



First Presbyterian Church

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA

5th Sunday after Pentecost
June 23, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Kumbaya

VBS Kids

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise God as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have being.

Let give the glory to God

Hymn of Worship*

#293

This is My Father's World

Prayer of Adoration

O God of glory and majesty, we come singing
your praise as our Creator. All creation cries
out your astonishing gifts to us: the green
lushness of forest, the many blues that greet us
in sky and water, the depth of a red rose, the
orange and yellow of the daylilies. All the colors
of the universe sing your praise, O Creator.

Amen

Call to Repentance and Prayer of Confession

Do we trust God or ourselves?

When we confess our sin, we show that we trust

God who is ready to forgive and renew.

Come let us bring our confessions to God.

**Merciful God, you have offered us the amazing
gift of your friendship in Jesus. We confess that
we are lousy friends; we snub your love and
ignore your pleas to help the poor, the lonely,
the hungry and the stranger. You call us to
work beside you but we find ready excuses.
Forgive us, O God, for our inability to fully
respond to your grace. Help us to become
imitators of Christ, steadfast in affliction and
full of the joy of the Holy Spirit.**

(silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

God will not leave us, nor turn from pursuing us.

Where we go, God already is.

Where we dwell God dwells.

We are God's people.

God will be God, ever faithful.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

The Peace of the Lord be with You!

And also with you.

(As we pass the peace, the children will gather with Loida at
the baptismal font for the Children's message and then go to
children's church.)

Sung Response to Begin Children's Blessing

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes Jesus loves me

Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Special Music

VBS Kids

His Banner Over Me Is Love

Children's Blessing

Loida P. Slate, PhD

New Testament Reading

Philippians 4:4-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm* 8

Read Responsively Standing

**O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.**
Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.
**When I look at your heavens, the work of your
fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have
established;
what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor.**
You have given them dominion over the works of
your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
**O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
(Sung) Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Ruth 1:1-19

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Jones Johnson

Friendship with God

Song of Response*

#267

All Things Bright and Beautiful

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.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which 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, The power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering and Offertory

Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone

Tomlin

Valerie Parker, soprano

The offering plate will be passed at this time, or you may
text Granite to 73256 to give online.

Doxology*

(#592 in the hymnal)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn* Walk in the Light

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
Come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright,
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

All ye saints of light proclaim,
Jesus, the Light of the world,
Life and mercy is His name,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
Come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright,
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

Come, confess Him as your King
Jesus, the Light of the world,
Then the bells of heav'n will ring,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
Come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright,
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

Benediction*

Chiming of the Trinity and Postlude

*Please stand where indicated if you are able

Birthdays: Lori Stout (6/29)

Anniversaries: None this week

Prayer List: Cason McMillian, Kevin Dodd, Sheila Gifford, Larry Watson, Ann Yokeley, Jordan Tucker, Bill and Jane Rountree, Jean Arrington, Kathryn Benfer,

Wendy Byrd, Mariah Tate, Katherine Heath, Tim Long,
Aria Stevenson

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Bob and Kathy Moody in honor of the birth of their grandson, Robert Bowen Moody, who was born on June 11th to Wade and Marie Moody. "Bowen" weighed 9 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20.5 inches long at birth. Congratulations to the Moody family!

Welcome to our Visitors! We are so glad you have joined us in worship today. Please take a moment to fill out one of the visitor cards found at the entrances, and drop them in the offering plates before you leave. If you are interested in membership at First Presbyterian Church, please let one of our worship leaders know or reach out to our church office.

Here are a few notes: The audio from the service can be heard in the foyer through the double doors outside the sanctuary. Nursing mothers are welcome to listen to the service in the parlor. Bathrooms can be found through the foyer on the first doors to your left.

Please be aware that in our efforts to include those unable to worship in person, we live stream worship via Facebook. We also occasionally take photos during our services and events. If you have questions or concerns, please contact a member of our staff.

Transition Team News: Our women's fellowship group will host a cottage meeting today immediately following worship in the fellowship hall. Lunch will be provided. Please come and join in the discussion about the direction you are hoping the church will take in looking for a new pastor.

Outdoor worship service and covered dish lunch, next Sunday June 30th: We will once again hold our annual outdoor worship service June 30th at 10am in the upper parking lot. This will be a patriotic themed worship service, followed by a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall. Please remember to bring portable folding chairs. All are welcome!

Financial Report: In May, our total income came to \$9,667, while our total expenses came to \$13,895. We have received \$75,483 in pledged giving for the year, which is 56% of our total pledges. We have received \$49,000 in pledges for the "Close the Gap Campaign" that the session has launched in order to fulfill the budget/pledge gap for 2024. We are only \$11,000 away from the goal of \$60,000! As we enter the summer months and attendance may go down as more people travel, please remember to keep your giving current. One way to easily do this is to set up automatic giving through Realm. Please reach out to the church office if you need any help setting this up.

Counseling Volunteer Opportunity: The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery partnered with the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board is offering a series of recovery coach counseling sessions this summer. The training will take place at Surry Community College over several dates in June, July and August. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jamie Edwards at 336-401-8218.

Beacons Ministry: We will be meeting tonight from 5-7pm in the scout hut for our usual time of bible study and fellowship.

Lunchtime Bible Study, Tuesdays at Noon: Bring a lunch if you'd like as we discuss what both scholarship and our hearts tell us as we study God's word.

Congregational Care and Outreach: Deacon Kim Branch is participating in congregational outreach by sending birthday, anniversary, and care cards to members and friends on our prayer list. Please contact her if you have someone in particular that you would like to have a card sent to on behalf of the church. Email krhbtexan@yahoo.com or call 336-401-0733.

Support Our Area Charities: Baskets are located in the foyer for donations of non-perishable food items.

Helping Hands also accepts paper products and toiletries.

Special requests for the month of June are:

Yokefellow: Canned/powdered milk; mac and cheese

Shepherd's House: Latex gloves- all sizes

Helping Hands: Non perishable food items, paper products and toiletries



The Ministers: The Congregation

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Fritz Ritsch

Office Administrator and Music Director: Anna Bush

Pianist: Jane Tesh

Director of Youth and Children's Discipleship:

Loida P. Slate, PhD

Director of First Steps: Mary Alice Leonard

Members of the Session

Clerk of the Session: Bob Keck

Elders

Class of 2024:

Steve Yokeley

Lydia Taylor

David Rives

Gene Rees

Anna Peterson

Class of 2025:

Kelley Jackson

Laura East

Jane Tesh

Class of 2026:

Carla Majure

Blanton Youell

Derek Higgs

Bob Moody

Deacons

Kim Branch Bettsee McPhail