

# FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor**

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



# Order of Worship

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

*\*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

### GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*INTROIT #438 (AA)**

**"Come By Here, My Lord"** (*verses 1 & 4 only*)

1 Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
Oh Lord, come by here.

4 Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, come by here.  
Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, come by here.  
Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, come by here.  
Oh, Lord, come by here.

### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** Blessed are those who delight in the law of the Lord,

**People:** And meditate on God's word day and night.

**Leader:** They are like trees planted by streams of water,

**People:** Which yield their fruit in its season.

**All:** Let us worship the Lord, our source of wisdom and strength.



**1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee:  
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

**2 Holy, Holy, Holy! all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
God everlasting through eternity.**

**3 Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye made blind by sin Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**4 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

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

**Heavenly Father, today we draw near to You, the Source of all understanding, and ask You to draw near to us. Teach us Your divine wisdom from above, so that we may bear good fruit in our lives. Plant us by the streams of Your wisdom, so that the green leaves of our goodness, nourished by Your insight, may never wither. Amen.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Leader:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.





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

**Merciful God, we confess that we have often acted out of selfish ambition and vain conceit. We have allowed envy and self-interest to guide our actions, rather than the wisdom that comes from above. Forgive us for the times we have caused conflicts and quarrels among ourselves and others. Help us to submit ourselves to you, resist the devil, and draw near to your grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. As far as the East is from the West, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. Walk in the newness of life!

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**SPECIAL SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir - "Joy, Joy God's Great Joy" by Georgia Mass Choir**

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

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be renewed and transformed. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS ..... Reverend Delton H. Farmer**

**OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 1**

**NEW TESTAMENT: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a**

**SERMON .." We All Have A Choice to Make.....What is it going to be?" .... Rev. Delton H. Farmer**





## DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

## 738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee  
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
 3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee  
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;  
 by some clear, win - ning word of love;  
 in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,  
 far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the  
 teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and  
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in  
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.  
 guide them in the the home - ward way.  
 trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.  
 thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, this prayerful hymn does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

TEXT: Washington Gladden, 1879  
 MUSIC: Henry Percy Smith, 1874

MARYTON  
LM



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

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Philippians 2:5-11*)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**Leader:** In gratitude to God for all our blessings, let us bless others with a portion of all we have been given. Let us present our offerings to God. (*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 - "O Magnify The Lord"** *by The Trinity Choir*

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Leader:** Gracious God, we offer these gifts to you as an expression of our gratitude and love. May they be used to nurture wisdom, foster peace, and serve those in need. As we dedicate these offerings, help us to embody the spirit of humility and service that Christ has witnessed among us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen





**\*CLOSING SELECTION**

**"Something God"** *by William Murphy*

Something good is about to happen  
Something God is about to take place

It's gonna be Good  
It's gonna be God

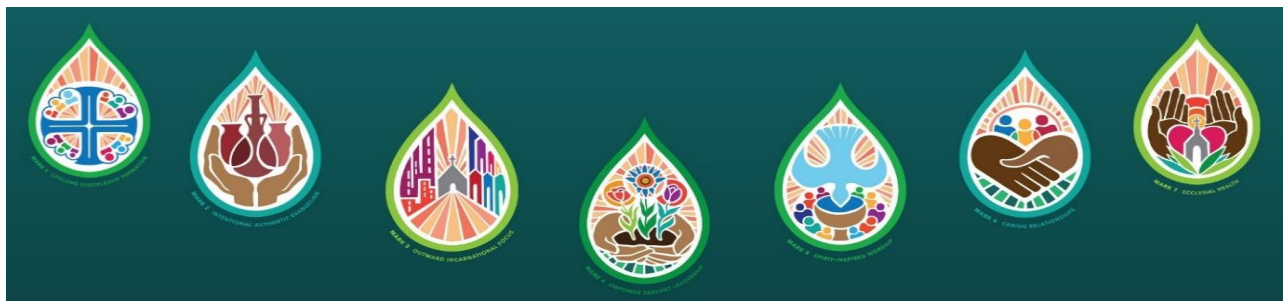
Something good is about to happen  
Something God is about to take place

Tell 'em again, it's gonna be God, it's gonna be God

(Something good Is about to happen)  
(Something God is about to take place)  
One more time  
Something good is about to happen  
Something God is about to take place

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION..... Rev. Farmer**  
Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to what is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted. Honor all people. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit nourish you, keep you and lead you this day and forever more.

