



*"Jesus Shows Himself to Thomas" by Rowan and Irene LeCompte
one of six mosaic murals by artists Rowan and Irene LeCompte
in the Resurrection Chapel at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Established 1817

24 April 2022
The Second Sunday of Easter
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

WELCOME VISITORS!

Name tags are available in the narthex and vestibule – we would love to greet you by name!

Along with our members, we invite you to sign the Friendship Pad when passed to you during the service.

If you would like to **FIND OUT MORE** about First Presbyterian Church – whether it is to inquire about membership or ask something else, please contact anna@firstpresnb.org
Our next new member classes will be on June 12 and 19.



If you need a new, updated, or replacement nametag, please contact marcy@firstpresnb.org

Prayer of Preparation

*God of the Resurrection,
you open the tomb and invite us to sing and dance in the new life
you give us. In Jesus Christ, whose wounds are not erased but
glorified in resurrection, touch our wounds that they may be
transformed into channels of healing for others. Holy Spirit, breathe
into us the power to forgive so that all may have new life.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

Welcome

The Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* Lovelace

Introit *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*
Alington/Vulpis

***Hymn 246** *Christ Is Alive!* Wren/1778

*Call to Worship

Peace be with you.

Jesus stands among us.

Peace be with you.

The risen Lord is here. Let us worship God!

Litany of Affirmation

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy, he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith – being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Summary of the Law

Matthew 22:37-39

“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.’”

Children’s Moment (11:00 am)

The Rev. Catherine Campbell

Lord’s Prayer

Hymnal p. 35

Anthem

Woman, Weeping in the Garden

Damon/Copes

RESTROOMS are available in the Ministry Center (including a family restroom), the Session House, and the Fellowship Center.

CHILDREN are welcome at First Presbyterian Church! The nursery is available for infants, toddlers, and preschool children in Room 1.23 and 1.24 in the Ministry Center from 8:15 am to 12:15 pm.

Following the **CHILDREN’S MOMENT** in the 11:00 service, those in the 2nd grade or younger may depart for Children’s Worship and Wonder in the Ministry Center across the hall from the nursery. For all children in worship, there are worship bags available at the front and back of the Sanctuary.

If you have questions about children, youth, or family ministry, please contact catherine@firstpresnb.org

MASKS are now optional for worship and church activities. If you need to wear or mask or feel more comfortable wearing a mask, we hope you will wear one.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and **HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** with ear coverings are available in the Narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Have an **OFFERING**? You can place it in the wooden boxes found in the narthex and the vestibule. Thank you!

If you would like to receive **CHURCH EMAILS** containing news, announcements, and/or the newsletter, please contact cathy@firstpresnb.org.

The prayer of preparation is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1* © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

*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 236

The Strife Is O'er

1695/Palestrina

Minute for Mission (11:00 am)

Amanda Norwood

Interfaith Refugee Ministry

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning
are given by Richard and Debby Lifer to the glory of God
and in memory of their mothers' and grandmothers' birthdays.*

*We celebrate the 90th birthday of Ben Watford,
which was on April 19.*

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Response *Be Not Afraid* Taizé/Berthier

Benediction

Postlude *Welcome, Happy Morning* Lani Smith

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: members of the Daybreak and Sanctuary Choirs

OUR STAFF

Anna Pinckney Straight
Pastor, Head of Staff
anna@firstpresnb.org

Maren Sonstegard-Spray
Associate Pastor
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Lloyd Griffith
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Louis Foye
Sexton

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

*Sunday School, 9:40 am – 10:40 am
in the Ministry Center*

Birth-Preschool Nursery (Room 1.23-24)
Kindergarten - 5th Grade (Room 1.27)
Middle & High School (Room 2.23-24)

*Service and Learning Together (SALT)
for Grades 3-5 in the Session House*

May 15: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Youth Group for Grades 6-12

April 24: 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm:

Outdoor Movie Night at Christ Church

May 1: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm:

Creation Care: Preschool Planter Project

May 8: NO YOUTH GROUP

(Mother's Day)

May 15: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm:

Love Thy Neighbor: RCS Welcome Bags

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be happening **Monday, June 13-Friday, June 17 this summer from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm for kids who have completed grades K-5.** Come explore how God's creation is a gift we all share! Registration available on our website.

We will have a **volunteer info meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 4:00 pm in the Session House.** We need volunteers to be class shepherds and to help with crafts, games, music, and snacks. **Middle and high schoolers are encouraged to volunteer.** All adult volunteers will fill out a background check in accordance with our child safety policy.

