dan - ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com - plete - ly

shore, Ver - y deep - ly stained with - in,  
 cling, In His bless - ed pres - ence live,  
 saves; He will lift you by His love

Sink - ing to rise no more; But the Mas - ter  
 Ev - er His prais - es sing. Love so might - y  
 Out of the an - gry waves. He's the Mas - ter

of the sea Heard my de - spair - ing cry,  
 and so true Mer - its my soul's best songs;  
 of the sea, Bil - lows His will o - bey;



From the wa - ters lift - ed me— Now safe am I.  
 Faith - ful, lov - ing serv - ice, too, To Him be - longs.  
 He your Sav - ior wants to be— Be saved to - day.

me,  
 Love lift - ed e - ven me, Love lift - ed

me,  
 e - ven me, When noth - ing else could help,

1. Love lift - ed me; 2. Love lift - ed me.

Text: James Rowe, 1865-1933  
 Tune: SAFETY, 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 4 with refrain; Howard E. Smith, 1863-1918

FUPC License number: 11348664

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION..... Rev. Dr. Sadler

POSTLUDE

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WORSHIP with FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

We will be worshipping with First Presbyterian Church May 5, 2024. 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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

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

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

[Lesson 8 – Lydia Encounters Jesus in Worship]

**LOAVES & FISHES 5<sup>TH</sup> Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be May 31, 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

**(Studying the Book of Acts –"From Resurrection to Pentecost")**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

Meeting ID: 834 3423 2514

Passcode: 306013

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83434232514?pwd=OU9aMGFkSkt6Z0R6U2ZIM2FRYm90Zz09>

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

**Enter passcode - 306013#**

**FIRST UNITED'S TRIUMPHANT TEENS – Bible Study**

**Sunday Mornings @ 9:45 am**

**Classroom #201**

**Ages: 13-18 (snacks provided)**

**\*\*\*\*For more information, please contact the church office\*\*\*\***

**CHRISTIAN NURTURE/SERVICE MINISTRY**

The Christian Nurture/Service Ministry will meet in the Library, following worship. -Elder Sharon Kelley

## WELCOME

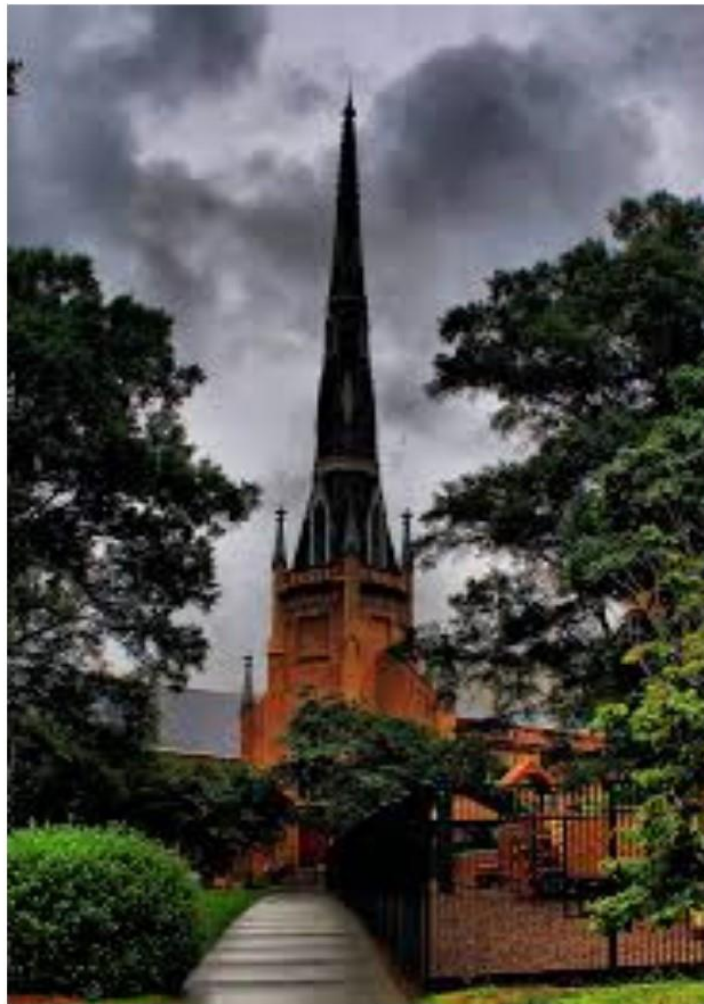
We are happy to welcome Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler to our pulpit today. He is a great friend to First United, intricately involved in our Sunday Discussion Dialogs "lunch and learn," and encouraging the opportunities of our congregations with similar missions to collaborate in service to uptown center city Charlotte. All Praise is therefore acknowledged that Rodney is serving today while Rev. Farmer is participating in the Civil Rights Tour with First Presbyterian Church.



MATTHEW 25

• **SUNDAY, MAY 5TH** •

DUE TO THE NOISE LEVEL AND ROAD CLOSURES THAT ARE ANTICIPATED DURING THE 3 DAY, LOVIN' LIFE MUSIC FESTIVAL THAT WILL BE HELD IN FIRST WARD PARK, WE WILL BE WORSHIPPING WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.



**PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US FOR  
WORSHIP AT 11:00 A.M.**

# INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY

*“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” – Ephesians 6:18*

Intercession is God’s strategy for including the saints (you and I) in ruling with Him in power. God has chosen intercession as the primary means in which He releases His power now and forever. Jesus exhibited the practice of intercession when He created the earth by speaking the Word to the Father (Genesis 1).

- Intercession causes us to internalize God’s Word and changes us.
- Intercession unites our heart to people and places we pray for.

## WATCH AND PRAY

- Intercession renews our hope and faith.
- Intercession imparts life (*John 6:63*).
- Intercession makes a long-term impact beyond this age (*Rev. 5:8, 8:1-6*).
- Intercession humbles us.
- Intercession changes the spiritual atmosphere of cities and nations.
- Intercession causes multiple blessings to return to the intercessor (*Luke 6:38*).

***If this is your gifting, come and join the army of CHANGE AGENTS!***

***\*\*\*\*\*Contact Michelle Maxwell at 704-574-9128 or email:elenoremaxwell@gmail.com\*\*\*\*\****

FUPC Ministry News

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 27, 2024

9:30 AM - 12 NOON

Ministry Leadership

Development







# *Men's Breakfast*

*May 18, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m.*

*Please RSVP by contacting  
the church office at  
704-376-8014*

*by May 15, 2024*



## ∞ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ∞

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  
7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Opening  
DOORS



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](http://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 [fpc.finyx.us/scholarship](http://fpc.finyx.us/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 Latinx, 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](http://firstpres-charlotte.org/counseling-center)



