



*Christ's Charge to Peter, Raphael, 1515-1516, Victoria and Albert Museum, London,
from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Established 1817

1 May 2022

The Third 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

Lord Jesus Christ, as you met your disciples just after daybreak on the beach, meet us at the dawning of this new day. As you filled their nets with fish, fill our lives with love and grace, more than we can ask or imagine. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Welcome

The Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Awake Thou Wintry Earth* Virginia C. Thomas

Introit *God, Reveal Your Presence*
Tersteegen/Neander

***Call to Worship** adapted from Psalm 30

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

**O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.**

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

**For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.**

**Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.**

As for me, I said in my prosperity,
“I shall never be moved.”

**By your favor, O Lord,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;**

I was dismayed.

**Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!**

You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

***Hymn 265** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*
Watts/Hatton

Litany of Affirmation adapted from Ephesians 2:1-10
At one time you were like a dead person because of the things you did wrong and your offenses against God. You used to live like people of this world. You followed the rule of a destructive spiritual power. This is the spirit of disobedience to God's will that is now at work in persons whose lives are characterized by disobedience. All of you used to do whatever felt good and whatever you thought you wanted so that you were children headed for punishment just like everyone else.

However, God is rich in mercy. He brought us to life with Christ while we were dead as a result of those things that we did wrong. He did this because of the great love that he has for us. You are saved by God's grace! And God raised us up and seated us in the heavens with Christ Jesus. God did this to show future generations the greatness of his grace by the goodness that God has shown us in Christ Jesus.

You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. This salvation is God's gift. It's not something you possessed. It's not something you did that you can be proud of. Instead, we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives.

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

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.’”

(11 am) The Sacrament of Baptism for Allan Nay Siu

Parents: Plai Nay and Haih Siu Elder: Ann Thornton

Hymn *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* Cole-Turner

**Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine**

**Child of joy, our dearest treasure,
God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you:
live as one who bears Christ's name.**

Lord's Prayer

Hymnal p. 35

*2nd-grade children or younger may depart for Children's
Worship and Wonder in the Ministry Center*

Anthem

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

Alexander/Holden-Holloway

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 21:1-19

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

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

*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 721 *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

Gabaráin

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Ruth Ann Pinkman and Beth Foley to the glory of God and in honor of Ruth Waters on her 90th birthday.

The flowers in the Narthex this morning are in remembrance of Hattie Lane Guion May (wife of Cecil D. May) and Vicky Vendrell (wife of Haywood May) who were laid to rest in the Memorial Garden on Friday, April 29th. The flowers are given with love and warm memories from nieces Nancy Patterson Smith and Sally Patterson Jaggard and their respective families.

We celebrate the 90th birthday of Betty Jean Rowe on May 4.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

OUR STAFF

Anna Pinckney Straight
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Louis Foye
Sexton

Response

Amen

Schubert

Benediction

Postlude

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Anna Laura Page

Liturgist: The Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: members of the Daybreak and Sanctuary Choirs

Cover Art: From the fifth century the two events depicted here were sometimes conflated. At Caesarea Philippi, Christ addresses his disciples and says to Peter: 'I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven.' After the Resurrection he appears to seven of the disciples at the sea of Tiberias and charges Peter: 'Feed my sheep.' These two texts from the Gospels were the most important scriptural justifications of papal authority. They emphasize that Christ selected Peter as the foundation stone of the Church and demonstrate his pre-eminence among the Apostles. Here, Christ gestures with one hand towards the flock of sheep and with the other to the kneeling figure of Peter, at the head of the solid phalanx of Apostles. The focal point of this dramatic composition is Christ's pointing finger, which invests Peter with leadership of the Church. The Raphael Cartoons were commissioned by Pope Leo X in 1515 and are among the greatest treasures of the High Renaissance. Painted by Raphael (1483-1520) and his assistants, they are full-scale designs for tapestries that were made to cover the lower walls of the Vatican's Sistine Chapel. The tapestries depict the Acts of St Peter and St Paul, the founders of the early Christian Church.

© Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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

*Youth Group for Grades 6-12
in the Session House*

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

May 1: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm:
Faith Stories and Games

May 8: NO YOUTH GROUP
(Mother's Day)

End of Year Party for SALT and JOY
(Grades 3-12) **May 22: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**
Cookout on the Lawn and
Slip n Slide Kickball

May 15: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm:
Creation Care: Preschool Planter Project

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 is 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 Today: 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).

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).

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, **May 22**, 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!

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, 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.

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 is provided. Classes meet on Mondays at 10:00 am and Saturdays at 9:00 am. Contact Gene Peele (gpeelee@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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Photo Directory Updates – May 1 and 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 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 – Today, May 1, 2022

Never Enough: The Neuroscience and Experience of Addiction is the title of the Rothermel Foundation lecture to be held on **Today, 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 – Today, May 1, 2022

A community forum on environmental stewardship will be held **Today 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.

Spring Ring – May 4, 2022 (following the 5:00 pm Fellowship Dinner)

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 for summer camp scholarships in the Session House with outside activities on the lawn. Menu is pulled Pork BBQ, grilled chicken with BBQ dipping sauce, stewed potatoes, green beans, slaw, corn bread, and brownies. \$10 per plate.

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.

Presbyterian Women Luncheon – June 7, 2022

Presbyterian Women circles will be celebrating a wonderful year of Bible study and fellowship with a year-end luncheon at New Bern Golf and Country Club on Tuesday, June 7 at noon. The cost for the luncheon is \$20, paid in advance, deadline June 1. Checks can be made out to Presbyterian Women and given to your circle leader or left in the PW box in the workroom of the Ministry Center. Our luncheon is the time we install new officers and present an Honorary Life Membership to one of our members. All women of the church are invited, and we always have a good time.



**First
Presbyterian
Church**

New Bern, North Carolina

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*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.*