



*Stained glass window in Agnes Scott College's Mary West Thatcher Chapel  
Installed and dedicated in 1990, a gift of the Agnes Scott College class of 1952*

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

A Service of Installation for  
The Reverend Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight  
as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church  
New Bern, North Carolina  
By the Presbytery of New Hope  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

August 29, 2021  
4:00 P.M.



## Chiming of the Trinity

**Prelude**                      *God of Grace and God of Glory*                      Schultz

**Introit**                      *Come Sing, Oh Church, in Joy!*                      Dill/Darwall

**Words of Grace and Welcome**                      The. Rev. A. Vanessa Hawkins

**\*Call to Worship, Psalm 100**                      The. Rev. A. Vanessa Hawkins

One: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the lands!

**All: Serve the LORD with gladness!**

**Come into his presence with singing!**

One: Know that the LORD is God!

**All: It is he that made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!

**All: Give thanks to him, bless his name!**

One: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,

**All: and his faithfulness to all generations.**

**Let us Worship God!**

**Call to Confession**                      The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

**Prayer of Confession**                      The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

**Mighty and merciful God,**

**You have called us to be your people.**

**You have claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ.**

**We confess that we have not lived up to our calling.**

**Too often we are lackluster disciples,**

**Too worried, busy, distracted, or afraid.**

**Forgive us, and meet us once again-**

**at supper tables and in carpools,**

**classrooms and conference rooms,**

**food pantries and FEMA phone calls.**

**Meet us and remind us that we are yours, for with you**

**we can be courageous, and do difficult things.**

**With you, you who creates, redeems, and sustains all life,  
this we pray, Amen**

**Assurance of Pardon**

The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

**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.’”**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Ms. Margaret Allan Pinckney

**Hebrew Bible Reading**

Psalm 107: 1-9

Ms. Margaret Allan Pinckney

**Greek Bible Reading**

Mark 10: 17-31

The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston

**Sermon**

*God's Good People*

The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston

**Anthem**

*Be Thou My Vision*

arr. Alice Parker

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

The Rev. David Fuentes

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Introduction and Statement of Purpose**      The Rev. Dr. Joe Sandoval

**Constitutional Questions to the Candidate**      Dr. Wendy Moeller

Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Will you be a faithful teaching elder, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people?

Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**Constitutional Questions to the Congregation**      Dr. Hal Vandersea

Do we, the members of the church, accept Anna as our pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for her, encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is the Head of the Church? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay her fairly and provide for her welfare as she works among us; to stand by her in trouble and share her joys? Will we listen to the word she preaches, welcome her pastoral care, and honor her authority as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? **We do and we will.**

**Prayer of Installation**      The Rev. Robert Johnson

**Declaration of Installation**      The Rev. Dr. Joe Sandoval

**Charge to the Pastor**      The Rev. Dr. Chris Tuttle

**Charge to the Congregation**      Mr. & Mrs. Jim and Laura Baxley  
Drs. Jamie and Anne Bryan

**\*Hymn 307**      *God of Grace and God of Glory*      Fosdick/Hughes

**\*Charge & Blessing**      The Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

**Postlude**      *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*      Whitford

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**Worship Leadership**

The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray, Associate Pastor

Vance Harper Jones, Organist

Cindy Sutton, pianist

Pat Kerr Rowlett, Director of Music

Members of the Daybreak Choir, Resurrection Singers, and Sanctuary Choir

## **The Installation Commission**

Mr. & Mrs. Jim and Laura Baxley  
Drs. Jamie and Anne Bryan  
University Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill

The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston  
Charlotte Presbytery

The Rev. David Fuentes  
West New Bern Presbyterian Church, New Bern

The. Rev. A. Vanessa Hawkins  
Presbytery of New Hope

The Rev. Robert Johnson  
Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, New Bern

Dr. Wendy Moeller  
First Presbyterian Church, New Bern

Ms. Margaret Allan Pinckney  
Second Presbyterian Church, Charleston, South Carolina

The Rev. Dr. Joe Sandoval  
First Presbyterian Church, Roanoke Rapids

The Rev. Dr. Chris Tuttle  
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Durham

Dr. Hal Vandersea  
First Presbyterian Church, New Bern

*Baskets marked for offering are at each exit. All offerings made in response to this afternoon's service will go to New Hope Presbytery's Commission on Ministry's Ministers' Assistance Fund. Thank you!*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Trisha Smith to the glory of God and in memory of her husband, Master Sgt. Raymond J. Smith, and her friend Miriam Hurley.*

*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.*

