



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Established 1817

8 May 2022

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

Prayer of Preparation

God, the encourager, God, the compassionate,

God, the merciful, holy, blessed:

Disturb us. Rouse us from our sleep.

Lift us into consciousness of your presence.

Change us, move us, mold us for the better;

so that, at the sound of your voice,

at the call of our name,

we will never be the same.

May our worship do this and so much more,

in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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

If you would like to **FIND OUT MORE** about First Presbyterian Church, please contact anna@firstpresnb.org. Our next new member classes will be on June 12 and 19.

Visit the website!
www.firstpresnb.org



Welcome

The Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* A. Jordan

Introit *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Baker

***Call to Worship** from Revelation 7

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count,

from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and the Lamb,

And the angels sang:

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

***Hymn 610** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*
Wesley/Gläser

Litany of Reconciliation from 1 Peter 2

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus

Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

But you are God's own people in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian 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 am)

The Rev. Catherine Campbell

Lord's Prayer

Hymnal p. 35

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

Anthem

In Perfect Peace

Isaiah 26: 3-4, 8-9a

Sue Jones, soloist; combined choirs K. Lee Scott

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 10:22-30

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

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

The photograph on the cover was taken in Israel in 2012 by photographer Tal King. Used with permission.

MASKS are now optional for worship and church activities.

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

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and **HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** 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 announcements and/or the newsletter, please contact cathy@firstpresnb.org.

The prayer of preparation is from the Worship Ways website of the United Church of Christ ©2020.

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

*Affirmation of Faith

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*Hymn 801 *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

Scottish Psalter/Irvine

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Hal & Marilyn Vandersea to the glory of God and in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Dykstra and Mr. and Mrs. Mark Vandersea.

The congregation rejoices with Jud and Rose McAden on the birth of their daughter Charlotte "Lottie" Valerie McAden, on April 29. Proud grandparents are Mike and Kristie McAden, and great-grandparents Rufus and Nancy McAden.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (8:30 am)

Response

Amen

Schubert

Benediction

Postlude

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Boyles

Music Note: Today's anthem, *In Perfect Peace*, was commissioned in 2020 by First Presbyterian Church in celebration of Pat Kerr Rowlett's 40 years as Director of Music.

Liturgist: The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: members of the Daybreak and Sanctuary Choirs

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

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.

OUR STAFF

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

Maren Sonstegard-Spray
Associate Pastor
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Lloyd Griffith
Parish Associate
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Catherine Campbell
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Pat K. Rowlett
Director of Music
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Vance Harper Jones
Organist

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Summer Hough
Financial Administrator
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Louis Foye
Sexton

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 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 following our child safety policy.

Stroller Yoga

On **Thursday mornings April 28 - May 19**, at 9:00 am on the church lawn, 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.

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. The class will begin a new study “Partners in a New Creation” on June 5.

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, at cathy@firstpresnb.org.

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, Cathy Wingfield, or Wendy Moeller.

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 they love dies. All are welcome. Come and bring a friend.

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 12 to 1 pm in the Chapel. All are welcome.

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).

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 - 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.

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.

SERVICE AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Friends of Camp Workdays – May 14 and May 28, 2022, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Summer camp is just around the corner for Camp Albemarle, and we need your help to prepare! There is much to be done and there is a role for everyone. You can sign up at: <https://campalbemarle.org/events/> Lunch is provided!

RCS Donations Needed

RCS is looking for toiletry items: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, Q-tips, small Kleenex packs, small feminine hygiene packs, shower poofs, and hairbrushes. You can take donations to RCS or bring them to First Pres!



**First
Presbyterian
Church**

New Bern, North Carolina

*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.*