

Serving Today

Ushers:

8:30a.m. Ray Callahan (Head), Sue Callahan, Mark Dail, Patti Fleming, Margaret Heberlein, Gene Peele, Joyce Weaver

11:00a.m. Pat Avery (Head), Marge Avery, Tom Brunk, Dan Frey, Tracy Fritzsche, Kathy Nelson, Linda Palmer, Will Robertson

Greeters:

8:30a.m. Kevin Avolis
11:00a.m. Dan & Margaret Pritchett

Lectionary Reading for February 9, 2020

Isaiah 58:1-9a Matthew 5:13-20
1 Cor. 2:1-12

WELCOME guests! Please write your name on a visitor's badge for your blouse or lapel. Along with our members, please sign the Friendship Pad when passed to you during the service.

WORSHIP SYMBOLS * Please rise in body or spirit

CHILDREN are welcome at First Presbyterian Church. Beginning at 8:30AM, our paid and background-checked nursery workers would be honored to care for your little ones (infants-4 years). Please see an usher for directions to the nursery (room 1.23 in the Ministry Center). The nursery is available for nursing at any time. Following the Children's Moment, those in the 2nd grade or younger may depart for Children's Worship and Wonder. For those 3rd grade and up, ask an usher for worship bags for your child(ren).

RESTROOMS are available in the Ministry Center (including a family restroom with changing table) and the Session House.

ACCESSIBILITY: Hearing assistance devices with ear coverings are available and large print hymnals are available in the last row of pews. Please ask an usher if you have need. Wheelchair accessibility is provided by ramps on either side of the Sanctuary and in back of the Ministry Center.

Session 2020

Eddie Bellis, Moderator, Maren Sonstegard-Spray, Karen Reed, Clerk

Administration

Betsy Conzelman '20
Jim Findley '21
Marc Finlayson '22
Trudy Martin '20

Outreach

Peggy Clark '21
Bruce Pollock '21
Julia Speight '22

Care

Patti Fleming '22
Polly Frank '20
Margaret Cooper '22

Education

Janet Bryan '20
Madison Crum '22
David Hale '20

Fellowship

Kevin Avolis '22
Beth Foley '21
Peter Moeller '20
Cathy Warren '20

Worship

Janelle Haggard '21
Gayle Hardy '21
George Moore '21
Hal Vandersea '22

Pastoral & Program Staff

- * The Rev. Edward Bellis, *Interim Pastor*
- * The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray, *Associate Pastor*
- * The Rev. Lloyd Griffith, *Parish Associate*
- * Daewon Goldenbaum-Yang, *Director of Education and Youth Ministry*

Music Program Staff

- * Pat K. Rowlett, *Director of Music*
- Vance Harper Jones, *Organist*
- Susan Mabie, *Director, Resurrection Singers*
- Cindy Sutton, *Assistant Organist and Pianist*
- Dru Wilkins, *Music Assistant*

Office and Support Staff

- * Tommy Hall, *Administrative Coordinator*
- * Priscilla Miller, *Office Administrator*
- * Cathy Wingfield, *Communications Coordinator*
- * Amber Zapffel, *Financial Secretary*
- * Kerri Wheeler, *Children's Worship*
- James Briley, Jr., *Treasurer*
- Louis Foye, *Sexton*
- Lisa Wood, *Nursery Coordinator*
- Cindi DeVoe, *Nursery Staff*
- Missy Dixon, *Nursery Staff*

Pre-school

- * Kerri Wheeler, *Director of Preschool*

You can contact persons designated * by replacing their first names as in the example for our pastor: maren@firstpresnb.org

Mission Partners

Backpack Blessings
Coastal Women's Shelter
Craven Literacy Council
Faith Connection
Habitat for Humanity
MERCY Clinic
Religious Community Services
Reviving Lives Ministry
Special Olympics
Camp Albemarle
East Carolina University Campus
Ministry
CROP Hunger Walk/CWS
Interserve (Thailand)
Iraq Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Mission Agency
Interfaith Refugee Ministry

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW BERN

ORGANIZED 1817

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World



Sermon on the Mount, woodcut from a book by Martin Luther, 1483-1546

4th Sunday After Epiphany February 2, 2020

— Eight Thirty and Eleven a.m. —

Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation.

