

# 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

*The Lone, Wild Bird*  
arr. Emma Lou Dimmer

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS      Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

† CALL TO WORSHIP      Rev. Hannah Ostlund

*Adapted from Psalm 127*

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
**the builders labor in vain.**  
Unless the Lord watches over the city,  
**the guards stand watch in vain.**  
God builds and guards your life  
**Our lives belong to God. Let us sing to the Lord!**

† HYMN #408      *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

CONFESSION OF SIN  
**You are the God who fights for us. Yet, we long to secure our futures by making a name for ourselves. We build monuments to our desires and strength. We treat you as a decoration for our lives rather than the foundation. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. Dismantle our desire for power. Scatter our security in our own strength. Expand our obedience and deepen our trust in you that we might walk in your will and delight in your ways for the glory of your name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† RESPONSE #288      *Spirit of the Living God*

***Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.***

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE      Cathy Adams

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 11:1-9, p. 8

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-18, 21-24, 32-33, 38-39, p. 111

SERMON      Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*  
Robert Jackson

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH      Rev. Josh 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 & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY      Emma Blackwell and Caroline Forrester, soloists,  
Allyson Rhoades, Cello

*Spirit of the Living God*  
Arr. by Dan Galbraith

† 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. Amen.***

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SENDING TO SHARE THE WORD

† HYMN #280      *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*  
African\_American spiritual



**The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God, and in honor of the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our country, by Guy and LeeAnna Hoskins and family.**

## Welcome to First Pres

### WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

**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:** Jesse Tart, Martha Michael, Wanda Huntley, Anne Saunders

Joyce Ann Spiceland and family on the death of her husband, Jim Spiceland, on May 15.

**CONTINUING CONCERNS:** Marjie Aggers, Deborah Alexander, Preston Askew, Bill Baker, Clay Bureson, Betty Carli, Christie Carter, Ron Church, Ty Cobb, Alice Edwards (Tracy Smith's mother), Luke Fisher, Scott Hay, Carter Jenkins, Rosalie Laughlin, Wib Manuel, Betty Mohs, Reba Parsons, Frank Saunders, Jenn Sebly, John Smith, Jeanette Whitley, Acey Worthy

**BIRTHDAYS:** Zandra Spencer, Vickie Wallace, Keven Settineri, Zane Creamer, Vivian Selby, Carr Nagy, LeeAnna Hoskins, Madeline Gansz, Chanaka Yatawara, Alicia Wilson, Bobby Weant, Frank Adams III, Trent Busby, Savannah Lucas, Mary Greene

**ANNIVERSARIES:** David and Dari Caldwell, Alan and Delaine Fowler

### WE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED

**This morning,** Sherry Bryan was installed as an Elder at the 8:30 service.

**GROW:** Are you in your 20s and 30s? Are you looking for a community of friends in faith? First Pres is excited to be kicking off our Young Adult programming this year, just for you! All Young Adults are invited to join Pastor Hannah in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 am Service on Sunday, May 31, to get to know one another and discuss summer plans! Refreshments will be served.

**GROW:** New Member Class – Have you been visiting with us for a while? Are you interested in learning more about Presbyterians and First Pres? Are you ready to join this family of faith? Then join us for lunch on Sunday, June 7, at 12:30, in the Fellowship Hall. Please let the church office know you will be attending by calling 704-636-1321. Childcare is available if needed.

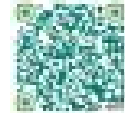
**GROW:** The JOY group is planning a June outing. Lunch at the Lake! Join us on June 11 at Scott and Carol Hay's house at 11:30. (1210 Crane View Road, Salisbury) Drinks are provided. Please bring a side dish, main dish, salad, or dessert to share. We need to limit the number of people to 35, so call the church office soon before space runs out.

**WORSHIP:** Our First Pres Concert Series continues on Sunday, June 14, at 3:00, with a Piano Extravaganza! Get ready to be mesmerized! We are thrilled to welcome three extraordinary pianists for an afternoon of spectacular keyboard artistry: Dr. Lawrence Quinnett, George Mobley, and Dustin Shelton. From soaring Romantic repertoire to fresh and surprising discoveries, this concert promises to be an afternoon of pure musical magic. Refreshments will be served afterward. Childcare is available.

**GROW:** Mark your calendars! This summer (June 14 to August 2), we are excited to be offering a Unified Sunday School opportunity titled "The Arch of Scripture." Together, we will explore the Bible from cover to cover at 30,000 feet and share ways you can engage our Holy text in your daily life. Join us in Fellowship Hall at 9:45.

**WORSHIP:** Unified Summer Worship is fast approaching. Mark your calendars now for Sundays, June 28 - August 2. We will alternate worship spaces beginning in Lewis Hall. Also, we will be worshipping at 10:30 (Sunday School moves to 9:30).

**GROW:** Time is getting close. Register for Vacation Bible School 2026 now! 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 is right around the corner, and we need your 1-gallon clean, empty milk jugs to help with decorations. Also, if you are looking to help but won't be in town, we are asking for Food Lion gift cards to help with dinner costs. Drop off both in the church office.

**GROW:** Summer break! All children's and youth Sunday School, First Kids, and Youth group are now on break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall!

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

### WE HAVE A HEALTHY CORE

**COMMUNICATE:** Have you seen our new bulletin boards in the hallway by Lewis Hall? Stop by to see what's going on at First Pres and in the community. You can also see what the Day School is up to on the bulletin board in the parking lot stairwell. We have a lot happening here! Contact Pastor Hannah when you have items for the bulletin boards.

**GIVING UPDATE:**  
2026 Budgeted Pledges through 05-31-26: \$480,194  
2026 Year-to-Date Received: \$392,678

### WE ARE BRANCHING OUT

**SERVE:** Rowan Helping Ministries' next food donation day is Sunday, June 7. Currently, they need stuffing mix, pasta (penne, egg noodles, or spaghetti), individual snack items, and reusable shopping bags. Please remember to bring in your donations on June 7.

**SERVE:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Cinema continues on Sunday, June 14, at 5:00, in Everyman's Bible Class. The movie, sponsored by our Community Ministries Team, is *Just Mercy*. A 2019 American biographical legal drama film co-written and directed by Destin Daniel Cretton and starring Michael B. Jordan as Bryan Stevenson and Jamie Foxx as Walter McMillian, together with Rob Morgan, Tim Blake Nelson, Rafe Spall, and Brie Larson. It explores the work of Bryan Stevenson, a young defense attorney representing poor black prisoners on death row in the Southern US.

**SERVE:** Yoga! Certified Yoga Instructor, Felicia Stewart Hoyle, leads yoga each Wednesday morning, 9:00-10:15 in Lewis Hall for beginners through advanced levels and for all ages. (No class on July 1, 8, 15, and 22) Suggested donation: \$10.

**SERVE:** It's time to begin signing up to host Rowan-Salisbury School's Summer Meals program here at First Pres. We need 2-3 people daily, Monday-Friday, May 28-July 28, 11:15-12:15. No experience needed. Just come and sit with families while the kids eat. Christine will need a copy of your driver's license. Lunch is free for ALL children up to 18 years old, so bring your kids and grandkids!



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Cover Art: Tree of Babel by Anne Ma



## Service of the Lord's Day

### God's Dysfunctional Family Tree An Incredible Beginning



### DAY OF PENTECOST

May 24, 2026  
11:00 am | Sanctuary

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

308 W Fisher St | Salisbury, NC 28144  
www.firstpresssalisbury.org | 704-636-1321  
Where God's Love is Alive for Mission