

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 15, 2020

9:00 a.m.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Please sign the online Welcome Pad.
Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.*

VOLUNTARY: Voluntary..... William Walond (1719-1768)
John Alexander, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Dolly Jacobs

A MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIPDoug Stone

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Children of God, our Lord Jesus asks us,

All: **“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?”**

One: Children of God, the Holy One asks us,

All: **“Will you let my love be shone, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”**

One: Children of God, the Spirit of the living God whispers to us,

All: **“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you love the ‘you’ you hide, will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?”**

One: Family of faith, we call ourselves to worship
as we respond with joyful affirmation:

All: **“Lord your summons echoes true when you but call our
names. We will use the faith we’ve found, reshape the
world around; we will love and live and grow in you
and you in me.”**

– adapted from the hymn, “The Summons”

HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 450 – Be Thou My Vision.....SLANE

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)
 Bb Eb Ab Bb

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Loving God, we confess to you that there are times that we act like the sons in the Gospel of Matthew. We can be greedy, self-centered, concerned only for our own happiness and material needs. There are also times, Holy One, that we are indignant and self-righteous when we witness others' behaviors. We cannot remove the log from our own eye but gladly point out the splinter in our neighbor's eye.

Forgive us, Christ our Lord and savior, for our flawed and imperfect ways. Teach us to think before we speak, pray before we act, and respond to others the way you would respond.

Bestow upon us your unconditional loving heart in how we interact with those whom we love and those whom we find it difficult to love. Wash us clean and restore our souls to you this day. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* THE PEACE

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WORD READ: *Philippians 2:1-13*

Reader: Caroline Tilley

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 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

THE WORD READ continues, over

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 should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lisa Witherspoon

THE WORD READ: *Matthew 21:28-32*

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Choosing* Kevin Murray

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 691 – Lord, When I Came into This Life.....LAND OF REST

The musical score is written in 6/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
on the earth, my sights set high on you.

I believe in the eternal God. God overflows with love, grace, and forgiveness for us. God is with us even through our sins, but God always leads us to right paths.

I believe in God’s mystery. As all things in this universe have their source in God, we know our minds cannot fully understand the vastness of God. We humbly use the words we know and understand to express our love for the mystery always surrounding us.

I believe in God’s creative power and love. As God has created us and loves us, when we cry out to God God hears us and is with us.

I believe in God’s works. Through nature and the changing seasons God shows us life and death, beauty and tranquility, light and hope. God offers joy to those who notice.

I believe in serving others. When we serve God’s light is spread throughout the world. Our witness of God offers peace to those who see it.

I believe in God’s strength. When we face trials or are afraid, God goes with us and never forsakes us. With God we gain strength.

I believe in God’s promises. Through Jesus Christ, God promises resurrection into a new life. We hope and believe our future is with God.

– adapted from faith statements of the Confirmation Class of 2020

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

followed by the Lord’s Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*Please participate in the offering by giving online at fpcgreensboro.org/give
or by mailing your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401.*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION: Lord Jesus, Gentle Savior Walter Pelz (b. 1926)
Chancel Choir Ensemble

Lord Jesus gentle Savior My Shepherd, Guardian Friend,
Oh take the hand I offer and lead me till the end.
Without Thee I would falter without Thee I would stray.
Oh take my hand I pray Thee and lead me all the way.
I have no strength O Savior be Thou my strength I pray.
Alone my footsteps wander be Thou my strength I pray.
No friend I have beside Thee to whom Lord shall I go?
Thou hast the words eternal to guide my steps below.
Thou art my only Savior My Master and my King.
Accept the heart I offer Accept the praise I bring,
Until I reach the portal of Thy blest fold above
And join with choirs immortal to sing Thy wondrous love. Amen.
- Herman W. Gockel

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Kevin Murray

CLOSING HYMN: No. 541 – God Be with You Till We Meet Again.....RANDOLPH

Unison *Harmony*

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings pro -
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you:
 tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
 thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:
 float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:

Unison

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

VOLUNTARY: God of GracePaul Manz (1919-2009)

John Alexander, organ



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Kevin Murray, Director of Youth Ministry
Alexandra Mauney, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident
Lisa Witherspoon, Associate Director of Children's Ministry
Caroline Tilley, Lay Reader
John Alexander, Director of Music and Principal Organist
Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir
Chancel Choir Ensemble

"Be Thou My Vision" Text: Irish poem; Music: Irish ballad.

