

First Presbyterian Church

February 2, 2025

11:00 am

Lewis Preaching Series Sunday



Missional Priorities

Spirit-Centered Discipleship
Hands-on Local Mission

Friendships Across Differences
Embracing the Unchurched

Worship of the Living God

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Teresa de Freitas

What Is the World Like
arr. Teresa de Freitas

Bell Tower Ringers

Jubilation Fanfare
Sandra Eithun

Welcome

Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

* Call to Worship

(Hebrews 12:28)

Since we receive a kingdom
which cannot be shaken,
let us show gratitude.
Let us offer to God pleasing service.
Let us offer acceptable worship
with reverence and awe.
Let us worship God together!

* Hymn 511

Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven

* Confession of Sin

**Gracious God, we so often
miss your kingdom at work among us.
Captivated by power and prestige,
we overlook the seeds you have planted,
which are growing all around us.
Forgive us for failing to notice
where and how you are at work.
Forgive us when we work against you—
fostering divisions when you have called us
to a ministry of reconciliation;
building walls to keep people out
when your branches offer generous nests.
Forgive us our faithlessness,
and help us to trust you
and your kingdom.**

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Response 583

Glory to God

***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!***

Proclamation of the Word

Children's Message

Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-9

Introduction of Lewis Preaching Series Preacher

Scripture: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Sermon

Dr. Jill Duffield

Moment for Reflection

Untitled (Prayer of Worship)
Heather Sorenson

Responding to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith

Dr. Randy Kirby
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.**

Prayers of the People

Announcements & Celebrations

Offering

Offertory

Praise Team & Sanctuary Choir

Is He Worthy?
Andrew Peterson

* Hymn 250

Hymn of Promise

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion of the People

"The body of Christ, given for you."

"The blood of Christ, shed for you."

Music during Communion

Jessica Holman Settineri

The Lord's Prayer
Albert Hay Malotte

* Prayer after Communion

Sending to share the Word

* Hymn 771

What Is the World Like
(vv. 1, 2, 3, & 5)

* Benediction

* Benediction Response 820

Nothing Can Trouble (Nada Te Trube)

*Nada te turbe, nada te espante.
Quien a Dios tiene nada le falta.*

*Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.*

Postlude

O God, Our Help In Ages Past

arr. Gordon Young

The living Christ encounters us in the ordinary elements of Communion. Christ extends the invitation to the Lord's Supper and is open to all – believers and doubters, young children and adults, members and non-members. To highlight this gracious welcome, only non-alcoholic juice is served, and gluten-free bread is available. If you would like to refrain from the feast, you may cross your arms, and a blessing will be offered. If you cannot come forward, a minister will serve you in your seat. If you feel so moved to respond, people often reply with “Amen” or “Thanks be to God.”

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

Bold indicates words spoken in unison.

**The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God,
and in honor of Sara and Bob Cook and their generosity and forethought
in establishing the Lewis Preaching Series by First Presbyterian Church.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Gerhard Wolf, Jeanette Lassiter, Betty and Jim Carli, Sandy Lee, Rocky Mead (Chris Mead's father)

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Fred Aggers, Bill Baker, Ann Blankenship, Bob Bruce, Alice Edwards (Tracy Smith's mother), Betty Fellows, Karl Hales, Alex Hales (Karl Hales's son), Scott Hay, Richard Hudson, Tricia Johnson, Vonnie Jordan (Mike Jordan's mother), John Laughlin, Jim Mitchell, Reba Parsons, Frank Saunders, John Smith, Ryan Snyder, Ebbie Whisenant, Sharon Whittington

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays: Maureen Steever, Campbell Aron, ED Cook, Clay Burleson, Joan Horner, John Messinger, Eva Nelson, Jean Wurster

Anniversaries: Wib and Julie Manuel

CHURCH LIFE

MINISTRY FOCUS – DEEPLY ROOTED

Welcome! We welcome all new and returning visitors to First Pres. We are glad you're here and hope you feel God's presence as you worship and fellowship among this community of believers. Children are always welcome in worship. However, if your little one needs some time to wiggle or play, a nursery is available for infants-4 Pre-K. Please see an usher for more information.

Welcome Dr. Jill Duffield! Jill is the senior pastor at First Pres, Greensboro and was the former editor and publisher of the *Presbyterian Outlook*.

Gather Team: God LOVES you! Join us for a Valentine's reception next Sunday, February 9, in the Lewis Hall foyer, from 9:30-10:30. Lemonade and cookies will be served. We can't wait to share God's love with you.

Grow in Friendship: JOY (Just Older Youth) invites the congregation and community to a "Super Sunday Symphony" by the 60 member Lake Norman Orchestra on Sunday, February 9 from 2:00-4:00 in Lewis Hall! They will play a variety of music: patriotic, popular hits, and movie themes. Donations will be appreciated as they are an all volunteer organization.

Grow in Faith: Save the dates for VBS Road Trip 2025! Monday, June 16 - Thursday, June 19, 5:00-7:30 pm each night, including supper. Ages PreK3-5th grades. Children must have finished PreK3. Signups will begin in February. If you can volunteer to help with VBS 2025, please contact the church office!

CORE

Child Protection Training will be held on Sunday, February 9, at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall. If you have not had training in the last three years, please attend this session if you work with our children and youth.

BRANCHING OUT

Day School: Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open for all First Pres members and current Day School families.



Embracing the Unchurched: We are now collecting winter coats for children and adults at RHM. Through February, there will be two red plastic tubs in the lobby outside Lewis Hall where coats will be collected. Thank you!

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Feb 2	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Unified Worship-Sanctuary
	5:00	Lewis Preaching Series Dinner/Program
Feb 3	10:00	MomCo Team
	10:15	PWCT
	11:00	Presbyterian Women's Bible Study
	3:30	Grow in Friendship Team
	5:30	Showing Up Team
	6:00	Youth Team
Feb 4	10:00	Staff
Feb 5	9:00	Yoga, Randy's Bible Study Group
	5:00	Handbells
	5:30	First Kids, Property Team
	7:00	Choir Rehearsal
Feb 6	6:30	LCW Rehearsal
Feb 8	2:00	MomCo Team
Feb 9	8:30	Contemporary Worship-Lewis Hall
	9:45	Sunday School, Child Protection Training, Elder Training
	11:00	Traditional Worship-Sanctuary
	2:00	Lake Norman Orchestra Concert-Lewis Hall

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