Stroller Yoga

On **Thursday mornings April 28-May 19,** join us for a free 45-minute class for all levels. Be sure to bring your mat or a beach towel. Stroller size babies are welcome to attend with a parent and will be incorporated into the workout but are not required to participate. You do not have to be a First Presbyterian Preschool parent to attend.

Children's Library

Please stop by the Children's Library on the second floor of the Ministry Center and select one or several free children's books from the box marked "Free." While you are there, find a free book for yourself in the adult library, also located upstairs in the Ministry Center or in the Café on the first floor!

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Sunday Mornings, 9:40 am-10:40 am

The Present Word/George Evans – Session House Parlor

The "God Frees and Redeems" series examines the nature of God through the lenses of liberation and Christian freedom. Contact George Evans (gkevans4@gmail.com) with questions.

Tell It Slant/Wendy Moeller - Ministry Center Room 2.21 and on Zoom

Being offered in the Owl Classroom on the second floor of the Ministry Center (and on Zoom) is a class on Eugene Peterson's book Tell it Slant. The class will continue through the end of May and will be led by Wendy Moeller. For Zoom information, contact Cathy Wingfield, cathy@firstpresnb.org.

Starting May 1st: Harry Potter and the Bible

Jessica Skinner and Maren Sonstegard-Spray - Session House Main Room

This class will look at the first book in the Harry Potter series, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" alongside themes and passages in the Bible. **This class is for all ages (children and youth welcome!).**

Midweek Opportunities

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

The group meets on Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm via Zoom. Join us as we study the second half of Eugene Peterson's book Tell it Slant. For more information or to get on our list, please call Marice Debruhl at 252-637-5468 (h), Cathy Wingfield at 828-767-0975 or Wendy Moeller at 252-876-7259.

Tuesday Afternoon Grief Support

The group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 12:00 to 1:00 pm in the Chapel. This ongoing group provides its members with understanding and support after someone we love dies. All are welcome. Come and bring a friend. Contact Lloyd Griffith for more information.

Rebuilding – Divorce Recovery Group. This new group hopes to be just the right balance of a shoulder-to-cry-on and a kick-in-the-pants to support your getting through this confusing and often painful process and putting your life back together. Our first meeting is Monday, May 16, from noon to 1 pm in the Chapel. All are welcome. For more information contact Anna, Maren, or Lloyd.

Life of Prayer: The Practice of Contemplative Living

Led by Lloyd Griffith on Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00 pm in the Ministry Center Room 2.21 and by Zoom. This spring the group is discussing *Silent Compassion*, by Richard Rohr. We are deepening our understanding of the ways prayer connects with life.

Wednesday Evening Contemplative Worship

Led by Lloyd Griffith. This contemplative, reflective, approach to worship is offered each Wednesday from 5 to 5:30 pm in the Chapel (Ministry Center, first floor). This quiet service is focused on silence, prayer, and reflection on the Biblical text chosen for preaching the coming Sunday.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

Starting on Thursday, April 28 we will study "Miracles and Other Reasonable Things: A Story of Unlearning and Relearning God" by Sarah Bessey. We meet weekly 10-11 am by Zoom. Please contact Maren for more information (maren@firstpresnb.org).

Calvin and Hops (Men's Beer and Theology)

The next gathering of Men's Beer and Theology ("Calvin and Hops") will meet at Brewery 99 (1014 Pollock St) at 4:00 pm, TODAY, **April 24**, led by Ken Wilkins. This is a casual men's gathering for fellowship and conversation around topics of theology and faith. We meet in all weather!

Wine and Theology

Open to anyone interested in discussing wine AND theology! We will meet Sunday, **May 22**, at Cravin' Wine (2500 Trent Rd Suite 16, located in Trent Road Plaza) at 4:00 pm. Wine will be available for purchase for \$5 a glass with some small bites to go with it. Questions? Contact Maren (maren@firstpresnb.org).

SERVICE AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

RCS Donations Needed

RCS is looking for toiletry items: large shampoo, large conditioner, women's deodorant, men's shaving cream, razors, small Q-tip boxes, and small Kleenex packs, small feminine hygiene packs, shower poofs, and hairbrushes. You can take donations to RCS or bring them to the Ministry Center at First Pres!

Coastal Women's Shelter

Volunteers are needed this spring. Their thrift store, Helping Hands Boutique (2509 Neuse Blvd.) needs some extra hands to sort donations, thanks to the increase in donations during the spring-cleaning season. To find out more, call Kellie Cornell (Volunteer Coordinator) at 252-638-4509 ext. 3.

