

First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro April 11, 2021 – 10:30 a.m. SECOND SUNDAY OF FASTER

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

Gathering Music: Welcome in This Place

Holy spirit Comforter, Counselor here. Rise up within me, living water, Spirit of God in me.

[Chorus]:

You are welcome in this place. God of power, love, and grace, overwhelm my soul.

Holy spirit, sent from heaven, the God of all glory is here.

Welcome, Invitation and Congregational Life

Neil Dunnavant

Minute for Mission

Mike Coppinger and Yolanda Baxter

New Member Introductions

Jeremy Parker

Call to Worship Maria Hanlin

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: Jesus stands among us.

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: The risen Lord is here.

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: We have life in his name.

Song of Praise: No. 260 – Alleluia! Sing to Jesus







THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of the world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A brief period of silence is reserved for personal confession.

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.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Word Read: 1 John 1:1-2:2 Mary Katherine Faucher

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

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. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Time for Children Neil Dunnavant

The Word Read: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of Response: Ancient Words

Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world; They resound with God's own heart, O, let the ancient words impart;

Ancient words, ever true, changing me, changing you; we have come with open hearts, O, let the ancient words impart.

Affirmation of Faith Neil Dunnavant

We undoubtedly believe, since it was impossible that the sorrows of death should retain in bondage the Author of life, that our Lord Jesus crucified, dead, and buried, who descended into hell, did rise again for our justification, and the destruction of him who was the author of death, and brought life again to us who were subject to death and its bondage. We know that his resurrection was confirmed by the testimony of his enemies, and by the resurrection of the dead, whose sepulchres did open, and they did rise and appear to many within the city of Jerusalem. It was also confirmed by the testimony of his angels, and by the senses and judgment of his apostles and of others, who had conversation, and did eat and drink with him after his resurrection.

- Scots Confession 3.10

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: *By the Mark*

Dailey and Vincent

Rejoice! Ensemble

When I cross over I will shout and sing I will know my Savior By the mark where the nails have been

By the mark where the nails have been By the sign upon His precious skin I will know my Savior when I come to Him By the mark where the nails have been

A man of riches May claim a crown of jewels But the King of Heaven Can be told from the prince of fools

By the mark where the nails have been By the sign upon His precious skin I will know my Savior when I come to Him By the mark where the nails have been

On Calvary's Mountain Where they made Him suffer so All my sin was paid for A long, long time ago

By the mark where the nails have been By the sign upon His precious skin I will know my Savior when I come to Him By the mark where the nails have been

I will know my Savior when I come to Him By the mark where the nails have been

Charge and Benediction

Keith Dove

Song of Sending: Benediction

Matt Redman

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord smile on you,
Shine His light upon you.
May the Lord lift you,
Turn His face towards you,
Give you His peace, give you His peace.

Blessed we came to this place today And blessed now we will go, In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.

May the Lord bless us and keep us. May the Lord smile on us,

Song of Sending continues, over

Shine His light upon us.
May the Lord lift us,
Turn His face towards us,
Give us His peace, give us His peace.

Today's Worship Leaders

Neil Dunnavant, Executive Pastor
Maria Hanlin, Pastoral Care
Keith Dove, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident
Mary Katherine Faucher, Lay Reader
James Keith, Associate Director of Music Ministry for Rejoice!
Rejoice! Ensemble

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NEXT SUNDAY: *Third Sunday of Easter.* Pre-recorded worship service video posted by 5 pm Saturday; the congregation is encouraged to watch together at 10:30 am Sunday. Rev. Jill Duffield will be preaching. Music from the Chancel Choir Ensemble.

- Sandie Gravett continues the video series, From Bondage to Covenant: Exodus and Becoming A Resurrection People. This series explores what the early Church's model for Eastertide can teach us about the 50 days of Easter and becoming a Resurrection people.
- Homebuilders & Faith Matters discuss "Weekly Faith Questions" on Zoom at 10 am. For link and more info, contact Doug Key, doug@dougkeyartist.com
- Seekers class meets on Zoom, with a study of the Epistle of James. Contact Gerard Davidson, gdavidson@ wardblacklaw.com.
- For families with elementary students, on Zoom at 9:30 am, we begin a short series on the Parables. Check the weekly family email for link and supplies list. **Contact Lisa Witherspoon** at lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org.

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 ("1stpresgso") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed. Click on these links:

PRAYERS FOR PARENTS: Today on Facebook and **Instagram**, we pray for all parents. Parents can also find support in our **Facebook group**, First Pres Parents.

SECUREGIVE MOBILE APP – In addition to giving online (fpcgreensboro.org/give), you can download the SecureGive mobile giving app for Apple cor Android . 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.

FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE – You can honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sunday morning worship service in the Sanctuary. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. The following dates are open: May 16; June 27; July 4, 18 & 25; August 1, 22 & 29; September 5, 12 & 19; October 17, 24 & 31; and November 14 & 21. To learn more, contact Carolyn Yow, 336-478-4768 or **cyow@fpcgreensboro.org**.

IN MEMORIAM

Donna Lewis Urban April 6, 2021

FPC'S COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Because of the community spread of the coronavirus in Guilford County, *the church is in Phase 0*. These policies are to support the safety and well-being of our FPC members, staff, and the larger community. Until further notice:

- Sunday worship will be pre-recorded video only.
- All church groups, Bible studies, committees, etc. must meet virtually.
- No outdoor gatherings or use of indoor rooms permitted.
- Drive-by events coordinated by staff may be held.
- Staff will work from home, with no in-person or indoor staff gatherings.
- Weekday Preschool remains open at this time.
- Hot Dish & Hope continues with take-out only, with volunteers following safety guidelines.
- Food Drive-by continues with proper safety precautions.