"Lord, When I Came into This Life" Text: Fred Kaan; Music: American folk melody.

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again" Text: Jeremiah Eames Rankin; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams.

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CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

The following eighth-grade Confirmation Class members complete their journey to church membership during today's 11 a.m. service.

Gretchen Elliot Cimino

Carter Reid Cockman

Sienna Coker

Lillian Meredith Coladonato

Mary Rose Coladonato

Dallas Allen Cooke

Andrew Coleman Dover

Eugenia Sullivan Edmunds

Jacob Greene Haverland

Thomas James Hunt

Audrey Leona Jenkins

William Allen Jordan

Molly Elaine Lovvorn

Elijah Daniel McAlister

Caitlyn Rose Medley

Vivian Kate Morrison

Ellie Forrester Niven

Sarah Elizabeth Parrish

Ashlyn Hollowell Showers

McCarty Moore Spencer

Grayson Elizabeth Stanley

Fuller Trimble Stewart

Alan Winfield Sutton

Caroline Lee Tilley

Elizabeth Reece Tisdale

Hanna Grace Walters

Grace Elizabeth Weathersbee

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The Livestream service has moved to 9 am. You can watch the recording at any time afterward. An in-person service with up to 100 worshipers begins at 11 am. Look for more information [on this page](#).

It is an ongoing process to make worship together safe and meaningful. You are the most important piece of this: *If you are in a high-risk category, or have symptoms, or have been exposed to someone with the virus, please keep yourself and others safe by staying home and worshipping via the Livestream.* Remember the believers in Acts, who “spent much time together in the temple” and “broke bread at home ... with glad and generous hearts.”

We will try this schedule until mid-December, calling on our Spirit-fruit of patience as we learn and make changes.

LIVESTREAM SERVICE

- **Watch live at 9 am**
Click on player screen on home page, fpcgreensboro.org
- **Watch anytime afterward**
Click Replay Livestream on home page. On next page, service will show in player screen or at top of column on right-hand side of the page, depending on how soon you choose to watch.

MODIFIED IN-PERSON SERVICE

- 11 am; same preacher & sermon as Livestream.
- Up to 100 worshipers; *reservations required*.
- No singing, communion, or bulletins.
- Pew cushions, Bibles, Welcome pads, hymnals have been removed.
- Offering baskets available at the door.
- *See next page for guidelines.*

THE MINISTRY OF MEMBERS – Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ’s mission. A faithful member bears witness to God’s love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ’s Church. *Such involvement includes:*

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed;
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation;
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support;
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life;
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents;
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church;
- responding to God’s activity in the world through service to others;
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life;
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment;
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church;
- and reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one’s membership, and considering ways in which one’s participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful. *(from the Book of Order)*

MODIFIED IN-PERSON SERVICE: Guidelines for Participating

BECAUSE THIS IS WHO WE ARE: We care about the safety and well-being of our community. Please respect these guidelines from our Covid-19 Task Force and worship leaders. Let's hold each other accountable – if you see someone not abiding by guidelines, speak to them out of love and concern.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: May be made online 9 am Tuesdays - midnight Saturdays while spaces available; just go to the home page (fpcgreensboro.org) and click on the Worship Reservations button. For those unable to use online system, phone option 9-11 am Tuesdays. *See below for more.*

WHEN YOU ARRIVE ON SUNDAYS

- Worshipers seated 10:30 - 10:50 am.
- Put on mask before leaving your car – cover nose and mouth, and end below chin. (No gaiters or face shields.)
- One entrance only, the Greene Street door to the Smith Building. Wait on marked spots. Use hand sanitizer provided.
- Only those on reservation list admitted. No exceptions. Please be considerate of our ushers and do not show up without a reservation.
- Ushers will seat those with reservations. Remain in seat with mask on throughout service.

AFTER SERVICE ENDS

- Ushers will release worshipers by pews.
- All exit at Sanctuary door to Greene Street. Use provided hand sanitizer as you leave.
- Remain masked until in your vehicle. If you greet other worshipers, stay 6 feet apart.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP RESERVATIONS

On Tuesdays, you can go to the home page (fpcgreensboro.org) and click on the Worship Reservations button. We are using SignUpGenius. You do not need to download software or create an account. Phone option for those without technology.

Reservations open each Tuesday at 9 am. Closes when all spaces are taken or midnight Saturday.

