

# FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## July 28, 2024

Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

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



# Order of Worship

## 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

*\*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*INTROIT #183 (AA)

"We Are Standing On Holy Ground"

HIS ADORATION AND PRAISE

JESUS CHRIST

### WE ARE STANDING ON HOLY GROUND 183

*"Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."  
Exodus 3:5*

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in 4/4 time and the key of B-flat major (two flats). The score consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'We are stand - ing on Ho - ly Ground, and I know that there are an - gels all a - round; Let us praise Je - sus now. We are stand - ing in His pres - ence on Ho - ly Ground.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

We are stand - ing on Ho - ly Ground,

and I know that there are an - gels all a - round;

Let us praise Je - sus now. We are

stand - ing in His pres - ence on Ho - ly Ground.

Text: Geron Davis, b.1960  
Tune: Geron Davis, b.1960; arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr., b.1969  
© 1983, Meadowgreen Music Co./Songchannel Music Co.

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,

**People:** and all your faithful shall bless you.

**Leader:** The Lord upholds all who are falling

**People:** and raises up all who are bowed down.

**Leader:** You open your hand,

**People:** satisfying the desire of every living thing.

**Leader:** The Lord is just and kind,

**All:** The Lord is near to all who call on God.

## \*OPENING HYMN #39 (GG)

## "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

### 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*\*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."*

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923  
MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923  
Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS  
11.10.11.10 with refrain

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

Lord, we come into your presence this morning with the busy schedules that crowd our lives. Our souls need to be fed and yet we seem powerless to find nurture and feeding that will sustain us. Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts this day to hear your words of hope and healing for us. We ask this in Jesus Holy Name. AMEN.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Leader:** We have been called to love our God with all of our heart, mind, strength and soul, and to love our neighbor as ourselves, but our lives are constricted and self-consumed. We have failed to love God, neighbor and ourselves as we should. Let us make confession before God and others.

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

Merciful God, you have commanded us to love you above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as you love them. But we are personally and socially deformed by the love of other “gods”, the false gods of prosperity and materialism, of racial and ethnic privileging, and of nationalistic imperialism. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit that we might learn to love as you love and to live as people who have been baptized as your own children. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Friends, hear the good news of the gospel – God’s radical forgiving, transforming and justice-seeking love will not let us go, and is ever bringing resurrection and new life. Let us remember our baptisms and trust in God’s mercy to restore our right standing as God’s own. Thanks be to God!

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**SPECIAL SELECTION**

**FUPCC Choir "Trust Me"** *by Richard Smallwood*

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

O God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that the Scripture we are about to hear will become the Word of God for us in this day and time of our lives. Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** ..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

**OLD TESTAMENT - 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14**

**NEW TESTAMENT – Ephesians 5:15-20**

**SERMON** ..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

## Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.  
 2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.  
 3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der - ful key that shall un - clasp and  
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will  
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
 dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!  
 will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!  
 will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!



The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

❧ 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**

**Leader:** The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. God has given us life and resources for it, so let us give in return. *(You may give online @[fupcc.org](http://fupcc.org); mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202; or leave with the Officers as you exit.)* Remember, the Lord Loves a cheerful giver. Amen.

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION**

**FUPCC Choir - "Encourage Yourself"** *by Donald Lawrence*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Leader:** O God, may these gifts be used as a witness to your love, peace and justice at work in the world, renewing the face of the earth.



THE CHURCH

# 313 Lord, Make Us More Holy



1 Lord, make us more ho - ly; Lord, make us more ho - ly;  
2 Lord, make us more lov - ing; Lord, make us more lov - ing;  
3 Lord, make us more pa - tient; Lord, make us more pa - tient;  
4 Lord, make us more faith - ful; Lord, make us more faith - ful;



Lord, make us more ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain:  
Lord, make us more lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain:  
Lord, make us more pa - tient, un - til we meet a - gain:  
Lord, make us more faith - ful, un - til we meet a - gain:



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain.  
lov - ing, lov - ing, lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain.  
pa - tient, pa - tient, pa - tient, un - til we meet a - gain.  
faith - ful, faith - ful, faith - ful, un - til we meet a - gain.

Like many African American spirituals, this one creates a framework for almost endless expansion beyond the four stanzas given here. This sung prayer is notable as an affirmation of God's active care for the once-gathered community while dispersed and of hope to be reunited.

