

# FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 17, 2024



## Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

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

# Homecoming

## 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 28)

\*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit

### PRELUDE

Prelude in C Major – David Johnson

A Mighty Fortress – arr. Diane Bish

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*INTROIT #328 (AA)

"Holy, Holy" (verses 1,2 & 3 only)

THE TRINITY

### HOLY, HOLY 328

...without ceasing they sing. "Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come."  
Revelation 4:8

Unison

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Ho - ly,  
2. Gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther, We're so  
3. Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus, We're so  
4. Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it, Come and  
5. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le -

ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y;  
blest to be Your chil - dren, gra - cious Fa - ther;  
glad that You've re - deemed us, pre - cious Je - sus;  
fill our hearts a - new, Ho - ly Spir - it;  
lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;

And we lift our hands be - fore You as a to - ken of our love,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.  
Gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther.  
Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it.  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Jimmy Owens, b.1930  
Tune: HOLY, Irregular, Jimmy Owens, b.1930  
© 1972, Bud John Songs, Inc. (ASCAP)

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

**LEADER:** Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.

**ALL:** Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing.

**LEADER:** Know ye that the Lord He is God.

**ALL:** Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

**LEADER:** Give thanks to him; bless his name!

**ALL:** For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

**\*OPENING HYMN #160 (AA)**

**"The Lord Is My Light"**

GOD OUR FATHER

HIS CONSTANT FAITHFULNESS

**160 THE LORD IS MY LIGHT**

*The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
Psalm 27:1*

Verse 1

1. The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the

Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and

my sal - va - tion. Whom shall I fear?

Refrain

Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? The

*Last time to Coda* ☩

Lord is the strength of my life. Whom shall I fear?

Verse 2

2. In the time of trou - ble He shall hide me,  
 in the time of trou - ble He shall hide me, in the time of  
 trou - ble He shall hide me. Whom shall I fear?

D.S.

◆ Coda

Verse 3

fear. 3. Wait on the Lord and  
 be of good cour - age, wait on the Lord and  
 be of good cour - age, wait on the Lord and  
 be of good cour - age. Whom shall I fear?

Refrain

Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? The  
 Lord is the strength of my life. Whom shall I fear?

Text: Lillian Bouknight, © 1980, Savgos Music, Inc.  
 Tune: Lillian Bouknight, © 1980, Savgos Music, Inc.; arr. by Stephen Key, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

Heavenly Father, on this Lord’s Day, we lift our voices in praise. We recognize that we serve a God who is good and gracious. For all the years You have kept us, we give You thanks. We purpose to praise Your name today, as we remember and reflect on this great journey. For our forefathers and the rich heritage we have, we give You honor and praise. We are humbled as we reflect, knowing every good and perfect gift comes from above. For the Lord is a great God, and worthy of all praise. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Leader:** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to humankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.” Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER** ..... **Elder Olanda Carr**

**SPECIAL SELECTION**                    **Johnson C. Smith Choir - "My Hope Is Built"** *by Timothy Wright*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** ..... **Rev. Jerrod B. Lowry**

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. As we hear your word today, enlighten our hearts and minds, O Lord, that we may understand your will for our lives and walk in your ways.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** ..... **Rev. Jerrod B. Lowry**

**OLD TESTAMENT**  
**NEW TESTAMENT**

**SERMON** ..... **Rev. Jerrod B. Lowry**

HIS ADORATION AND PRAISE

GOD OUR FATHER

BLESS THE LORD 105

*Bless the LORD O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.*

*Psalm 103:1*

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and

all that is with-in me, bless His ho-ly

name! name! name!

To verse

Verse

He has done great things, He has done great things,

He has done great things, bless His ho-ly name!

D.C.

Text: Psalm 103:1  
Tune: André Crouch, b.1945, © Bud John Songs, Inc.; arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr., b.1969

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

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

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature<sup>[a]</sup> God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature<sup>[b]</sup> of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**Leader:** As we continue in our time of worship, let us give thanks for the opportunity to give. Remember friends we serve a God of great provision. We give today with a heart of freedom, believing that God's ministry will continue within this local community and beyond. We know that God loves a cheerful giver. *"You may give online @ fupcc.org, mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202, or leave with the officers at the back of the sanctuary as you exit. Remember, all we have, and all we are, belong to God. Let us give with a cheerful heart. Amen*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION**      **Johnon C. Smith Choir "Run This Race "** *by Angela Monae*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Leader:** Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. All: Gracious God, we dedicate these gifts to you. May they be used to further your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen.

**\*CLOSING SELECTION**      **FUPCC Choir -"Be Blessed"** *by Bishop Paul S. Morton*

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING..... Rev. Jerrod B. Lowry**

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**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, December 21, 2024 @ 11:00 am**

**LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN**/God’s Call to Care for Neighbors & All Creation: **Lesson 4** –Water Justice  
**Meeting ID:** 819 3012 7450 • **Passcode:** 129126 • **Call in:** 1 309 205 3325 US

**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).

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

**Join Zoom Meeting**                      **Meeting ID:** 874 8560 5940                      **Passcode:** 413228  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87485605940?pwd=1W9aATJXSS4OqG90shNj5hr8jYK7cB.1>  
**One tap mobile, + 1-301- 715-8592, follow the prompts: then give meeting**

**FIRST UNITED’S TRIUMPHANT TEENS – Bible Study 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday’s of each Month**  
**Sunday Mornings @ 9:45 am**                      **Classroom #201**                      **Ages: 13-18** (snacks provided)

