

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday

11:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER FOR GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Please use this time to silently prepare for worship.

PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

"Lord, Thy Word Abideth"

C.S. Lang

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Brad Simpson

People of every tribe, race, and place of origin, God calls us here.

With one voice, let us worship God together!

Old and young, God calls us here.

With one voice, let us worship God together!

Rich and poor, God calls us here.

With one voice, let us worship God together!

Mature and new to the faith, God calls us here.

With one voice, let us worship God together!

In need of healing, searching for direction, praying for companionship, God calls us here.

With one voice, let us worship God together!

Come together, those who follow Christ, for God calls us here.

With one voice, let us worship God together!

†HYMN #649

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

AMAZING GRACE

Today's opening hymn was chosen by this year's Confirmands.

WE PREPARE FOR AND HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

John 15:12-17

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

SERMON SERIES

Responding to the Resurrection

MEDITATION

"The Fruits of Friendship"

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

†HYMN #465

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

CONVERSE

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF OLIVIA WYNN FARRIS

Wynn is the daughter of Jami and Bryan Farris. The elder presenting her on behalf of the session is Julie Craig.

BAPTISMAL VOWS

PROFESSION OF FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's 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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM

PRAYER

BLESSING

WELCOME

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Olivia Wynn Farris into the Body of Christ.

Alleluia! Amen!

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

RECOGNITION OF CONFIRMAND TEACHERS

Josie Conner
Barbara Winkles

RECOGNITION OF CONFIRMAND MENTORS

Julie Craig
Will Current
Heather DuBois
Sarah Levy
Mallary Trogdon
Mike Wallace

PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMANDS

Amelia Buie-Miller
Wynn Farris
Matthew Poag
Anna Robinson
Annabelle Shine
Gavin Voorhees

PROFESSION OF FAITH

COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.

PRAYER

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANNOINTING

WELCOME

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #697 (verses 1 and 6)

“Take My Life”

HENDON

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Tithes and offerings may be presented online at www.fpcgastonia.org/giving or by scanning the QR code on the right.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"If Ye Love Me"

Philip Wilby

†DOXOLOGY #606

†DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God!

When directed by an usher, please come forward to receive communion. If you wish to have communion served to you in the pew, please raise your hand and our servers will come to you.

**Today, our confirmands will assist those serving communion.*

PRAYER OF BLESSING

WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

†SENDING HYMN #306 (verse 1)

"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

DENNIS

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

"Toccata on AMAZING GRACE"

Christopher Pardini

†If you are able, please stand.

WELCOME

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 to receive a gift in gratitude for your presence with us.

NURSERY CARE

Professional nursery care is offered for infants and children up to four years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

PASTORAL STAFF OFFICE HOURS*

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford	Mondays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*
Rev. Brad Simpson	Mondays 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*
Mary Taneti	Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*
Rev. Grady Moseley	By appointment
Jill Kimbirl	By appointment

*Throughout the week, the ministry of the pastoral staff will lead them to meetings at church, beside the hospital bed, homes of members, and elsewhere in the community in order to serve the mission of FPC. Although they are always available by appointment, they will also be available in their offices for unannounced visits during office hours. Be sure to come on by and say hello!

LEADING THRIVE WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford, Rev. Brad Simpson; Mary Taneti; Matt Smith; Thrive Band

LEADING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford, Rev. Brad Simpson; Mary Taneti; Bethany Jennings; David Jennings; Sanctuary Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, May 5, 5:00–7:00 p.m. — Join us for our annual church picnic! We're happy to have TAXCO Mexican Restaurant and Kona Ice catering this year. Scan the QR code for additional details. RSVP is available via the Realm Connect app or by calling the church office.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Monday, May 6, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall — Celebrate PW's birthday with fellowship, lunch, and a message from Anna Dickson, Executive Pastor and Pastor for Congregational Care at First Presbyterian Church Charlotte. Reserve your seat via the Realm Connect App or by calling the church office!

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 19, All Day — On Graduation Sunday, we come together to honor our graduates, celebrating their achievements and send them off with our blessings and support.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FPC GASTONIA,
SCAN THE QR CODE!**



THRIVE

May 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.



WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

†GATHERING SONG
"We Are One"

Wells/Holcomb/Newbell

WELCOME

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Brad Simpson

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mary Taneti

GOSPEL READING
John 15:12-17

SERMON SERIES
Responding to the Resurrection

MEDITATION
"The Fruits of Friendship"

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN OF DEDICATION
"Called As Partners In Christ's Service"

Huber/Zundel

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

†SENDING HYMN (verse 1)
"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

Converse/Scriven

†BLESSING

†If you are able, please stand.