ONLINE

1. Go to fpcgreensboro.org. In the Sunday section, click on Worship Reservations.
2. The next page is a Self-Certify Checklist.
 - If you can answer "No" to all questions, you will be taken to the reservation page. Fill in the form and click Submit. You will receive a confirmation email.
 - If you can answer "Yes" to any questions, do not register and consult your doctor.

PHONE

Only for those unable to use online system

Between 9 and 11 am Tuesdays, call 336-478-4713 and speak with person on duty. Reservation is not made unless you speak with someone. Do not leave a message. You will be asked questions from the Self-Certify Checklist. If you can say "No" to all, the staff member will make your reservation.

WORSHIP AND STUDY DURING CAMPUS CLOSING:



Our church campus remains closed; however limited-seating worship has begun. *See pages 10 & 11 for more info.* Our Sunday Livestream service is available on our home page, fpcgreensboro.org, and also on our live streaming page, fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live.

WHILE THE CAMPUS IS CLOSED, PLEASE JOIN US FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION ONLINE

- ▷ On our [home page](#), messages on our North Elm Notes blog from pastors and staff.
- ▷ On our [DIGITAL FORMATION](#) page, you will find the latest online ministry for all ages.
- ▷ Our [DIGITAL FORMATION LIBRARY](#) offers videos, special studies, children's programs, and more you may have missed.

We will continue to update you regularly and adapt as things change. Please keep in touch:

- **IF YOU HAVE A PASTORAL EMERGENCY**, contact the Pastor on Call at 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number.
- **CHECK OUR MEMBER RESOURCES PAGE** for our online directory, staff list, and other information.
- **SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY E-NEWS AND OUR THURSDAY MORNING SUNDAY PREVIEW** on our [Connect](#) page.
- **SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS:** Text FPCGSO to 41411 and follow the instructions to opt in. (*Standard text rates may be applicable based on your individual carrier.*)

SECUREGIVE MOBILE APP – In addition to giving online (fpcgreensboro.org/give), you can download the SecureGive mobile giving app for [Apple](#)  or [Android](#)  (*scroll over for clickable links*). You can use the app as a guest or create an account. It's quick, easy, secure, and allows you to make a donation using a bank card.

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Give from your phone via text. [See full instructions here.](#)

FIND FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA –

Members are sharing great photos, comments and more! Follow and Like us on Facebook (search "First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro"), YouTube ("fpcgreensboro") and Instagram ("1stpresgo") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed. Click on these links:



TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH FOR 2021 MINISTRY – This morning Stewardship chair Doug Stone is our last speaker for our campaign to support ministry in 2021. You can [pledge online here](#), and while you're there, take a look at the Leap of Faith scrapbooklet.

A PEPPERMINT PARADE TO WELCOME JILL DUFFIELD!

Our new pastor will be here in three weeks! Join us for a drive-thru car parade with friends, fun & fellowship. Saturday, December 5, noon to 2 pm, starting at Fisher & Greene at the Life Center. Decorate your car for the occasion – prizes awarded! Bring a welcome card! Include your picture with names - she has a lot of faces to learn! Pick up kits for Advent & Communion Sunday, and donate canned food for Urban Ministry and coats for Backpack Beginnings.

ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of our third anniversary by John and Carole Simms.

TODAY IS Rev. Alexandra Mauney's last day at FPC.

She is taking a position as Associate Pastor for Families, Youth, & Children at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis.

PRAYERS FOR PARENTS: Today on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), we pray for parents who are frustrated. Parents can also find support in our [Facebook group](#), First Pres Parents. [More info here.](#)

NEXT SUNDAY: Christ the King Sunday. 9 am livestream worship. 11 am in-person worship (*up to 100 worshippers, reservations required, see previous page*). Rev. Neil Dunnivant will be preaching. Music from the Rejoice! Ensemble.

- Sandie Gravett leads a *combined video class in Agape and YMBC*, [Paul's Letter to the Romans](#).
- *Commitment*, meeting via Zoom. The Fruit of the Spirit, through November 22. Contact [Mary Eagle](#) for link.
- *Seekers*, socially distanced. Continuing study of the Book of Romans. Contact [Gerard Davidson](#).
- Check our [Godly Play](#) and [Older Elementary](#) videos for children.

IN MEMORIAM

David Lee Grimes
November 11, 2020

Beverly Bell Armfield
November 11, 2020