

Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known

Welcome to today's worship service. We are delighted that you are here. If you are visiting, we invite you to join by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by reaffirmation of faith, or by transfer. Please speak to the pastor after the service.

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Music Director
Patricia Taylor	Organist
C.B. Strange	Sound
Nancy Clayton	Liturgist
Barbara Wilkins	Security, side door and offering
Kim Wimer	Greeter

BUDGET UPDATE

	March 31	YTD
Contributions	\$72,044.33	\$121,710.65
Expenditures	\$48,729.76	\$127,972.20
Difference	\$23,314.57	(\$6,261.55)

First Presbyterian Church

April 14, 2024

11 a.m.

In Peace
I will lie down & sleep.



*for you
alone, LORD,
make me
dwell in safety.*

-Psalm 4:8

PsalmsQuotes.com

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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to Noon

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

As you enter the sanctuary please end your conversations and respect those worshippers who seek quiet time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all electronic devices. If you need a hearing assistance device, please request one from the usher. Remaining seated is as worshipful a posture as standing. Please worship in a way that is comfortable for you.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "The Gift of the Holy Spirit" G. Blake

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord hears us when we call: Come, let us put our trust in God. The Lord fills our hearts with gladness: Come, let us sing God's praises with shouts of joy! The Lord grants peace to our weary souls: Come, let us rest by the quiet waters of God's grace.

INVOCATION

Lord of Dawn and Darkness, how grateful we are for your loving mercies. You saw our fear and doubt, our suspicion, our mistrust, and you banished them from our lives, replacing them with hope, peace, love, and joy. You called us to be your witnesses, to all the world, unafraid of what others might think or say about us. We have been invited out of our darkened hideaways, into the light of your world as emissaries of hope and justice, peace and compassion. Be with us, as we participate in ministries of healing and hope through this church, in our community, region, nation, and world. Give us courage and strength to be your disciples in all the circumstances of our lives; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

HYMN "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art" **GTG#624**

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Sam Meadema will give an update on office staffing during morning announcements. Adjustments have been made following Ava Barrett's retirement.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 **Danville Area Choral Arts Society (DACAS)** presents a concert of Disney songs for all ages, with DACAS Ringers and DACAS Children's Choir. 3 p.m. at St. Lukes Methodist Church. Members of FPC-Danville are participating.

MONDAY, APRIL 15 **Christian Education** committee meets at 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 **Youth Group** meets at 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 **Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in Westminster Classroom

FRIDAY, APRIL 19 The **Averett University Symphonic Band** will perform a spring concert. This program will include a full band fanfare, Holst's "Suite in E Flat," Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium," a student-led suite of Shaker tunes, and a Michael Jackson pop medley. 7:00 pm, Pritchett Auditorium at Averett.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 **Men's Group** meets at 8:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 The annual **Low Country Boil**. Tickets are \$9. Sign-up sheets are in the sanctuary windows and should be turned in by Thursday, April 25 as an accurate head count is needed for this meal. Payment is due at the door.

List of Session members

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Elizabeth E. Broschart

Class of 2024: Kathy Dolianitis, Brenna Takata*, Barbara Wilkins*, David Swann
Class of 2025: David Clark, Sam Meadema*, Eddie Blount*, Jackie Rochford*
Class of 2026: Randy Brooks, Barry Cutright, Gail Jones*, Kim Wimer

“At Your Mercy Seat”

By Jeremy Johnson, Paul Marino, and Ginger Millermon

Arranged by Lari Goss

From every stormy wind that blows, from every swelling tide of woes,
There is a calm, a sure retreat found beneath the mercy seat.
There is a place where Jesus sheds the oil of gladness on our heads,
A place that all beside more sweet; it is the blood-bought mercy seat.

Refrain: I will come, I will bow down, pour my burdens out at Your feet;
I will come, I will bow down at Your mercy seat.

There is a scene where spirits blend, where friend holds fellowship with friend;
Though sundered far, by faith they meet around the common mercy seat.
Refrain repeats.

There on eagles' wings we soar, and sin and sense molest no more;
And heaven comes our souls to greet while glory crowns the mercy seat.
Refrain repeats.

There is a place of quiet rest at Your mercy seat.

About the Anthem:

This song brings us to the feet of Christ, where we receive unconditional love, forgiveness, peace, and rest. It references a few familiar scripture passages. “There is a place where Jesus sheds the oil of gladness on our heads...” reminds us of Psalm 23:5. “There on eagles' wings we soar” references Isaiah 40:31. “There is a place of quiet rest...” references the hymn “Near to the Heart of God” as well as Psalm 23:2 where we lie down in green pastures beside still waters. The writers remind us that we can always return to Jesus, bringing all our confessions and the problems of our life. He will always pour forgiveness and peace into our souls.

CALL TO CONFESSION

To repent is to turn away from sin and turn toward Christ Jesus.

Scripture promises that when we confess, God hears our cries and wipes away our sin (Acts 3:19).

Trusting in God's promises of new life, let us confess our sins and the sin of this world.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Risen Christ, we are often troubled by our doubts. But you are not troubled by them. You do not require perfect understanding. Instead, you reveal yourself to us again and again that we might come to know you.

Forgive us when our doubts keep us stuck, when fear prevents us from loving all creation as you call us to do.

Help us to accept the peace you so graciously offer to us. Have mercy on us when we hoard or hide it, when we fail to offer it to others.

Renew us and make us whole that in this world of strife we may be bearers of your peace. In resurrection hope we pray our silent prayers of confession:

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are” (1 John 3:1).

Children of God, we are claimed by God, forgiven of our sins, and set free for love.

Alleluia! Amen

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us, the children of God, stand and greet each other with cupped hands filled with God's blessings and remain standing for the “Gloria Patri”.

RESPONSE*“Gloria Patri”*

*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. Amen.*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of great gifts: This morning we give you praise, we give you glory, we give you thanks! With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come! Amen.

OFFERTORY*“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”* Spiritual—arr. Berry**DOXOLOGY**

*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*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**ANTHEM***“At Your Mercy Seat”*

Johnson, Marino, Millermon/arr. Goss

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Redeeming God, as we hear your Word spoken to us, open our eyes to see the risen Christ, open our ears to hear the good news of his salvation for all the world, and open our minds to understand the mysteries of your love. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 4

SERMON*“Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep”***RESPONSE TO THE 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.

HYMN*“O God Be Gracious Unto Me”***GTG#776****POSTLUDE***“Blessed Assurance”*

arr. J. Denton

BENEDICTION