**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 Saturday, October 19, 2024 @ 11:00 am.

**LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN**/God's Call to Care for Neighbors & All Creation: **Lesson 2** – Land Justice

**ZOOM:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81930127450?pwd=DEx6hV3KoC4S27DeEsr5MdQZchbSUs.1>

**Meeting ID:** 819 3012 7450 PC: 129126 • **Call in:** 1 309 205 3325 US; 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); 1 646 931 3860 US; 1 929 205 6099 US (New York); 1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** - 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 November 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 at 6:30 pm

**TOPIC: Stewardship – Matthew 25:14-30 “Parable of the Talents”**

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87485605940?pwd=1W9aATJXSS4OqG90shNj5hr8jYK7cB.1>

**Meeting ID:** 874 8560 5940 **Passcode:** 413228

**Dial by location:** One tap mobile: +1 646 931 3860 US; +1 929 205 6099 US (New York), +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) follow the prompts.

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

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

**INTERCESSORY CORPORATE PRAYER** -Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month

**AUTUMN FESTIVAL AND HEALTH FAIR**

**Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church • 3435 Nevin Road Charlotte, NC 28269**

**Saturday, September 28, 2024 • From 9:00 am – 2:00 pm**

**MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – Prayer Services**

**September 30<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 noon :** Our prayers will focus on our world and its leadership, **October 28<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 noon:** Join us to dress for battle. Putting on the armor of God. **November 25<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 noon:** A Pre-Thanksgiving prayer service of praise, worship and thanks to the most High God!

❧❧ **HOMECOMING 2024** ❧❧  
**SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 15-17, 2024**



**!!!!Let's Get Out the Vote!!!!**

Are you registered to vote? Are your friends and family registered to vote?

Voter registration forms are available on the table in the church library and in the Narthex.

(Look on the table adjacent to the rear wall of the sanctuary.)

Either mail your completed form to the Board of Elections or return it in person to the Board at 741 Kenilworth Avenue in Charlotte.

**EARLY VOTING**

Begin: Thursday, October 17

Ends: Saturday, November 2

The general election is Tuesday, November 5.

Thank you in advance for voting!

 **VOTE**





## **FIRST UNITED MEN**

Men of First United "**Save the Date.**" You have been asked to provide music on the following Sunday's. **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Be a part of the worship experience. Let us make a "Joyful Noise" unto the Lord.

### **FUPC Men's Ensemble Rehearsal**

**Will be rehearsing today**  
**Sunday, September 22, 2024**  
Immediately following morning service  
by the piano.

**Saturday, September 28, 2024**  
@ 9:00 am in the Sanctuary by the piano



## ❧ SERVICE OF WHOLENESS & HEALING ❧

On Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, we will observe a service of Wholeness and Healing during our morning worship at 11:00 a.m. We are hoping that all of our sick & shut-in members who are able can join us, in person, for this spiritually fulfilling experience. If you are a shut-in member, or the care provider for one of our members that would like to attend, please call the church office and let us know if there are ambulatory concerns that we will need to accommodate. We will be providing assistance with getting members into and out of the worship space.

-- Elder Donna Fair

## ❧ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ❧

Hello First United Family,

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



# 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**





# 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)



## **Participating in Worship – September 22, 2024**

**Liturgist:** Elder Tamara Williams

**Offering: Deacon Helen Hairston and Gail Walker**

**Greeting:** Sharon Kelley

**Ushering:** Robert Rhyne, Joan Antrum and Gaynelle Grier

## ❧ SICK AND SHUT-INS ❧

## AT HOME

**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

## 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** ..... 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

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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 ❧ Mrs. Yvonne Thomas

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*By your Spirit, O God, you call us to follow Jesus Christ. Fill us with your Spirit to join with others in faith and become the people you intend us to be. Open our eyes to your love, and help us share this love with the world. In Christ's name. Amen.*

## SERMON NOTES

**Scripture:**

[illegible]