

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

Presbyterian Women Bake Sale: March 10, 9-11 a.m., purchase great food and support the missions projects of the PW.

4+4+4 LENTEN WEDNESDAY NIGHT GATHERINGS

4 Great Meals + 4 Enlightening Programs + 4 Wednesdays!!!
Dinner at 5:30, Speaker from 6:15-7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
First Kidz will meet in the Fellowship Hall for dinner and then dismiss for singing and Bible study.
MARCH 14: Meal by Barbara Yarbrough and Team: Speaker TBA
MARCH 28: Stations of the Cross; Meal by the Henderlite Class

LENTEN COFFEE
10:30-11:00 A.M.

SUNDAY MORNINGS, FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 18

MEMORIAL GALLERY

A CELEBRATION OF BOTH SERVICES

PLEASE GATHER FOR FELLOWSHIP AND CONNECTION!

Wednesday Noon Worship During Lent

The bus will leave the chapel side of our church for each Lenten service at 11:30 a.m. Cost for lunch is \$6.00.

03/07: Location: First ARP; Speaker: not yet confirmed

03/14: Location: St. Michael Catholic; Speaker: Jason Dampier from Holy Trinity Lutheran

03/14: Location: First Baptist; Speaker: Gary Butterworth from All Saints Episcopal

THIS WEEK AT FPC ([see our website calendar for a full list](#)):

Sunday: Communion at both services

9:00 a.m. Thrive (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

5:00 p.m. Faith & Fiction (Covenant Village)

5:30 p.m. Mid High Youth (PAD)

Monday: 1:00 p.m. Pastoral Care Team (Session Room)

Tuesday: 11:30 a.m. Staff Lunch (off site)

6:30 p.m. TED Talks Small Group (Library)

7:00 p.m. Thrive Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday: 7:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Breakfast (PAD)

10:00 a.m. Sewing Ministry (Sewing Room)

5:30 p.m. First Kids (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 p.m. Wee Sing (Room #208)

5:35 p.m. Handbells (Sanctuary)

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday: 7:00 a.m. Bibles and Biscuits

8:30 a.m. Yoga (Narthex)

10:00 a.m. Prayer Beads Small Group (Parlor)

10:00 a.m. Backpack Program (PAD)

Saturday: 9:00-11:00 a.m. PW Bake Sale (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday: 10:00-11:00 a.m. Women's Sunday

WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church - where faith is alive! Your presence here is our honor and joy. We pray that your heart is encouraged, that the Word is clear, and that you go from this place renewed and refreshed - in search of an ever deeper connection with our awesome God! If you would like more information about First Presbyterian Church, please sign the welcome forms in your pew or stop by the welcome table.

PROFESSIONAL NURSERY CARE is offered for infants and children up to five years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Worship activity boards and age-appropriate books related to the scripture lesson are available in the Narthex near the entrance to the Sanctuary. We also have Children's Church every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of each month. Children's Church is a worship experience designed especially for children (kindergarten through grade 3). It begins after A Time for Young Disciples in the worship service and meets in the Shalom Room located in the lower level of the Sanctuary building.

Leading worship today are:

Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr., Senior Minister;

Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore, Associate Minister;

Pastor John H. Stanley, Minister of Visitation;

Bethany Jennings, Director of Music Ministries;

David Jennings, Organist

Sanctuary Choir

Anthem Text

*My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
Oh who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?*

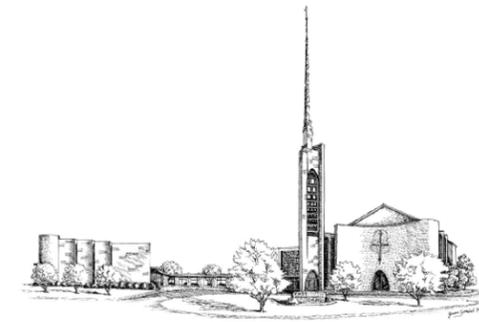
*Sometimes they strew His way, and His sweet praises sing, resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.*

*Then, "Crucify!" is all their breath and for His death they thirst and cry.
Why, what hath my Lord done to cause this rage and spite?*

*He gave the blind their sight
What injuries, the Lord so cruelly dies.
Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine;
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like Thine!
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days will gladly spend.
My song is love unknown.*

All FPC worship services are streamed live on our website.

www.fpcgastonia.org/watchlive



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

March 4, 2018

3rd Sunday in Lent

11:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

CARILLON PEAL

Please enter to worship in a spirit of reverence.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Lauren S. Vanacore

AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION

Come, Thou Almighty King

ANNA LAURA PAGE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a
time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach
them.

**O God, You are a hiding-place for me; you preserve me from
trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.**

(Ps. 32:1-2, 6-7)

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN #2

Come, Thou Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

WE APPROACH GOD

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Merciful God, forgive us in our turning away from You. Forgive us for our putting You on hold during our busy work week, while we live our lives without You. Forgive us when we make You a Sunday God, instead of the Lord of our Lives. In the places we say that we don't have time for You, remind us that we seem to make time for more work, more play, more projects, and more distractions. We remember how to call out Your name when we're in trouble, but expect immediate and effortless solutions. Dear Lord, forgive us and make us whole. Help us remember that we cannot feed Your sheep, unless we are first nourished by You. Help us love You more, honor You more, and serve You more, as we make our prayer in Jesus name...(silent confession)...Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI #581

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

My Song is Love Unknown

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

John 2:13-25

pew Bible, New Testament pg. 34

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.

"When Only a Good House-Cleaning Will Do"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

PASTOR JOHN H. STANLEY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

OFFERTORY

Love Unknown

REBECCA TE VELDE

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #708

We Give Thee but Thine Own

SCHUMANN

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CHORAL AMEN

The Congregation is asked to remain standing.

†ORGAN POSTLUDE

Fanfare in D

CS Lang

†If you are able, please stand.

We will have one service next Sunday, March 11.
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Celebrating the Gifts of Women and Girl Scout Sunday

Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday.
Set clocks forward.