Coastal Carolina Volunteers

Craven County Disaster Recovery Alliance (CCDRA) needs your help to help those still affected by Hurricane Florence. If you are interested in serving in some way, please call 252-349-7751 or email volunteer@unitedwaycoastalnc.org.

ESL Classes

We are excited to restart this English literacy program for our Montagnard community and **we need additional tutor volunteers**. Volunteers typically tutor twice a month for 60-90 minutes at a time. Prior tutoring experience is not necessary; training provided. Classes meet on Mondays at 10:00 am and Saturdays at 9:00 am. Contact Gene Peele (gpeepe@centurylink.net) for more information.

Crisis in Ukraine – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is already working to help with the crisis in Ukraine. If you would like to support this work, gifts can be made online, by calling (800) 872-3283, by texting PDAUKR to 41444, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church U.S.A. with "DR000156-Ukraine" on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

Reception Volunteers

If you enjoy working with friendly people in a terrific environment and can volunteer your time on weekdays from either 9:00 am-1:00 pm or 1:00 pm-5:00 pm, please contact the church office (252-637-3270). We are looking for a few more smiling faces to join our awesome group of volunteers!

Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for the church to honor an anniversary, birthday, or memorial date coming up this summer, please see the Flower Calendar in the pink folder in the Narthex.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Photo Directory Updates – April 24, May 1, May 15

We are working on updating our records to produce an up-to-date member photo directory for our congregation! The last one was done in 2017. TODAY - April 24, May 1, and May 15, we will have a table and a photographer available. Please take a moment to stop by and check your information, give us any changes, and have us take a new photo. If you prefer to send us a photo, please send a good quality photo (preferably a jpg file) to church@firstpresnb.org. We look forward to sharing the new directory with you soon!

Rothermel Foundation Lecture – May 1, 2022

Never Enough: The Neuroscience and Experience of Addiction is the title of the Rothermel Foundation lecture to be held on **Sunday, May 1, in the Sanctuary at 2:00 pm**. Dr. Judith Grisel, a neuroscientist with expertise in pharmacology will be the guest speaker.

Stewards of the Earth – May 1, 2022

A community forum on environmental stewardship will be held at 4:00 pm in the J. Murphy Smith Center, 508 Middle Street. This event will feature an ecumenical panel of environmental advocates who will address the timely topic of how we can better support our congregations and communities in caring for the Earth.

Fellowship Meal – May 4, 2022

Please plan to join us Wednesday, May 4, for our monthly fellowship meal. **Please note that serving will begin at 5:00** instead of our normal 5:30 to allow ample time to enjoy the meal. We will be serving choir/bell members first to allow them time to enjoy the meal and get ready for Spring Ring. **As a catered event, we will not be offering to-go plates.*

Our meal will be provided compliments of Wendy Stallings and TPi Market. The menu will include beef brisket, grilled chicken, mashed potatoes, collards, salad, and brownies for dessert. Donations received at this Fellowship event will be donated to Religious Community Services. Please contact the church office to indicate your intentions to attend the meal. **The deadline for signup is Friday April 29th at 5 pm.** Please sign up early to allow Wendy ample time to prepare properly. We look forward to seeing you on May 4th for an evening of great food and great music.

Spring Ring – May 4, 2022

Join us for Spring Ring on **Wed. May 4 at 6:30 pm!** Spring Ring is a multi-generational concert featuring the Sanctuary Bells and children and youth ringing chimes and bells. This year the bell tables will remain upstairs, so plan to climb to the balcony, or sit downstairs where you can see.

Friends of Camp Workdays – May 14 and May 28, 2022

Calling all friends of Camp Albemarle to put all hands-on-deck for our upcoming workdays on **May 14 and 28, 9:00 am-1:00 pm** (lunch provided). Summer camp is just around the corner, and we need your help to prepare. There is much to be done and there is a role for everyone. See <https://campalbemarle.org/events/> for the link to sign up.

Children's Sabbath – May 15, 2022

We will have guest music from the First Pres Preschool and children leading in worship at both services. At 9:45 am there will be brunch for all families, birth through grade 12 between the services in the courtyard to fellowship with other parents and their kiddos. Following the 11:00 am worship service, First Pres Preschool will be hosting a BBQ fundraiser in the Session House.

Summer Worship! May 29 – September 4, 2022

From Memorial Day week through Labor Day weekend, there will be one worship service at 10:00 am. Sunday School classes will be from 8:40 – 9:40 am.



First Presbyterian Church

New Bern, North Carolina

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252.637.3270
www.firstpresnb.org
church@firstpresnb.org

*Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes a covenant with all believers,
First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all.
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.*