

# WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

† Those who are able are invited to stand      **Bold** indicates words spoken in unison

*Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.*

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*An order of worship offers a meaningful and reliable structure for the church's encounter with the living God. Over time, an order of worship helps to shape our faith and faithfulness as the people of God, becoming a pattern for how we live as Christians in the world.*

PRELUDE      Teresa de Freitas  
*Cantabile in D Major*  
arr. Paul Fey

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS      Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

† CALL TO WORSHIP      Rev. Hannah Ostlund  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**  
This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

† HYMN #232      *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

CONFESSION OF SIN  
**Risen Christ, we are often so busy with our lives and the rhythms of each day that we fail to recognize you. It feels all too easy to walk right past you, even in your risen glory. Right our paths, O Lord, and sharpen our awareness of your presence with us. We pray that you fill us each day with the joy of your resurrection, so that we may share this great good news with all whom we meet.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† RESPONSE # 581      *Glory Be to the Father*  
**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.**

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

BAPTISM

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE      Luke 24:1-12, p. 84

ANTHEM      Bell Tower Ringers  
*The Triumph Song of Life*  
arr. Brian Childers

SCRIPTURE      Luke 24:13-16, 30-31, p. 84

SERMON      Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION  
*Christ Arose*  
arr. Carol Tornquist

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH      Rev. Lara Musser Gritter  
*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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  
Sanctuary Choir, Blaine Smith, Trumpet, Barry Sang, French Horn, Deion Walker, Trumpet, Carter Hinton, Trombone, Doug Lawrence, Timpani, Kathy Sang, Piano  
*On the Third Day*  
Allen Pote

† DOXOLOGY #606      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
**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**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 living Christ encounters us in the ordinary elements of Communion. The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended by Christ and is open to all – believers and doubters, young children and adults, members and non-members. To highlight this gracious welcome of all, 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 to you. 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."*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION  
*In Remembrance of Me*  
Ragan Courtney | Buryl Red

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SENDING TO SHARE THE WORD

† HALLELUJAH CHORUS  
*from Messiah*  
G. F. Handel  
All are invited to sing.

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE  
*Toccata*  
*from Symphony No 5, Opus 42*  
Charles-Marie Widor



## Welcome to First Pres

**We are so glad you are here, "Where God's Love is Alive for Mission."**  
Learn more at [www.firstpressalisbury.org](http://www.firstpressalisbury.org) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

**FRIENDSHIP PADS** in your pews are for recording attendance and for visitors to share their information so that we can share about God's work here.  
**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY CLIPBOARDS** are in the narthex.  
**CHILDCARE** (ages 4 and under) is available in the Nursery in our Family Life Center (see an usher for directions).  
**ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES** are available from an usher.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS:** Jennifer Flynn, Marjie Aggers, Wib Manuel, Clay Burleson, Nadine Potts, Marcia Reamer

Acey and Carol Worthy on the birth of their great-grandchild, Aalijah Ray Smith Cervantes. Aalijah's parents are Anissa and Clayton.

Marianna Swaim and her family on the death of her husband, David.

**CONTINUING CONCERNS:** Deborah Alexander, Bill Baker, Betty Carli, Ron Church, Alice Edwards (Tracy Smith's mother), Bill Garraty (Jennifer Hudson's father), Scott Hay, Carter Jenkins, Rosalie Laughlin, Betty Mohs, Reba Parsons, Kelly Potts (David and Nadine Potts' son), Ruth Purser (Kathy Sanborn's mother), Frank Saunders, Jenn Gardner Selby, John Smith, Jeanette Whitley, Acey Worthy

**BIRTHDAYS:** Carol Gamble, Frank Eason, Kyna Grubb, Malcolm Blankenship, III, Lucy Heilig, Meredith Rowland, Jon Nagy, Patton Galloway, Anna Mills Wagoner, Susan Mesimer, Bo Brincefield, Robert Bertram, Emma Myers, Banks Fisher, Olivia Smith, Joanna Musser Gritter, Cindy Coleman

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Kenan and Tracy Smith, Wayne and Becky Sasser

## WE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED

**COMMUNION ELDER:** Steve Coggin

**WORSHIP:** This morning, Russ and Liz Snyder present their daughter, Emma McKay Snyder, for baptism.

**WORSHIP:** This morning, we would like to thank all of our guest musicians for joining us in worship and sharing their wonderful musical talent with us.

**GROW:** First Kids will NOT meet on April 8. We will return on April 15.

**GROW:** Our New Men's Bible Study with Pastor Josh continues each Tuesday at 6:30 am in room 201.

**GROW:** JOY will celebrate spring on Sunday, April 12. Lunch at the Salisbury Country Club, then an afternoon concert with the Salisbury Swing Band, games, vendors, and flowers all in Hurley Park. Bring a chair! Cost: Lunch (no membership required). Seating at lunch is limited. RSVP to the church office soon.

**GROW:** Vacation Bible School 2026 registration is now OPEN! Join us on June 15-18, 5:00-7:30 pm, for a Snowball Mountain Challenge. VBS is open to all children currently in 3K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.



**GROW:** VBS 2026 – It takes a village! We need youth and adult volunteers to help with VBS, June 15-18, 5:00-7:30 pm. Whether you can only help two nights or all five, we need you! Registration is now open for volunteers. For more information, contact Megan Shaw at 704-636-1321.



## WE HAVE A HEALTHY CORE

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Scholarships are available to high school seniors and undergraduate students. For more information, visit the church website. [www.firstpresssalisbury.org/share/#youthministry](http://www.firstpresssalisbury.org/share/#youthministry). Applications are due by April 24.

**MAXWELL CHAMBERS TRUST:** The next semi-annual meeting of MCT will be on Monday, April 20, at 6:00 pm, in Everyman's Bible classroom. We need all current and former Elders to attend for a quorum.

### GIVING UPDATE:

2026 Budgeted Pledges through 3-31-26: \$288,117

2026 Year-to-Date Received: \$264,989

## WE ARE BRANCHING OUT

**SERVE:** Our quarterly Red Cross Blood Drive is set for Tuesday, April 21, 2:00-6:30, in Fellowship Hall. Go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to sign up.

**SERVE:** Yoga! Certified Yoga Instructor, Felicia Stewart Hoyle, leads yoga each Wednesday morning, 9:00-10:15 in Lewis Hall. This class is geared toward beginners through advanced levels, as well as all ages. Suggested donation: \$10.

**MOMCO:** The next meeting of MomCo will be held on Monday, April 13, at 9:30, in the Youth Room. MomCo is a great way for young mothers to find support, mentors, and new friends. Each meeting has a lesson and discussion, crafts, and lots of fellowship. Childcare is provided. Call Bridget Brown for more information.



## Our Staff

**Church Office Hours:**  
M-Th (8-5), F (8-1)  
[cmowery@firstpresssalisbury.org](mailto:cmowery@firstpresssalisbury.org) | 704-636-1321  
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**Zara Huffman**  
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### First Presbyterian Elders

Cathy Adams, Donna Beaver, Maggie Behrooz, John Cave, Steve Coggin, Kia Creamer, Ames Flynn, Margaret Harris, Savannah Lucas, Mindy Muire, Jon Nagy, Barry Sang

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# Service of the Lord's Day



## RESURRECTION OF THE LORD SUNDAY

April 5, 2026  
11:00 am | Sanctuary

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

308 W Fisher St | Salisbury, NC 28144  
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Where God's Love is Alive for Mission