

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 19, 2023

11:00 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

GATHERING MUSIC: Open the Eyes of My HeartMichael W. Smith

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see You

I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up

Shinin' in the light of Your glory

Pour out Your power and love

As we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy

We cry holy, holy, holy

You are holy, holy, holy

I want to see you

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Jill Duffield

INTROIT: Come One, Come All, Come Follow Philip R. Dietterich

Canticle Choir, Credo Choir and Cherub Choirs

Radha Upton, piano

Come one, come all, come follow the call of Jesus Christ, the Lord of all.

He'll teach you to walk, he'll teach you to talk, to share in his love ev'ry day.

Come one, come all, come follow the call of Jesus Christ, the Lord of all.

He'll teach you to work, he'll teach you to play, to share in his love ev'ry day.

* CALL TO WORSHIPRachel Fitch

Leader: Return to the Lord your God,

All: **for God is gracious.**

Leader: Confess to the Lord your God,

All: **for God is merciful.**

Leader: Repent to the Lord your God,

All: **for God is slow to anger.**

Leader: Praise the Lord your God,

All: **for God abounds in steadfast love.**

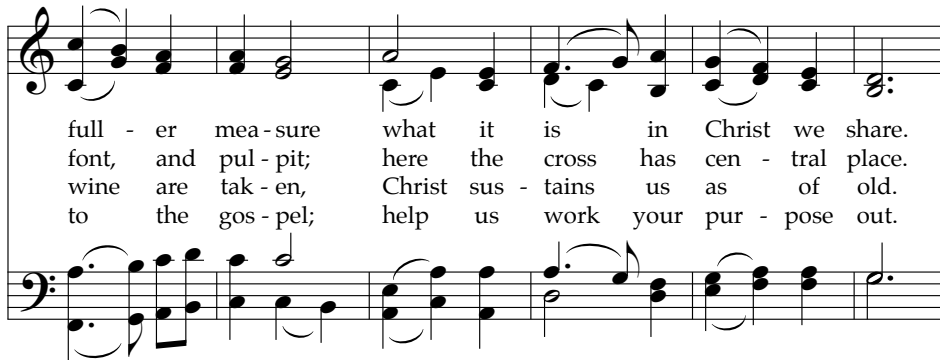
Leader: Worship the Lord your God,

All: **Together, let us worship God!**

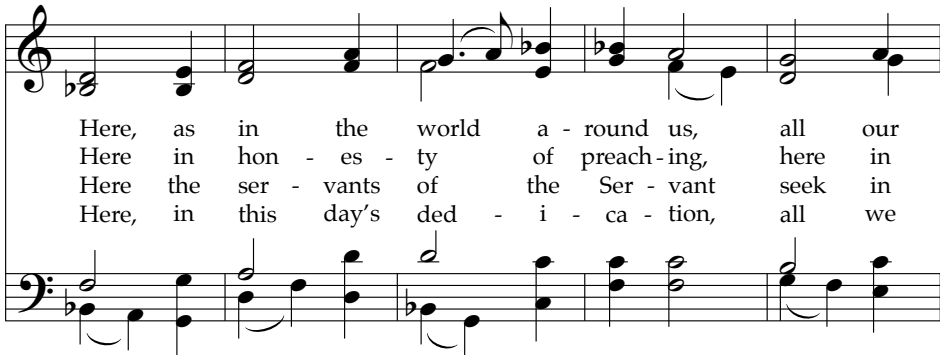
* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 409 – God Is Here! ABBOT’S LEIGH

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful



full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God,
we bring to this sanctuary
and place on this table,
our burdens and brokenness,
our self-image bruised and hurting,
our fears, shame, doubts, mistakes, and anxieties,
the raw materials we ask You to bless and change,
that in our dark times
we may begin to see light
and in our desert experiences
we may find You. 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

PSALM: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need arranged by Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Chancel Choir

Joshua Thomas, flute

Susan Fancher, soprano saxophone

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his Name;
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back, when I forsake his ways,
and leads me for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;
One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,
No more a stranger, nor a guest; but like a child at home.

– paraphrase of Psalm 23

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A MOMENT OF GODLY PLAY FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Lisa Witherspoon

THE WORD READ: *John 9:1-41*..... Jill Duffield and Tim Cook

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Unbelieved Witness*Jill Duffield

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE: Down in the River to Pray Traditional

[Chorus]:

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown –
Good Lord, show me the way!**

**O sisters, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down.
O sisters, let's go down
Down in the river to pray.**

[Chorus]

**O brothers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down.
Come on, brothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray.**

[Chorus]

**O children, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down.
O children, let's go down
Down in the river to pray.**

[Chorus]

**O sinners, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down.
O sinners, let's go down
Down in the river to pray.**

[Chorus]

CONFIRMATION

Pastoral Interpretation of ConfirmationJill Duffield

Introduction of the 2023 Confirmation Class Donna Chase

Questions of Faith.....Jill Duffield

- 1. Do you confess that you are a sinner and rely wholly on God’s grace and sovereign mercy?
- 2. Do you believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners according to the Gospel, and do you receive and trust Christ alone as your Savior and Lord?
- 3. Humbly relying on the Holy Spirit, will you endeavor to live as a faithful follower of Jesus, loving God and neighbor to the best of your ability?
- 4. Will you serve Christ in His church by supporting and participating in its worship and work, sharing in its ministries, its fellowship, and its governance?
- 5 Will you further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Questions to Mentors and the Congregation

Pastor: Confirmation mentors... Having mentored these students through discussion and study do you commit your continued support, knowing you have helped them in one of many important steps in their faith journey?