TEXT and MUSIC: African American spiritual

LORD, MAKE US MORE HOLY  
6.6.6.6.6.6

FUPC License number: 11348664

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION..... Rev. Farmer

Go forth into the world in peace. Knowing that God's goodness and mercy follow us. Lift us the broken hearted. Stand with the oppressed. And let us do everything out of the love of God which we know in Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## POSTLUDE



## 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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

**PW BIBLE STUDY**– PW Bible study will resume Saturday, September 21, 2024 @ 11:00 am

**PW WOMEN** - will be collecting personal hygiene items for Sister to Sister for women (*deodorant, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, feminine products, lotion*), The collection of toiletries will continue throughout the year (December).

**NOURISH UP 5<sup>TH</sup> Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be August 30, 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 will resume September 4, 2024**

**SUMMER 2024 ( HOME BIBLE STUDY)** – The writing should highlight what your Psalm of choice has shared with your spirit. It is the hope of Rev. Farmer at the end of the summer, we all can come together and share our writings over fellowship and a meal

**Over the next month write a:**

- Poem
- Explanation
- Words of encouragement
- 

**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\*\*\*\***

### **YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE**

Your Voice, Your Vote. All please know these are critical times. Now is the time to do your homework on those running for office. Know what their platforms are about. Be concerned not just for your future but our future. Ensure that not only you are registered to vote but those around you. Don't wait until the last minute. Get registered now.

**HABITAT Fall 2024 kicks off – Saturday, September 7, 2024 @ 11:30 am**





# SCHOLARSHIP

**GERRIE HILL**

## SCHOLARSHIP

Two of the principles that guided Gerrie's life were "Hope" and "Love", and these fueled her compassion and commitment to the pursuit of "education" for all.

To attain, aspire, pursue and promote in any way possible. And that she did ... as a retired Educator and as an active member with the church's Education Ministry.

It is this "Hope and Love" that the Family of Geralene (Gerrie) Hill would like to establish a scholarship at First United Presbyterian Church in memory of Gerrie.

July 15, 2024 would have been Gerrie's 80th birthday, please consider making a \$80 donation to this scholarship in her memory.



## HOW TO DONATE

Check: - Made payable to First United Presbyterian Church

Online: [www.fupcc.org](http://www.fupcc.org) - Click Give now

Make sure to note donations are for the "Gerrie Hill Scholarship"





## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Church family,

Our partner school, First Ward Elementary, Creative Arts Academy is preparing for the opening of the 2024 - 2025 academic year. Both principal, Dr. Selestine Young, and assistant principal, Mrs. Kimberly Roberts have reached out to us to help support the teachers and staff during the teacher preparation period on August 22nd. Our target this year is \$1,000. A gift of at least \$35.00 is appreciated. Any additional funds collected in excess of our target will be used for Christian education purposes within the congregation.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for this partnership.





# SAVE THE DATE

HOMEcoming 2024

NOVEMBER 15 - 17, 2024

**Submit Theme Ideas  
to the Session as you  
reflect on A Season to  
Reclaim, Return, and  
Remember  
(Eccl 3: 1-8)**

**Deadline:  
August 15, 2024**





## Summer 2024 - Home Bible Study

First United we have studied Book 1 of Psalms. We will enjoy summer break from June 26 – September 4. During this time you are invited to continue reading and in self-study over this wonderful book of songs and poems.

### To Do:

I am inviting you to **choose any 1 of the 150** writings that truly speak to your spirit. A Psalm that has lifted, healed and encouraged your heart. Consider embracing a new psalm. We all have the familiar passages, maybe God desires to introduce a new reading to you. Be open to new blessings this summer.