**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



### A Biographical Sketch of Rev. Jerrod B. Lowry



Jerrod (pronounced “Jer-odd”) serves as the General Presbyter/Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. Prior to accepting this call in October of 2018, he served as the pastor of Community of Grace PC(USA) in Sandy, Utah for 8 years. He was first ordained in 2006 as a tentmaker in the Presbytery of New Hope. As a tentmaker he served as pastor to St. Paul PC in Louisburg, NC and Associate for Specialized Ministries for the Presbytery of New Hope. Jerrod is a proud graduate of Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary (formerly a constituent seminary of the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta, GA) and served on the Board of Trustees. Jerrod loves football, has developed a tolerance for running, and enjoys “playing at golf”. Regrettably he is a life-long fan of all professional Cleveland sports teams. Above all Jerrod is passionate about “equipping saints for the work of ministry” and has enjoyed studying St. Ignatius’ Examen as a prayer practice and tool for discernment. Jerrod loves to explore, is willing to try, and is not afraid to fail at any attempt to share the good news of the Gospel. Jerrod was married to his college sweetheart, Molly (a Carolina girl), for 19 years. Together they have three kids - Kerryn (20), Kaleb (18), Kendle (15).





## FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HISTORY ABSTRACT

**First United Presbyterian Church (FUPC)** resulted from the merger of **Seventh Street Presbyterian Church** and **Brooklyn Presbyterian Church**. The former was in the First Ward section of Charlotte and the latter in the Second Ward, or Brooklyn section.

Its origin dates back to pre-Civil War when about 30 of its forbearers worshipped in the balcony of First Presbyterian Church (FPC), which is still located on West Trade Street in Charlotte. After the Civil War, the worship situation created some racial tensions. The minister sought to remedy it by providing separate services in the basement for Negroes. But the unrest persisted. Mrs. Catherine Hayes, one of the dissatisfied worshippers and ex-slaves led a movement to sever the relationship with FPC. She challenged her fellow worshippers to "Come down out of the gallery to the ground floor...." Her efforts coincided with a movement by the Northern Presbyterian Church to send missionaries down south to assist in the education, evangelization and Christianization of recently emancipated slaves. Mrs. Hayes' dreams were realized when Reverend Samuel C. Alexander of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania assisted in their endeavors by purchasing land on the corners of Davidson and Third Streets in his name and later transferring it to the Negroes, who could not purchase property themselves. With property in hand, **The Colored Presbyterian Church of Charlotte** was established in **1866**. In addition to founding this church, Rev. Alexander also accepted a gift of land in the western part of the city and purchased a Confederate Navy Building to set up a school for newly emancipated slaves. That school was called The Henry J. Biddle Memorial Institute, now known as Johnson C. Smith University.

In **1869**, the newly formed congregation purchased a wooden Lutheran Church at the corner of Seventh and College Streets, downtown, or First Ward section, of Charlotte. The membership grew from 30 to 125 people. In **1895**, the Catawba Presbytery approved the change of the church's name to **Seventh Street Presbyterian Church of Charlotte**. In the meantime, construction had begun on a new building in **1894**. That building, or the current sanctuary, was completed in **1896**. This was the first half of the merged **First United Presbyterian Church**.

The second half of the merged **First United** began in **1911** when a petition was presented to the Presbytery to organize a church in the Second Ward section of Charlotte. Permission was granted and a church was organized **on April 30, 1911**, with 17 members. It was named **Brooklyn Presbyterian Church**. Due to the city's urban renewal program in the Brooklyn area of Charlotte in the **1960's**, the church had to consider the options of relocating or extinction. Because it shared concerns with **Seventh Street Presbyterian Church** a Merger Committee was assembled to study the situation and to plan for the unification of the churches.

In **1967**, a merger resulted that combined the memberships of **Seventh Street Presbyterian Church** and **Brooklyn Presbyterian Church**. The newly formed was called **First United Presbyterian Church**. Reverend Ezra J. Moore, who previously pastored at Brooklyn, became the church's first pastor. He served from **1967 to 1975**. Reverend Dr. Raymond Worsley assumed pastorate on **November 1, 1977**, and retired in **December 1991**.

In **1994**, the congregation approved the selection of Reverend Dr. Gregory Marc Busby, Sr., who remained pastor until his resignation in **December 2011**.

Following Reverend Busby's departure, the Charlotte Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) appointed Reverend Reginald Tuggle to serve as Moderator of the Session.

Rev. Lorenzo R. Small, Sr. assumed pastorate **September 2017** and served to **March 2023**.

**Reverend Delton H. Farmer is currently serving as Pastor.**

First United Presbyterian Church

# INTERCESSORY

*prayer*

The last Saturday of each Month @ 8:30 a.m.  
(In the Library)

## Liturgical Dance Workshop

**DATE:** February 15, 2025

**TIME:** 10:00 am

**LOCATION:** The Education Building

# DANCE MINISTRY

**With a dance ministry during service on  
Sunday, February 16, 2025.**

**This ministry is OPEN to any adult, youth and gender  
regardless of age. If interested, please contact:  
Ellen Smith at 704-516-4748.**

*“Let them praise His name with  
dancing and make music to Him with  
tremble and harp”  
Psalm 149:3*



# 7 Marks of Congregational Vitality

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



## History of our Partnership

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN + SUN COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

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

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

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

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

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



First Presbyterian  
Church of Charlotte

# Sun Counseling and Wellness

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## About Sun Counseling and Wellness

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



### VALUES

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

These are approachable, safe, inclusive, nonjudgmental counseling relationships to fit your needs. It is our privilege to work with clients and we are on a mission to destigmatize, elevate the conversation, and normalize dialogue around mental health. We want people to feel proud to say "Yes, 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.tinyurl.com/scholarship](http://fpc.tinyurl.com/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 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.*