Mentors: We do.

Pastor: Congregation, will you stand... Will you, members of this church, welcome these new members of First Presbyterian and entrust them with the responsibility of leading our church into the future?

Congregation: We do.



* AFFIRMATION OF FAITHNewton Cowan

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

– Traditional Apostles' Creed

BLESSING OF CONFIRMANDS.....Jill Duffield, Newton Cowan, Rachel Fitch

PRAYER FOR OUR CONFIRMANDSNewton Cowan
(concluding with 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

*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: Is He Worthy? words and music by Andrew Peterson

Rejoice! Ensemble

Chancel Choir

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do)
Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)
But do you know that all the dark won't
Stop the light from getting through? (We do)
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do)

Is all creation groaning? (It is)
Is a new creation coming? (It is)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (It is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

[Chorus]:

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He was David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy of this? He is.

Does the Father truly love us? (He does)
Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)
And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (He does)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does)

[Chorus]

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy of this? He is!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Newton Cowan

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONJill Duffield

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



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.

POSTLUDE: Epilogue Norman Gilbert (1912-1975)

John Alexander, organ



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Jill Duffield, *Senior Pastor*

Rachel Fitch, *Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident*

Newton Cowan, *Transitional Director for Pastoral Care*

Lisa Witherspoon, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Donna Chasse, *Director of Christian Formation*

Tim Cook, *Lay Reader*

Audrey and Madeline Faucher, *Acolytes*

John Alexander, *Director of Music and Principal Organist*

Robert Wells, *Director of Chancel Choir*

Will Edwards, *Director of Music for Rejoice!*

Radha Upton, *Piano*

Joshua Thomas, *Flute*

Susan Fancher, *Soprano Saxophone*

Chancel Choir

Rejoice! Ensemble

Canticle Choir, Credo Choir and Cherub Choirs

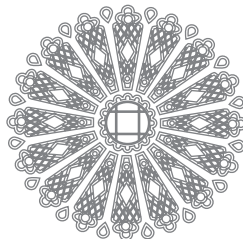
“God Is Here!” Text: Fred Pratt Green; Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor.

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: *Genevan Psalter*.

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

* Let us rise in body or spirit.

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CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

The following eighth-grade Confirmation Class members complete their journey to church membership during today's service. Class members have worked since October, in groups with mentors, pastors and church staff, to grow their understanding of the church, its sacraments and teachings, and discipleship.

CONFIRMANDS

Lucas D. Abraham	Hunter W. McCoy
Reagan B. Bell	Mary Catherine McVey
John D. Chase	Jackson C. Netherton
Chelsea A. Cimino	Charles M. Oakley, IV
Brian D. Cooke, Jr.	Howard C. Permar
Eli H. Davis	Georgia S. Pope
Frances F. Davis	Louisa C. Pope
Davis C. Egerton	Caroline B. Sadjewski
Dorothea A. Gansman	Lucy A. Shoemaker
Carolyn M. Grainger	Robert C. Smith, Jr.
Isaac B. Grainger, V	Lola S. Vanore
Molly E. Gunter	Lily R. Vartanian
Abigail E. Kiser	Joel P. Weikel
Charles B. Lackey, Jr.	Lewis A. White
Brayden G. Law	Henry F. Young
Thomas W. Lowe	

MENTORS

Sam Bostian	Leigh Jones
Anne Chamblee	Chad Oakley
Nolan Chilton	Jackie Wilson
Rachel Fitch	Mary Winstead
Graham Farless	

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 serve as the hands of Christ in the world. 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.

COVID GUIDELINES – Masks are optional on our campus. Updates are posted at [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/TOGETHER](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/together).

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/digital-formation](https://www.fpcgreensboro.org/digital-formation)

PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

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.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR *PURPLE* seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors’ stoles signifies the season of Lent.

ABOUT TODAY’S FLOWERS: The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in honor of the confirmands and mentors by the staff of First Presbyterian Church.

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: April 30; July 16, 23, and 30; August 13 and 20; September 3; and November 19.* Contact Carolyn Yow, 336-478-4768 or cyow@fpcgreensboro.org.

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.



USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED: contact Anne Albert, aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4711.

