

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 16, 2025

6th Sunday After Epiphany



Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

Email : pastorfarmer@fupcc.org • Mobile#: [919-740-2281](tel:919-740-2281)

406 N. College Street • Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: 704-376-8014 • Fax: 704-376-8329

Email: firstunitedclt@fupcc.org • website: www.fupcc.org

"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

5th Sunday After Epiphany

**Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***INTROIT #172(AA) "Praise Him" (1st verse only)**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Blessed are those who place their trust in the Lord.

People: They are like trees planted by streams of water.

Leader: They draw life from God's Word,

People: And in trusting the Lord, they bear fruit in season.

Leader: Like trees with roots reaching deep to the water,

People: They are not afraid of the heat, nor do they wither in the sun.

Leader: Even in times of drought, they remain steadfast,

All: For their lives overflow with the fruit of righteousness. Come, drink deeply from the waters of life.

***OPENING HYMN #609 (AA) "God Of Our Fathers"**

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

This is the Lord's Day, a day to lift our voices in praise. God of blessings and woes, bless us with lives full of love, generosity, and unshakable hope. May your kingdom dwell among all people, and may we be instruments of your love and grace. Today Oh Lord, open our hearts to the joy of healing a broken world. In the name of the One who taught us light and love, be present in our worship and in our lives. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Prayer of confession Sustaining God, you lead us through parched wilderness to streams of living water, but we do not root ourselves in health and wholeness. We ignore your rich provisions, choosing the world's latest fad and shallow self-help. We sentimentalize the spiritual and ignore the deeper needs of our souls. Merciful God, forgive our arrogance and our ignorance. Remind us of our spiritual needs and the many ways you are here to provide. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

SPECIAL SELECTION **FUPCC Choir**

"Safe In His Arms" *by Rev. Milton Brunson*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Rev. Serenity Taylor**

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Rev. Serenity Taylor**

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 46:8-11

NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 2:30-32

SERMON **Rev. Serenity Taylor**

" Come And See "

INVITATIONAL HYMN #371 (AA) ... "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

.....**Rev. Serenity Taylor**

LORD'S PRAYER **Liturgical Dance Ministry**

*(Guest Choreographer/ dancer - Cindy Nicholson, Guest Harpist - Benjamin Barker,
Soloist - Fannie Waterman)*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*)

We believe faith is effective and active through love. It also quiets the conscience and opens a free access to God, so that we may draw near to God with confidence and may obtain from God what is useful and necessary. The same faith keeps us in the service we owe to God and our neighbor, strengthens our patience in adversity, fashions and makes a true confession, and in a word, brings forth good fruit of all kinds, and good works.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SELECTION FUPCC Choir
"I Want To Be Ready"

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN #700 (GG)**
"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Serenity Taylor**

RESPONSE "Sevenfold Amen"

POSTUDE

First Presbyterian and First United Presbyterian Church Civil Rights Trip March 27 –30 ,2025

There will be a Sign-Up Sheet in the church office

DATE

March 27-30, 2025

Registration opens January 23

COST

\$600 per person; \$350 single supplement. Included in cost: transportation, accommodations, three breakfasts, one lunch, guides, and tips. Scholarships may be available.

LEADERS

Larry Bosc, professional Civil Rights tour guide and former educator in CMS; Rev. Pen Peery, Pastor, First Presbyterian; and Rev. Delton Farmer, Pastor, First United Presbyterian.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Members of First Presbyterian and First United Presbyterian Churches will embark on a four-day journey to explore the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. We will visit iconic landmarks, engage in meaningful discussion, share moments of introspection, and connect with fellow travelers as we delve into the pivotal events that shaped our nation.

This experience promises not only to educate but also to inspire and renew our commitment to justice and equality for all God's people. Join us as we honor the legacy of those who fought for freedom and continue the journey towards a more just and inclusive future.

CONTACT

For more information, email Garrell Keesler at gkeesler@firstpres-charlotte.org.



Black History Month Observance @ FUPC



**Today Sunday, February 16th
African Heritage Sunday**

Pay homage to the ancestors and wear your African attire.

10:30 a.m. - Viewing of the History of the
Catawba Presbytery in the Library.

**Sunday, February 23rd
HBCU Sunday**

Reflect “Black Excellence”
by rocking your favorite HBCU,
fraternity or sorority attire.

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 1st Sunday.

PW BIBLE STUDY— Saturday, March 15, 2024 @ 11:00 am

Lesson 7 –TBA

God's Call to Care for Neighbors & All Creation
Meeting ID: 819 3012 7450 • **Passcode:** 129126
Call in: 1 309 205 3325 US

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

FUPCC INTERCESSORY PRAYER

The last Saturday of each month @ 8:30 am in The Library

FIRST UNITED'S TRIUMPHANT TEENS

Bible Study 2nd & 4th Sunday's of each Month

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

NOURISH UP 5TH Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be May 30, 2025

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

ROOM IN THE INN—Next up March 7, 2025

THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you church family for your thoughts, prayers, cards and phone calls during the recent loss of my father.

-Arthur & Ellen Smith and The Nicholson Family