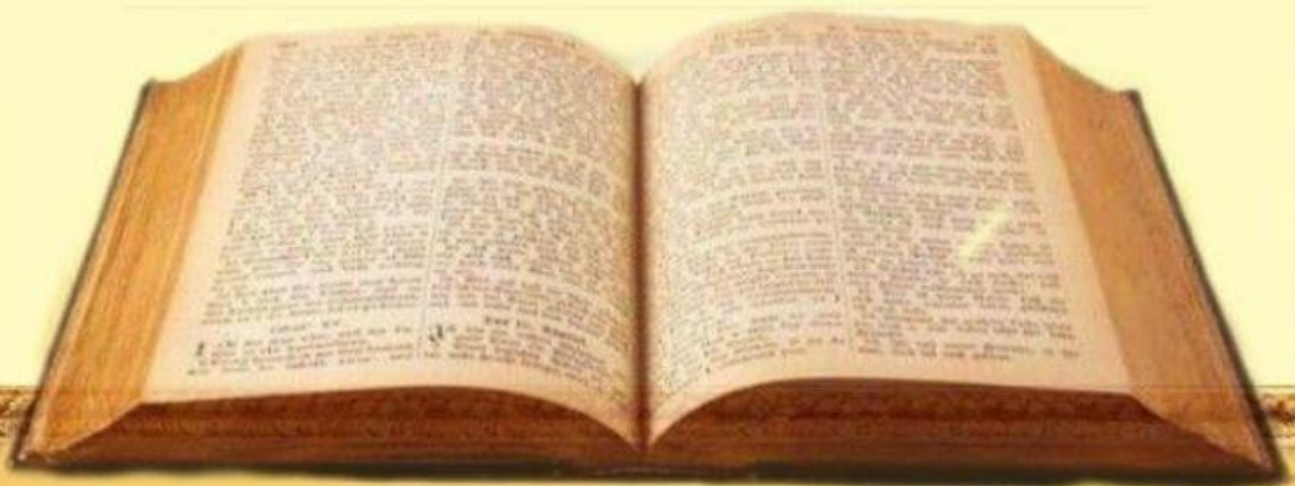
### For Example:

Benjamin Franklin Chavis Jr. an African-American activist, author, journalist, and the current president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association was falsely accused and incarcerated. It was the Psalms that set him free even in the mist of captivity. Psalms reveal, lament, kingship, trust, thanksgiving, wisdom and praise.

### Over the next two months write a:

- Poem
- Explanation
- Words of encouragement

This writing should highlight what your Psalm of choice has shared with your spirit. Spend time reading and meditating over the words before you begin writing. It is my hope at the end of the summer we all can come together and share our writings over fellowship and a meal.





# Clearance Sale!

**All FUPC T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, and Hoodies**  
**up to \$2 Off Clearance!!!!**

Hello Church Family, in effort to clear the remaining apparel inventory, the Deacon Board is excited to announce that our apparel is now on

**!!!!!! SALE !!!!!**

**That means, all Hoodies are now \$20,  
Crewneck sweatshirts are \$18, Adult  
T-shirts are \$8, and Youth T-shirts are \$6!!**

All items will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Please get yours now while supplies last!!!  
When they are gone, they are gone!!

## **SIZES AVAILABLE**

**Hoodies: M, L and 2XL**

**Sweatshirts: XL**

**Youth T-Shirts: S, M, L**

**Adult T-Shirts: S, M, L, 2XL and 3XL**



## ≈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.tiny.cc/scholarship](http://fpc.tiny.cc/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)



**Liturgist:** Elder Tamara Williams  
**Offering:** Monica Carr and Deacon Helen Hairston  
**Greeting:** Barbara Byers

## ❧ SICK AND SHUT-INS ❧

**Mrs. Louise Ezell** ..... 1850 Magwood Dr. #212, Charleston SC 29414  
**Dr. Sandra Govan** ..... 6508 Wickville Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215  
**Ms. Jonette Harper** ..... 5925 Sierra Dr. Charlotte, NC 28216  
**Mrs. Selene Burris** ..... 805 Cross Trail Dr. Charlotte, NC 28204

**Dr. Mildred Y. Mosley** .....WALTONWOOD AT COTSWOLD  
5215 Randolph Rd Apt 2018, Charlotte, NC 28211-5164

**Mrs. Margaret Freeman** ..... BROOKDALE SOUTH CHARLOTTE  
5515 Rea Road Apartment #111B, Charlotte, NC 28226

**Ms. Constance Sims** ..... ALDERSGATE (ASBURY REHAB)  
3800 Shamrock Dr. Room#206, Charlotte, NC 28205

Shepard Foley ❧ Ms. Jane Reid ❧ Connie Patton ❧ Mrs. Yvonne Thomas



MATTHEW 25

*We pray for all those entrapped by whatever snare restrains them. Loose them and make them free, as Christ was free, to do your will. You sent your Word, Jesus Christ, to show what humanity was intended to be; send now your Spirit to form in us that new creation. Amen.*

**Scripture:**

[illegible]