



First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro

May 5, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COMMUNION SUNDAY

SENIOR SUNDAY

*We invite you to light a candle as you enter the worship space  
to prepare your heart and mind for worship.*

Gathering Music: *We Will Dance*

**Sing a song of celebration  
Lift up a shout of praise  
for the Bridegroom will come,  
the glorious One  
And Oh, we will look on His face  
We'll go to a much better place**

**Dance with all your might  
Lift up your hands and clap for joy  
The time's drawing near,  
when He will appear  
And oh, we will stand by His side  
A strong, pure, spotless bride**

*[Chorus]:*

**We will dance on the streets that are golden  
The glorious bride and the great Son of man  
From every tongue and tribe and nation  
We'll join in the song of the Lamb**

**Sing aloud for the time of rejoicing is near  
The risen King, our groom, is soon to appear  
The wedding feast to come  
Is now near at hand  
Lift up your voice,  
Proclaim the coming Lamb**

\* Call to Worship

Matt Bussell

Leader: The world belongs to God,  
**All: the earth and all its people.**

Leader: How good it is, how wonderful  
**All: to live together in unity.**

Leader: Love and faith come together;  
**All: justice and peace join hands.**

Leader: If Christ's disciples keep silent,  
**All: these stones would shout aloud.**

Leader: Open our lips, O God,  
**All: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

*— Iona Abbey Worship Book*

\* Song of Praise: *Be Thou My Vision*

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**



## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

### \* Call to Confession *and* Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.**

*A brief period of silence is observed 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.**

### \* Passing of the Peace

### \* Response to the Peace: *Psalms 67*

Wendell Kimbrough

**Let the nations sing and be glad  
For the Lord is coming with justice.  
Let the nations sing and be glad  
For our God is coming with peace.  
Now let all the ends of the earth,  
Fill with holy wonder and joy,  
For our God is coming to reign as King!**



## THE WORD OF GOD

The Word Read: *Psalms 98*

Anne Wagoner

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

A Moment of Godly Play for Children of All Ages

Donna Chase

The Word Read: *Acts 10:44-48*

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Word Proclaimed: *Here I Am*

Rachel Fitch

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Newton Cowan

Leader: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People: therefore let us keep the feast.**

Great Thanksgiving

Rachel Fitch

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 our thanks and praise.**

Leader: In every time and every age, O God,  
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks, ...

And so, with all creation,  
with all the needy and hungry ones,  
with all those who have enough and plenty,  
with creatures large and small,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
and with the saints of every age,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.  
By your power and love you continue  
to deliver your people from bondage,...

Remembering our Lord's self-giving love,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

Leader: Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.  
You give us words when we have none ...

In the unity of the Holy Trinity,  
in gratitude for this great day of resurrection,  
we praise you, God of all that is,  
now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: And as our Savior taught us we are bold to pray:

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.**

Words of Institution

Newton Cowan

Communion of the People

Music during Communion

*Behold the Lamb*

*Rejoice! Ensemble*

Prayer after Communion

Rachel Fitch

Call for the Offering

Newton Cowan

*You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page  
of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including  
text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.*

Offertory: *Spirit, Open My Heart*

*[Refrain]:*

**Spirit, open my heart  
to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love,  
in receiving and in giving.  
Spirit, open my heart.**

**God, replace my stony heart  
with a heart that's kind and tender.  
All my coldness and fear  
to your grace I now surrender. *[Refrain]***

**Write your love upon my heart  
as my law, my goal, my story.  
In each thought, word, and deed,  
may my living bring you glory. *[Refrain]***

**May I weep with those who weep;  
share the joy of sister, brother.  
In the welcome of Christ,  
may we welcome one another. *[Refrain]***

Song of Response: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Sing praises, Alleluia.  
Praise God Creator, God the Son,  
Praise God the Spirit three in one.  
Sing praises, sing praises,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\* Prayer of Dedication

Newton Cowan



\* Song of Sending: *We Will Go Out With Joy*

Leader: We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.

**All: We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**

*[Refrain]:*

**Alleluia! We will go out with joy.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Leader: Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,  
sing a new song of joy.

**All: Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,  
sing a new song of joy. [Refrain]**

Leader: We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.

