

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

We celebrate communion today by means of intinction. You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free), dip it in the juice, and partake as you are ready, returning to your seat for a time of prayer and contemplation.
Please let an usher know if you need the elements brought to you.

Prayer After Communion

Benediction

Response

Jesus, Remember Me (sung twice) Taize/Berthier
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Postlude

Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, heiliger Geist (BWV 667) J.S. Bach

Liturgist: Patrick Ryan
Musicians: Daybreak and Sanctuary Choirs
Ushers: (8:30 am) Mark Dail, Janelle and Jay Haggard
(11:00 pm) Pat Avery, Bob Little, Nancy Melling, David Stevick

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, 5/19	8:30 am	Worship	5:30 pm	Pickleball
	9:30 am	Fellowship Cafe	5:30 pm	Worship Commission
	9:40 am	Sunday School	6:30 pm	Presbyterian Men
	11:00 am	Worship	Wednesday 12:00 pm	Life of Prayer
	4:00 pm	Calvin & Hops (Brewery 99)	1:00 pm	Lunch Wagon Committee
	5:30 pm	End of Year Party (Birth-Grade 12)	3:30 pm	Welcoming Committee
			5:00 pm	Contemplative Worship
Monday	12:00 pm	Divine Sleep Yoga	Thursday 2:30 pm	Pickleball
	1:30 pm	Knit 4 Others	5:00 pm	Pickleball
Tuesday	10:00 am	Staff Meetings	5:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	2:30 pm	Pickleball	Saturday 10:00 am	Pickleball
	5:00 pm	Pickleball	Sunday, 5/26 8:40 am	Sunday School
	5:30 pm	Care Commission	10:00 am	Worship

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Established 1817

May 19, 2024 – The 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 am & 11:00 am Worship

Building Community ~ Transforming Lives ~ Engaging the World

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.

Words in Preparation for Worship

WELCOME! Members and visitors are invited to sign the Worship Register during the service.

NAME TAGS are available in the narthex and vestibule. Everyone is invited to wear a name tag so we can greet one another by name! For name tag assistance, church@firstpresnb.org

RESTROOMS (including a family restroom) are available in the Ministry Center.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available in the narthex. Ushers are available to help if needed.

CHILDREN are welcome here! The nursery is available for infants, toddlers, and preschool children in Room 1.23 in the Ministry Center from 8:15 am to 12:15 pm.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP AND WONDER follows the Children's Moment during the 11:00 am service; 2nd grade or younger may follow Ms. Kerri to 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.

*Flame-dancing Spirit, come,
Sweep us off our feet and
Dance us through our days.
Surprise us with Your rhythms,
Dare us to try new steps, explore
New patterns and new partnerships;
Release us from old routines
To swing in abandoned joy
And fearful adventure.
And in the intervals,
Rest us,
In Your still center.
Amen.*

Welcome

The Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude

Processional

William Mathias

Introit

Spirit of the Living God

Iverson/arr. McCord

*Call to Worship

God of wind and fire,
When you send your Spirit, we are created anew.

God of mighty oceans and still waters,
When we receive your baptism, we are born anew.

God of bread and cup,
When we eat at your table, we are nourished anew.

So pour out your Spirit
May our hearts and our hands be open wide to receive your gifts.

Let us worship God!

Sunday, May 26

through

Sunday, September 1

One Worship Service at 10:00am

in person and streamed live

Adult Sunday School from 8:40am-9:40am

Childcare available in the nursery from 8:30am-11:15am



Ezekiel 37:1-10

¹ The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.



Give to First Presbyterian Church, New Bern

*Hymn 289

On Pentecost They Gathered

Huber/169

Reception of the 2024 Confirmation Class

Katelyn Bryan, Ben Copland, Bailey Donlin, Mara Edmister, Marshall Hinckley, Lily Huber, Nathan Huber, James Mattocks, Haddie Perdue, Callie Restelli, Sarah Restelli, and Josie Wilson

Children's Moment

Catherine Campbell

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Bible Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Old Testament pg. 806

Sermon

Not God's First Rodeo Anna Pinckney Straight
(after the sermon we pause for a time of silent reflection)

*Affirmation of Faith

from the Statements of Faith of the Confirmation Class

Our journey through life is like a map guiding us to do God's will, even when we're uncertain at times. If you venture off of the map, you may become lost or frightened. Having faith helps us find our way. I see God every day in the sunrises, sunsets, and many other things. Many people see God all of the time and do not realize it until later, or not at all. But, still I believe that God is always watching over us. God has a plan for you in life no matter what. God is your rock, your friend, God is absolutely everything you dream about and more.

There is a whole world within the Bible, a world that I want to be a part of. Jesus Christ came to this earth with a purpose just like me. Jesus came to teach others the good news of God's kingdom and Word.

The Holy Spirit, being more complex, can function like a conscience within me that pushes me to be mindful and vigilant. Whenever I hear a voice in my head, I believe it's the Holy Spirit trying to talk to me, and I trust that voice. I know I can rely on that voice trying to help me — to give me ideas, choices, thoughts, and feelings.

I believe that my faith may change, but my belief in God will always remain. I am still growing in faith, but I know that God has a plan for me and that it is good.

*Hymn 286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Hatch/Jackson

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

On Emmaus' Journey

Stuempfle/Ferguson

*Doxology

Hymn 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Our Staff

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The words in preparation for worship were written by Ann Lewin.

The Call to Worship written by Joanna Harader and posted on spaciousfaith.com.

The communion liturgy is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1* © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of our 65th wedding anniversary by Terry and Charlotte Richardson.

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. At the beginning of time, your Spirit moved upon the waters of chaos as you called forth land and sea, mountain and valley, desert and tundra, jungle and grassy plain. Your Spirit went before Moses and the Hebrew children, a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, leading them through the wilderness. Your Spirit roused the hearts of the prophets who proclaimed your judgment upon the nations and called for repentance among your people. For these mighty acts of your Holy Spirit, we praise you and join in the eternal hymn of all the angels and saints who sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, indeed, and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son. By your Spirit you anointed him to bring good news to the poor and to proclaim release to the captives. By your Spirit, Jesus confronted the demons of oppression. In your Spirit he rejoiced as his disciples did great work in his name. At his death on the cross Jesus yielded up his spirit to you, and by the Holy Spirit you raised him from the dead. This same enlightening, empowering, enlivening Spirit Jesus promised to all who keep his commandment to love as he has loved. Therefore, in remembrance of the mighty acts and blessed promises of Jesus, we offer ourselves to you in union with his offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, gathered here out of love for you, and on this bread and this cup. By your Spirit manifest in us the power of your redeeming love that we may be Christ for the world, serving in his name. Through your son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever, and it is in your name that we pray together, ... **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.**