

Serving Today

Ushers:

8:30a.m. Chris Kelso (Head), Mark Dail, Mara Edmister, Jay Haggard, Trish Kelso, Rufus McAden, Susan Ryan

11:00a.m. Hal Vandersea (Head), Margaret Colbert, Carol Hale, David Hale, Trudy Martin, Nancy Melling

Greeters:

8:30a.m. Carol and Tracey Bachofen

11:00a.m. Rad Moeller

Lectionary Reading for February 23, 2020

Exod. 24:12-18

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

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.

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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 IV, *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

Camp Albemarle

Coastal Women's Shelter

Craven Literacy Council

CROP Hunger Walk/CWS

ECU Campus Ministry

Faith Connection

Habitat for Humanity

Interserve (Thailand)

Interfaith Refugee Ministry

Iraq Presbyterian Church

MERCI Clinic

Presbyterian Mission Agency

Religious Community Services

Reviving Lives Ministry

Special Olympics

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW BERN

ORGANIZED 1817



Sermon on the Mount, from a book Samuel Wesley, 1662-1735

6th Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2020

— Eight Thirty and Eleven a.m. —

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

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

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 plate. If you wish the prayer to remain confidential, place the card in a provided privacy envelope. The Prayer of Preparation is offered to assist you. *Please silence or turn off cell phones.*

Prayer of Preparation

O God, what a joy when we come to understand that when Jesus promised the temple would be rebuilt in three days you meant for your throne to be in our hearts. We welcome you. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Welcome

Following the "Chiming of the Trinity" and during the "Prelude," please enter a period of silent meditation.

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness* Piutti

Introit *Hear the Good News of Salvation* Native American

Announcements

Call to Worship

Come, let us worship together all who would give praise to the Lord!

For once God's holy temple stood only in the heart of Jerusalem.

But now God's holy temple is in the heart of everyone who believes.

Let each of us then become a beacon of hope for the world.

Let us celebrate God's love dwelling in our hearts. Together let us pray:

O God, you call us to rest from our labors and set our hearts on finding your will for our lives. We gather in praise of your name, seeking to walk in your way. Assured of your presence, bound together by Christ, and made alive by the Holy Spirit, we worship you with our whole being.

In the name of Jesus Christ, let us worship God!

* **Hymn 757** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Carmichael

* Prayer of Confession

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin and fill us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. (Silent confession)

* **Kyrie Eleison** John Merbecke



* Assurance of Pardon

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

* 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.’”

* Passing of the Peace

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

(11:00) The Sacrament of Baptism and Children's Moment

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!

Baptism of Elizabeth Merritt Davenport, daughter of Christopher and Merritt Davenport, granddaughter of Nancy and Mike Newman
Elder: Cille Griffith

* 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 486 to tune #83 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* Copes

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

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along your pew and place prayer request cards in the offering plate.

Offertory *Oh, How He Loves You and Me* Kaiser
Tommy Hall, Susan Mabie, Duet

* 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

Accept the gifts that we offer, O God, as we go seeking reconciliation with our brothers and sisters. In them we seek to love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds. May the reconciliation we pursue reflect our love for neighbor as ourselves. We pray in the name of Christ who allows us to present ourselves blameless before you. Amen.

* **Hymn 729** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* spiritual

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 OT pg. 105
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *More Love to Thee* Prentiss/Kingsmore
Resurrection Singers
Cindy Sutton, piano; Winston Dixon, bass

Second Lesson Matthew 5:38-42 NT pg. 5
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *On Our Honor* Rev. Bellis

* **(8:30) Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

* **Hymn 313** *Lord, Make Us More Holy* spiritual

Minute for Mission *Crop Walk* Meredith and Mara Edmister

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Edna Harkins in loving memory of her husband, Charles, and her parents.

Congratulations to Wendy and Rad Moeller on the birth of their grandson, Thomas Coy Moeller, born in Charlotte on January 29, 2020 to son, Thayer and his wife, Anna Kate Moeller.

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** *Exaltation* Roff