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church@firstpresnb.org www.firstpresnb.org

Following the “Chiming of the Trinity” and during the “Prelude,” please enter a period of silent meditation. The Prayer of Preparation is offered to assist you. If you wish to share a joy or concern with the pastoral staff, please write it on the tan prayer card found in the pew rack. We will collect these cards in the offering. If you wish the prayer to remain confidential, place the card in a provided privacy envelope. *Please silence or turn off cell phones.*

Prayer of Preparation

O God, in your wisdom you have given us those ways that will bring blessings into our lives. But your ways so often seem foolish to our worldly minds. Soften our hearts, Lord. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Welcome

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Dearest Jesus, We Are Here* Piutti

Introit *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* McBeth

Announcements

Call to Worship

Let us come together all who find their joy in the Lord.
For the Lord is our Shepherd in good times and in hard times.
 And the Lord is with us in all that we experience in life.
And whether we are at home or afar the Lord knows our every need.
 Then let us raise our voices in praise and adoration. Together let us pray.
Source of all life, you give birth to the nations; we are conceived by your love. You sustain us in the womb of your mercy; we are nourished and grow in the folds of your grace. You sent us Jesus our Savior to deliver us and surround our days with your Spirit. Through Christ you conceive us as children of the covenant; we gather in his household to give you our praise.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, let us worship God!

* **Hymn 54** *Make a Joyful Noise to God!* Morgan/Kocher

* Prayer of Confession

O Lord, we tried in our own wisdom to live life, and we failed to seek your Word and Wisdom. In our own efforts we chose the hard ways when you would have led us to green pastures by still waters. Forgive us, Lord, and touch our hearts that we might be more willing to accept Your guidance and love. (Silent confession)

* **Kyrie Eleison** John Merbecke



* Assurance of Pardon

* **Response 437** *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy* Wetzel



* Summary of the Law

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:37-39

* Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(11:00) Children’s Moment Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

Hymn 175, verse 1 *Seek Ye First*
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

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.

Hymn 175, verse 2 *Seek Ye First*

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find; Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*1st Sunday offering for hunger - Religious Community Services (RCS)
 Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along your pew
 and place prayer request cards in the offering plate.*

Offertory *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal* American tune
 Sanctuary Bells arr. K. Moklebust

* Doxology Hymn 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

We offer but a portion of the bounty you bestow, O God. Receive our gifts as we seek to walk in your way. Where justice is sought, use these gifts to bring Christ’s liberating word. Where there is pain, may they bring the healing of Christ’s love. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

* **Hymn 70** *What Does the Lord Require of You?* Strathdee
 (Sung twice)

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson Micah 6:1-8 OT pg. 866
 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Blest Are They Whose Spirits Long* G.F. Handel
 From “Israel in Egypt”
 Daybreak Choir/Sanctuary Choir arr. Hopson

Second Lesson Matthew 5:1-12 NT pg. 4
 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *God Bless You!* The Rev. Eddie Bellis

* **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles’ Creed

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.

* **Hymn 761** *Called as Partners in Christ’s Service* Huber/Zundel

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Steve and Lisa Hines in loving memory of their daughter, Stephanie.

The congregation extends congratulations to Yor K’sor and his wife on the birth of a daughter on January 16th.

Congratulations to Tham Rolan, son of Hven Sin and Hlep Rolan on becoming a US citizen in August of 2019, and prayers as he begins basic training with the Army National Guard on February 4. Tham will return home to complete his degree at ECU on a National Guard scholarship.

Prayers of the People and (8:30) The Lord’s Prayer

* Benediction

* **Response** *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* Hymn 541

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd’s care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again;

* **Postlude** *Postlude* Eslava