IN MEMORIAM

Tracey Tankersley Kilgore
March 11, 2023

COMING UP

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 19, 2023 • FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

LATER TODAY

YOUTH SMALL GROUP GATHERING & DINNER, 6 pm in Mullin Life Center. Baby-themed games in honor of Rachel and Stephen Fitch's son, Isaac; John & Laura Alexander's pending parenthood; and Will and Amanda Edwards' upcoming autumn baby!

MON, MARCH 20

- **WOMEN'S BE A WITNESS DEVOTIONAL & STUDY**: 9:15 am, Corl 306, led by Lisa Witherspoon. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.
- **RSVP DEADLINE FOR "HOLDING A FAMILY MEETING"** (*more info, left, and below under Wednesday*)

TUES, MARCH 21

- **RSVP DEADLINE FOR VETERANS LUNCHEON** (*more info on back*). Contact Debby Foster, 336-478-4702, or Doug McLeroy, 336-279-5441.

WED, MARCH 22

- **HOLDING A FAMILY MEETING**: 5 pm in the Garden Room. When caring for an older family member or friend, a family meeting can be a useful tool for identifying changing needs, sharing caregiving responsibilities, and making tough decisions. Join Jodi Kolada, Director of Caregiver Outreach and Non-Clinical Team Member Education with Well-Spring Solutions, as she offers tips on how to prepare for and hold a family meeting. She will also share tips to promote effective communication. *RSVP by end of day Monday*: Contact Debby Foster (336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.COM)
- **CENTERING PRAYER GROUP**: Noon on Zoom, led by Deborah Conner. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

THU, MARCH 23

- **LENTEN YOGA**: 4:30 pm, Virginia Gilmer Room, led by Rev. Virginia Lee Wood. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG
- **MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE**: 5:30 pm in the Life Center with Hot Dish & Hope guests.

FRI, MARCH 24

- **RSVP DEADLINE, "10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S"** (*more info on back*). Contact Debby Foster (336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.COM). Reserve on-site respite care, JKOLADA@WELL-SPRING.ORG or 336-545-4245

HOLY WEEK

APRIL 2: PALM SUNDAY.
Children sing, 9 & 11 am.

APRIL 2: MARCEL DUPRÉ'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS, 5 pm.

APRIL 6: NEW MAUNDY THURSDAY service, Life Center, 6 pm.

APRIL 7: TENEBRAE SERVICE.
7:30 pm, sanctuary.

APRIL 8: EASTER VIGIL. 7:30 pm.
Memorial Columbarium & sanctuary.

APRIL 9: EASTER SUNDAY. Sunrise service, 7 am; sanctuary services, 9 & 11.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 26: FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

- **COFFEE & DOUGHNUT FELLOWSHIP:** 8:30 am in Mullin Life Center, before the Rejoice! service at 9.
- **TWO WORSHIP SERVICES:** 9 am Rejoice! in Mullin Life Center and 11 am Sanctuary, with livestream.
- **PRESCHOOL - ELEMENTARY CLASSES,** third floor Corl Building.
- **YOUTH AND ADULT CLASSES, 10 AM**
 - *Ending The Silence:* Learn about the warning signs of mental health conditions and what to do if you or a friend or loved one are showing symptoms. *One group for middle & high school youth (Memorial 300), and a separate group for parents and adults (Memorial 303).*
 - *Lenten Longings: Explore the Path Jesus Took as He Went to Jerusalem,* led by Rev. Kate Huddelson Gillespie in Myers Loyalty Room. Hosted by the Faithbuilders class.
 - *Study and discuss the "Being a Witness" devotional* with the Commitment Class, Blair Hagan Room.
 - *Jeremiah: A Guide for Living in Turbulent Times.* Sandie Gravett continues a look at the prophet's 40-year career, to find hope in difficult days. Redhead Hall.
 - *Letter of Paul to Philemon* in Seekers, M125.

WED
MARCH
29

VETERANS LUNCHEON:

Noon in Redhead Hall.
All veterans, spouses,
and wives of veterans
are invited. The church

will prepare BBQ and buns, veterans are asked to bring a side dish, and the Health Ministry Team will provide desserts. Marty Smith will present a program on Quilts of Valor, whose goal is to provide a quilt to all veterans. RSVP by Tuesday (*see front for details*).

THU
MARCH
30

10 WARNING SIGNS OF

ALZHEIMER'S: 1-3 pm in
Redhead Hall. Join us to learn
about the difference between
normal aging and Alzheimer's,

common warning signs, The importance of early detection and benefits of diagnosis, and expectations for the diagnostic process. Led by Dr. Cheryl Greenberg from the Alzheimer's Association. RSVP and reserve on-site respite care by Friday (*see front for details*).



Community Service Group delivers handmade warmth to God's people who need a glimpse of care. The love gifts are made by a broad community of women and they often magically match up for "sets" (i.e. a layette or a hat and scarf set). Fabrics and yarns are bright and cheerful. We hear back about the smiles and comfort displayed by the recipients. We flourish in common cause, friendship, sharing of ideas, communal reflection and prayer. We all seem to feel God is calling us to use our hands and hearts even as He binds us to each other.



*Hannah Britt,
Community
Service Group*