

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Praise God for a Living Hope

2nd Sunday of Easter

*Sunday, April 7, 2024*

**Reverend Delton Farmer, Pastor**

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*“Helping Others See Jesus’ Grace In Me”*

1 Peter 1:3-9

# Order of Worship

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Of Easter

*\*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

### PRELUDE

Prelude on NICEA – *Healy Willan*  
Prelude on SLANE - *Gordon Young*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### 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, to  
wor - ship Him. Let us lift up ho - ly hands,





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.

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**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** Into our fears and through our locked doors.

**All:** Come, Almighty God.

**Leader:** When we think 'peace be with you, 'means no change or disruption,

**All:** Come, Lord Jesus.

**Leader:** Amidst our lives that confuse religious entertainment and, thoughts of resurrection fulfilled

**All:** Come, Holy Spirit.

**Leader:** For the sake of a community we rest with hope at its best during crisis,

**All:** Come Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Heavenly Father, grant that we may come to you this day in Spirit and truth. Through your Spirit gather us and many others on earth around our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Savior of humankind. May our hearts become truly free because you deliver us from all bondage and grant of safety from the world around us. As free people may we be led safely through distress, fear, and want, through need and death. May we strive daily to be a reflection of Jesus Christ not discouraged by the struggle but who fight joyfully for your kingdom until it can be revealed to all the world. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN #41(GG)**

**"O Worship The King, All Glorious Above"**  
*(see below)*



## 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.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

When we stand at the baptismal font and confess our sins we are not doing so as lost, guilty and ambiguous human beings who are not sure of our standing before God. We do not come groveling, but we come confident as those who are no longer dead in our trespasses but who are already alive in Jesus Christ. Without God's grace, we would not even know we are sinners. So we confess together:

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

**O Lord our God, we think our best should happen when we are in control. Forgive us for not expecting the risen Christ to show up when we are anxious, content to lock the doors of your house for fear of all that is outside. Forgive us for thinking that church mainly happens inside these walls and not into the world you so love and into which we are sent. Forgive us for looking for your power in all the conventional places but never in places of brokenness, crisis and defeat. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, repair what we are, and by the power of Christ's resurrection, raise us up to serve others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

You are already forgiven, loved and whole. In Christ, you are a fully flourishing human being; go live like it. In the Spirit, you are not an isolated spiritual being, doing Christianity alone, but you are part of a community of faith; go build that. By the grace of God, every human being is seen, loved, and made whole; go practice that. In Jesus Name Amen.

**SPECIAL SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir – "The Center of My Joy" by Richard Smallwood**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION ..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

Divine Redeemer, bearer of life, open us to the wisdom of your Word today and enlighten us with your truth. Liberate us from all that distracts us and turns us from your path. Guide us and ground us in Christ's everlasting hope. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 133    NEW TESTAMENT: John 20:19-31**

**SERMON ..... "Believe Without Seeing ....Have Life" ..... Reverend Delton H. Farmer**

**INVITATIONAL**

**FUPC Choir -"Jesus" by Shekinah Glory Ministry**

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

**\*AFFIRMATION 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**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

We become who we are called to be not through getting, acquiring and possessing but in our giving. To that end, let us worship God by giving our good gifts.

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir - "Give Me A Clean Heart"**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Good and gracious God, help us to say thank you, to live with gratitude, to look for the best in each other, and to live charitably with all. May your resurrection never stop surprising us, disrupting us and transforming us, until Christ's kingdom comes. 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**



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

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**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** ..... **Rev. Farmer**  
 Jesus says: 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' The work of church is not over; it has just begun. Go with joy where the crucified and risen Christ is sending you. And as you go, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, go with you, now and forevermore. Amen

**POSTLUDE**

**God Whose Giving Knows No Ending - Charles Callahan**



# 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: 758558      Call 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

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 Starting today April 7, 2024**

Sunday Mornings @ 9:45 am      Classroom #201      Ages: 13-18 (snacks provided)

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

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## April Birthdays

Rashad Jones	April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kyron Williams	April 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Skye Mosley	April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Jocelyn Stanley	April 6 <sup>th</sup>
Devanée Williams	April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Davis Jr.	April 8 <sup>th</sup>
Caryle B Bennett	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Carmen Brown	April 9 <sup>th</sup>
Keyara Burton	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	Catherine Strong	April 11 <sup>th</sup>
Elayna Williams	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	Juanita Eison	April 13 <sup>th</sup>
Shalana Carelock	April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wade Y. Mosley Sr.	April 21 <sup>st</sup>
Aldriche “Zoe” Watkins	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ronald Thomas II	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Tamara Tate	April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Jaron Givens	April 27 <sup>th</sup>
Layla Hibma	April 28 <sup>th</sup>		

## April Anniversary

Olin & Gaynelle Grier

April 6<sup>th</sup>

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# 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](mailto:elenoremaxwell@gmail.com)\*\*\*\*\*



### THE DEACON BOARD

The Deacon Board is announcing that the first Congregational Prayer Walk in 2024 will be held on Sunday, April 14, 2024, after the Sunday service! Please note your calendar so that you will be prepared to stay after church and join the deacon board and Rev. Farmer as we walk around the uptown area and pray for the community, as well as the individual

needs of those that we meet along our walk. We would love to have as many of the FUPC family join us as possible! You are encouraged to wear your First United Sweatshirts or T-shirts, but can wear anything that you would like to walk in.  
Thank you –The Deacon Board

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**SAVE THE DATE - APRIL 14, 2024**

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PRE - SERVICE

# Praise & Worship



EVERY SUNDAY  
BEGINNING ON  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 14  
@  
10:40

If you are interested in joining the pre-service "Praise Team", please contact the church office and leave your name by Monday, April 8th.

All voices are welcome. No previous choir experience needed. Just a desire to help usher us into the spirit of worship.



FUPC Ministry News



SAVE THE DATE



APRIL 27, 2024

9:30 AM - 12 NOON

Ministry Leadership

Development



## ∞ 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)



**Participating in Worship – April 7, 2024**

**Liturgist:** Elder Michelle Maxwell

**Communion:** Elder Mabel Williams

**Deacons Preparing Communion:** Deacons Charles Jackson and Tamara Care Tate

**Offering:** Monica Carr and Elder Sharon Kelley

**Usher:** Stephanie Davis and DéAndre Yongue

**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

**Dr. Sandra Govan** ..... 6508 Wickville Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215

**SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES , HOSPITALS & SENIOR LIVING**

**Dr. Mildred Y. Mosley** ..... WALTONWOOD 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

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**PRAYER LIST Email: [prayer@fupcc.org](mailto:prayer@fupcc.org)**

Barbara Cannon ☞ Caryle Blakeney-Bennett ☞ Abby Flanders

Shepard Foley ☞ Ms. Jane Reid ☞ Connie Patton

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*Loving Father, You are indeed a wonderful covenant-keeping God, and I want to know and love You more and more each day. Praise Your name for Your faithful promises in Your Word of Truth. In Jesus' name, I pray, AMEN.*

**SERMON NOTES**

**Scripture:**

Multiple empty horizontal lines for writing sermon notes.