

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

4th Sunday After Epiphany

Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

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"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

4TH Sunday After Epiphany

**Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES **Elder Debra Givens**

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: Love is patient.

PEOPLE: Love is kind.

LEADER: Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

PEOPLE: Love does not insist on its own way.

LEADER: Love is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing.

PEOPLE: Love rejoices in the truth.

LEADER: Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

PEOPLE: Love never ends.

ALL: Let us worship the Lord who loves us without boundaries.

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

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

This is the Lord's Day, and we gather in awe and reverence before You. With hearts full of gratitude, we come to seek Your guidance and strength. We acknowledge that You have called us to ministries that often feel beyond our capabilities, yet we trust in Your unfailing love and grace. May we be reminded that it is Your love that sustains and empowers us, lifting us up when we are weary and equipping us when we feel inadequate. Grant us the courage to place our full trust in Your abiding presence, knowing that with You, all things are possible. We lift our praise to You, O Lord, for You are our strength, our hope, and our ever-present help. In Jesus Name Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Lord, we confess that we doubt your capacity to work through us. We hold on to fears that we are unworthy to speak your words, so we stay silent even as your Spirit pulls at our tongues. We struggle to fathom the wholeness of your claim over us, so we ignore the light of your love as it emerges in the dark places of our lives. We seek refuge in temporary towers, and are numb to the grasp of cruelty. Forgive us. Help us to trust you, to lean upon you, to speak your word to a weary world and accept the completeness of your loving claim on our lives.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

SPECIAL SELECTION FUPCC Choir

"For Every Mountain" *by Kirt Carr*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Delton H. Farmer

SCRIPTURE READINGS Rev. Delton H. Farmer

OLD TESTAMENT: Nehemiah 5:1-13

NEW TESTAMENT: 1 John 3:16-18

SERMON Rev. Delton H. Farmer

"The Power Of God's Love: Restoring Justice And Mercy"

INVITATIONAL HYMN #438 (AA) "Come By Here, My Lord"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Apostles' Creed*)

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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION Blake Brown and Elder Donna Fair

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SELECTION FUPCC Choir

"Spiritual Medley"

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table Rev. Farmer

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

***CLOSING HMN #700(GG)**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE "AMEN"

POSTUDE



Today Sunday, February 2nd

Black History Trivia Contest

☞Immediately following worship☞

A little fun for all ages to test your knowledge. \$50.00 Visa Gift Card for the winner!

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, February 15, 2025 @ 11:00 am

Lesson 6 –Climate Change/ Let Justice Roll Down

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

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

Participating in Worship – February 2, 2025

Liturgist: Elder Tamara Williams
Communion: Elder Mabel Williams
Deacon Preparing Communion: Deacon Stephanie Davis
Offering (collection): Deacon Helen Hairston/Elder Donna Fair
Counters: Monica Carr and Elder Sharon Kelley
Ushering: Stephanie Davis and DéAndre Yongue
Greeting: Elder Debra Givens

❧ 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
Ms. Constance Sims - 2301 Ludlow Dr., Charlotte, NC 28216

SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES , HOSPITALS & SENIOR LIVING

Dr. Mildred Y. MosleyWALTONWOOD 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

PRAYER LIST Email: prayer@fupcc.org

Barbara Cannon ❧ Caryle Blakeney-Bennett ❧ Abby Flanders
Shepard Foley ❧ Ms. Jane Reid ❧ Connie Patton
Mrs. Yvonne Thomas

❧PRAYER ❧

God of justice, you have given us an imperative to live in equality and love. Empower each of us to stand on your word so that all persons may experience your mercy. Amen.