**All: We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God. [Refrain]**

\* Benediction

Rachel Fitch





## Today's Worship Leaders

Newton Cowan, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
Matt Bussell, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission  
Rachel Fitch, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident  
Donna Chase, Director of Christian Formation  
Anne Wagoner, Lay Reader  
Will Edwards, Director of Music for Rejoice!  
Rejoice! Ensemble

*\* Let us rise in body or spirit*

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## SENIOR CLASS OF 2024

*Congratulations! to our graduating high school seniors*

Gretchen E. Cimino	Caitlyn Medley
Carter Reid "Carter" Cockman	Madeline McCoy
Sienna Coker	Vivian K. Morrison
Lillian Coladonato	Sarah E. Parrish
Dallas Allen "Dallas" Cooke	Isabella Sadjewski
Andrew C. Dover	Charles "Charlie" T. Sherrill
Eugenia "Sullivan" S. Edmunds	Ashlyn H. Showers
Eve Hatcher-Peters	McCarthy M. Spencer
Jacob "Jake" G. Haverland	Grayson E. Stanley
Kipley Louise "Kipley" Hill	Fuller T. Stewart
Audrey L. Jenkins	Alan W. Sutton, III
William Allen "Will" Jordan	Caroline Lee "Caroline" Tilley
Molly E. Lovvorn	Elizabeth "Reece" R. Tisdale
Elijah Daniel "Eli" McAlister	Grace E. Weathersbee

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.  
We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship  
is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

We seek to be God's changemakers for good in the world.  
FPC is a Matthew 25 church, and our creation care and hunger  
ministries have been recognized by the Presbyterian Church USA.



**TAKING ATTENDANCE:** The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone, you can pick up a physical copy of an

attendance card as you enter the Life Center or Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.

**NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED** for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

#### WHAT TO DO – UNWELLNESS AND MEDICAL

**EMERGENCIES:** If during the service you or someone who is with you begins to feel unwell, or is having a medical emergency; or if you notice someone else having a medical event; please contact the closest usher, who can assist in the situation.



**INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY READER IN WORSHIP FOR THE 2024-2025 PROGRAM YEAR?** Contact Anne Albert at [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org) or Bubba Judy at [bjudy@beesonhardware.com](mailto:bjudy@beesonhardware.com).

**USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED:** Contact Anne Albert, [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336.478.4711.

**PARKING MINISTRY:** This ministry helps members with mobility issues get from their cars to the sanctuary for the 11 am service on Sundays. Two volunteers work on Greene Street 10:15-11:15 am. Passengers may be dropped off at the Greene Street door and will be escorted into the sanctuary. Drivers will be directed to a reserved space as needed. *Want to help?* Choose a Sunday at [fpcgreensboro.org/signup](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/signup). Info: Tim Millisor, [tmillisor@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:tmillisor@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336.478.4793; or Nancy Courts, [nancy\\_courts@uncg.edu](mailto:nancy_courts@uncg.edu) or 336.273.1617.

**TODAY IS COMMUNION SUNDAY:** All are welcome to the Lord's table. Our Communion bread is gluten free. If you are unable to come forward, please raise a hand and an elder will come to you to serve you. We pray that as Christ meets you here you will be refreshed for the journey and strengthened in faith..

**FOR MORE INFO ON CHURCH SCHOOL, UPCOMING SERVICES, AND OTHER EVENTS** • Check out the "Coming Up" insert in your bulletin • Subscribe to our e-news and Sunday preview emails at [fpcgreensboro.org/connect](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/connect) • Visit [fpcgreensboro.org/events](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/events).

**WAYS TO GIVE:** In addition to the in-person offering, you may also give by mail, web, app, or text. Scan the QR code (*right*) to give online. You can also go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text) to download the FellowshipOne Giving mobile app (Apple  or Android ) and for instructions for giving via text. You may also mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401. Go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/give) for more ways to give.



**FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE** – Honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sunday morning Sanctuary worship service. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. *Dates available: September 1, 8, and 29.* Contact Carolyn Yow, [cyow@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:cyow@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336-478-4768.

### IN MEMORIAM

Nancy Dowell Adams  
April 26, 2024

Marie Salven Kellenberger  
April 26, 2024

# COMING UP

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

WEEK OF MAY 5-12, 2024 • [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](http://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG)

**LATER TODAY**

**KIDS DISCIPLE CLUB:** Ice Cream "SUNDAE" and Foam Party! Open to current 3rd-5th graders plus current 2nd-graders who can join KDC in the fall. Bring a friend! 3-4:30 pm.

## THIS WEEK

### MONDAY, MAY 6

• **BEYOND PLASTICS GREENSBORO**, a partner of our Earth Care ministry, 6:30 pm in the Garden Room.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

- **PLANNING YOUR Q4 SERIES:** Living Options as You Age, 5-6 pm, Garden Room.
- **SPRING WALKING GROUP**, 5:30-6:30 pm. Meet at the sanctuary steps. Also June 12.
- **RSVP DEADLINE** for Presbyterian Women Luncheon, being held May 13. Get your ticket (\$10) online or call 336-478-4799. Bonnie McAlister will share her newly published children's book *Both Then and Now*.