When metrics indicate we can move to Phase 1, we will return to in-person worship of no more than 100 with all safety precautions in place.

UPDATES ON OUR COVID GUIDELINES

are posted at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/TOGETHER.

WORSHIP AND STUDY ONLINE

- ➢ Worship services are available on our YOUTUBE CHANNEL, beginning at 5 pm Saturdays. The link is also posted on our home page, FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.
- ▷ This week's online ministry (for all ages!) is listed on the DIGITAL FORMATION page.
- ▶ The NORTH ELM NOTES blog has new posts from our pastors and staff each week.
- Our DIGITAL FORMATION LIBRARY offers videos, special studies, children's programs, and more you may have missed.

STAY CONNECTED

- The MEMBER RESOURCES page has our online directory, staff list, and other information.
- Sign up for the WEEKLY E-NEWS AND SUNDAY PREVIEW emails.
- Join our text-alert system to receive text updates about schedule changes. Make sure the church has your correct mobile number by emailing your information to Jennifer Gaddy, jgaddy@fpcgreensboro.org.

NEED HELP?

- ▶ If you have a PASTORAL EMERGENCY, contact the Pastor on Call at 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number.
- REQUEST PRAYER from our pastors using this confidential form.

UPCOMING CHANGES TO COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Given the hopeful trends in our community, the increased numbers of people being vaccinated and the warmer weather, the Session has approved the following in-person activities:

BEGINNING APRIL 18

Groups of 50 or less may meet outside on the church campus.

- All COVID safety protocols must be followed (masks, social distancing, etc.)
- Space must be reserved. Group leaders should contact Tim Millisor, tmillisor@fpcgreensboro.org or 336-478-4793.

Groups of 25 or less may meet inside the church.

- All COVID safety protocols must be followed (masks, social distancing, etc.)
- Meeting rooms will be limited and assigned based on availability and group size.
- Group leaders should contact Tim Millisor to reserve space. (Small groups will not be able to meet inside the church Sunday mornings because of the number of people in the building for worship and the need to clean between services.)

BEGINNING MAY 2

Modified, in-person worship will resume.

- Special service May 2 at the Ballpark for up to 1400 people, 10:30 am. Reservations are required and will begin online Tuesday, April 20, with call-in dates of April 20 & 27 from 9 to 11 am. *More info to come*.
- Starting May 9 we will offer two identical, in-person services, one at 8:30 am and one at 11 am, both in the Sanctuary with up to 175 worshipers. We will continue to alternate Sundays between Rejoice! and traditional worship.
- Registration will be required and all COVID safety protocols followed (masks, social distancing, etc.). You will be able to register online (fpcgreensboro.org, under the Sunday heading) beginning the Tuesday prior to worship, and if you are unable to register online you may call 336-478-4713 from 9 to 11 am the Tuesday prior to worship.
- The 11 am service will be livestreamed each week.

Funerals, memorial services and weddings will be allowed in the sanctuary with up to 175 worshipers.

- All COVID safety protocols will be followed. Our pastors will be reaching out to those families who lost a loved one during the pandemic and are waiting to hold a service of witness to the resurrection in the sanctuary.

IN MEMORIAM

Peggy Ann Watkins Wharton December 15, 1927 - February 6, 2021

Peggy Wharton is lovingly remembered as a kind and giving person whose humble, gentle nature and dry wit endeared her to all who had the good fortune of knowing her.

She was raised in Bluefield, West Virginia, as a proud "hill lily" and attended Beaver High School where she was a classmate of Nobel Prize-winning mathematician John Nash. She was interviewed by Sylvia Nasar for A Beautiful Mind, a book about Nash that became a movie.

Peggy graduated from Salem College in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. In 1999 Salem presented her with the Distinguished Alumna Award.

She loved her immediate and extended family, especially husband Dick, son Scott and daughter Emily. A long-time friend remembers that one day she opened the many cabinets in her den and revealed about a hundred scrapbooks that chronicled each year in the life of her children.

Peggy loved her community. A member of the Junior League, she was a fierce advocate and mentor for empowering women. She was involved with Greensboro Urban Ministry and was instrumental in establishing Child Care Ministry at First Presbyterian Church, which became part of Children's Home Society.

She was an avid tennis player and golfer who enjoyed walking in her neighborhood, greeting her many friends along the way. For a period, she delivered the Greensboro Record in the afternoons on her bike.

A member of FPC for 68 years, Peggy loved the church with all her heart. Another long-time friend remembers, "When I saw her at the door, I knew something needed attention." She served as an elder and deacon and on numerous committees, ranging from Global Mission to Music to Budget and Finance. She organized Friendship Day for seniors.

She had outstanding leadership skills and many innovative ideas and long-range vision for projects at the church that are still in effect today. There is little that Peggy did not do in service to FPC. She even drove the church bus for five years.

Back in the day when there were staff mailboxes for interoffice mail at the church, Peggy had her own "staff" mailbox. Elder Wharton used it to keep in touch with everyone and share articles and books from her constant reading.

The Session gives thanks to God for Peggy's life and offers its deepest condolences to his family and friends. It requests that a copy of this memorial be placed in its minutes and a copy sent to her family.

- The Session of First Presbyterian Church