### THURSDAY, MAY 9

- **STAYING SAFE ONLINE:** Keep children out of dangerous situations online with tips on scams, cyberbullying and more. Presented by Luke Perrin from the NC Department of Justice. 5:30-6:30 pm, Garden Room.
- **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER:** Join the FPC prayer group on Zoom at 5:30 pm on Zoom. Pray for our church, community, and nation. Contact

Yolanda Baxter ([YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG](mailto:YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG)) for link.

### FRIDAY, MAY 10

• **RSVP DEADLINE** for **Fork & Faith** women's luncheon on May 15, *RSVP* to Dolly Jennings, 336-854-2663.

### SATURDAY, MAY 11

• **NEIL'S MEALS:** About 150 volunteers will pack hundreds of food boxes for our hungry neighbors with the Out of the Garden Project, 9-11 am in the Life Center. Stop by and join the fun!



Good news: Capital Campaign pledges and gifts have surpassed \$10 million toward our goal of \$11.1 million! This is an important time for renewal of our sacred space. Please join us in tending the roots, for generations to come.

[FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/CAPITAL-CAMPAIGN](http://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/CAPITAL-CAMPAIGN)

## May Days to Note

### Add a dash of Lee Smith

The Monday & Tuesday Book Clubs invite you to a discussion of *Carolina Table*, a collection of food-related short stories by NC authors. Bring a favorite Southern nibble to share! May 14, 1:30 pm in the Garden Room.



### Join the cubs!

Our children's choirs are *roaring* to present *Rescue in the Night*, the story of Daniel in the lion's den! May 15, 6:30-7:15 pm in the sanctuary.

### Praise the Lord & pass the fried chicken

Fill up on the Spirit & at the potluck May 19, Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit! Wear red to worship and bring a side, salad or dessert. FPC's Favorite Entree provided. Starts after the second service, can leave your dish earlier in the Life Center kitchen.

### NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 12 CHURCH SCHOOL, 10 AM

- **Children:** Preschool - grade 1 meet for Storytime in the Children's Library, next to the Welcome Center. Grades 2-5 meet in Corl 306 for games and spiritual practices. Continues May 19, then on summer break until fall kickoff.
- **Remarkable Women of the Bible** led by Jill Duffield in Redhead Hall, hosted by YMBC and Agape.
- **Everyone Has a Story: Caring for your Mind, Body, and Soul** series for Mental Health Awareness Month. This week: *Body* – care for self and of others experiencing challenges, extending grace & kindness. Led by member Maddy Lowman. Concludes May 19 with *Soul*: Promoting acceptance & compassion, language matters, decreasing stigma, seeking help. Come as You Are class Garden Room.
- **FPC 101:** For anyone interested in membership or members wanting to learn more. Explore the Bible, church history, theology and polity. Led by Matt Bussell and Newton Cowan in the Solarium. Concludes May 19.

## MORE IN MAY & JUNE

RSVP FOR THESE AT [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/signup)

### ALZHEIMER'S: FACTS, FIGURES & THE FUTURE:

Updated info on dementia and new advances in treatment. May 21, 2:30-4 pm in Redhead Hall. *RSVP for session by May 17, for onsite respite care by May 14.*

**VETERANS' FELLOWSHIP PICNIC** on May 22, for vets/ spouses and widows/widowers. *RSVP by May 14.*

**NEW DATE – GREAT WOLF LODGE TRIP:** Rising 6th-graders have fun, get to know other FPC youth, and hear about youth ministry. **Now June 10, Sign up by May 31.**

**PAINT THE TOWN:** 10 youth (at least 14 by the date) and 10 adults will paint a house for a low-income family! Part of a Community Housing Solutions event June 12, 8:30 am-3:30 pm. *Sign up by May 19.*

**FPC BLOOD DRIVE FOR RED CROSS:** June 12, 1:30-6 pm. Sign up now for appointments & to volunteer.

**SCOTLAND PILGRIMAGE:** Save your space now for this trip next April 28-May 9, 2025. Connect with our personal faith & Scottish Reformed roots, visit with the Church of Scotland & more. Space is limited; brochures at the Welcome Center reception desk and around campus.

### *Cards for Robert Wells & Rachel Fitch*

Join us in thanking Chancel Choir director Robert Wells and Pastoral Resident Rachel Fitch. Both close their ministry among us this month. Leave your cards & notes in marked boxes in the Welcome Center.