

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

Blessed Are They That Mourn

Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Teresa de Freitas

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Hannah Ostlund

Adapted from Psalm 139

Oh Lord, you search us and know us.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You search out our path and our lying down.
You are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on our tongues,
Oh Lord, you know it completely.
You hem us in, behind and before,
And lay your hand upon us.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for us.
Let us worship this wondrous and knowing God.

† HYMN #451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

CONFESSION OF SIN
Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

First Kids

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 139:1-12, p. 545

Glenn Phillips

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:25-34, p. 6

SERMON

Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Carol Tornquist

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.

*This means universal church, not the Roman Catholic church.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

He’s Got the Whole World In His Hands

arr. Wilfried Fischer

PEOPLE OF PROMISE

† 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.

PROMISE MOMENT

Behrooz family

KEEPING OUR PROMISE

† HYMN #838

Standing on the Promises

PROMISE LITANY
Giving God, we offer our gifts and promises to you. They are in response to your transforming love.
They are symbols of our gratitude for your grace, our trust in your faithfulness, and signs of our joyful discipleship.
We give you more than our financial promises.

We give you our whole lives: our energy, intelligence, imagination, and our love.
We give in a spirit of surrender, faith, and joy,
trusting that you will honor our faithfulness, deepen our discipleship, and care for your beloved world. Amen.

SENDING TO SHARE THE WORD

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Powerful Fanfare

Paul Fey



The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Carolyn Cates Hurley, by Katherine Barrett Philpott.

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 ACTIVITIES 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: Bob Lewis, Elayne McCoy, Harold Mesimer, Jean Wurster

Jennifer and Ames Flynn on the birth of their granddaughter, Rora Isabelle Flynn, on October 10. Rora’s parents are Austin and Sophie, and her older brother is Cameron.

CONTINUING CONCERNS: Preston and Glenda Askew, Bill Baker, Betty Carli, Alice Edwards (Tracy Smith’s mother), Scott Hay, Rosalie Laughlin, Wib Manuel, Martha Michael, Frank Saunders, John Smith, Jesse Tart, Linda Thurstom, Jeanette Whitley, Acey Worthy

BIRTHDAYS: Marianna Swaim, Vaughn Nelson, Fran Lescoe, Wendy Weant, Patsy Wilson, Archie Tucker, Duane Galloway, Steve Butler, Kate Burton, Denise McKenzie, Teague Rowland, Dianne Scott, Michelle Cook, Amelia Lucas

ANNIVERSARIES: Keith and Carr Garner, Mike and Julie Fuller

WE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED

CHILDREN:
SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays, 9:45-10:45 in Classroom 206. 3s through 5th grade.

FIRST KIDS: Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00 in Fellowship Hall. Potty-trained 3s through 5th grade. Dinner, Bible lessons, music, crafts, science, and more!

YOUTH:

LIVING THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP: Sundays, 9:45, in Classroom 223. Snacks, Bible study, & fellowship.

GROUP: Sundays, 5:00, in Classroom 223. Snacks, study, & fellowship.

BIBLE STUDY: Wednesdays, 7:30, on the Musser Gritter front porch. Bible, pizza, and fellowship. (117 Maupin Ave)

YOUNG ADULTS:

FRIENDSGIVING: Join Pastor Hannah on Thursday, November 12, at 6:30 in Fellowship Hall for a Friendsgiving dinner. Use the QR Code to RSVP to Pastor Hannah and sign up to bring a side dish or dessert. Deadline: November 2.



ADULTS:

CONCERT: Teresa de Freitas in Concert. As part of Teresa’s doctoral research, she will present a concert. Join us TODAY at 3:00 in the Sanctuary, with pianists Sylvia Krusac and Anna Bossert. Please come out to support Teresa as she nears the completion of her doctoral degree from the Hugh Hodson School of Music, University of Georgia!

LAKE NORMAN ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT: Join us for a concert by the Lake Norman Orchestra on Sunday, November 8, at 2:00 in Lewis Hall. The theme is *Rhapsody*. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to hear beautiful music.

JOY: CHANGE IN TIME! Just Older Youth is headed out for an afternoon of shopping and sights, then dinner at the Bavarian Kitchen in Troutman on Thursday, November 12. We will depart @ 12:30 from the church parking lot. RSVP to the church office. The van will be available; let us know if you need a ride.

NEW MEMBER CLASS: Anyone interested in joining First Pres or learning more about us or being a Presbyterian is invited to our New Member Class on Sunday, November 15, at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Please call the church office if you are interested in attending.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: This year we are changing things up. Join us on Sunday, November 22, after the late service for a sub sandwich lunch and decorating! We need all your hands... children and families are invited too!

TWAM SOUP SUPPER & WORSHIP: Join us on Sunday, November 22, at 5:00 in Lewis Hall for our annual TWAM Soup Supper and Worship. Enjoy a great fall meal of soups, salads, and dessert. After dinner, we will have a brief time of worship. We will accept a free-will donation to help pay for the 2027 TWAM Mexico Mission Trip. Invite your family and friends.

MEN: Bible Study. Tuesdays, 6:30 AM, in Classroom 201 with Pastor Josh.

MOMS: Mom’s Village. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00, in Classroom 223. A time of dinner, fellowship, sharing, and caring. Childcare is available.

YOUNG PARENTS: Devotional Drop-In. Sunday School, Sundays at 9:45, in the Kirby Library. Refreshments, time to connect with other parents, and a chance to reflect on our faith together.

PARENTS: First Parents, 1st Wednesdays, 5:45-6:45, with Pastor Lara. Drop your kids off at First Kids, then enjoy food and fellowship with other parents at Crafty Buffalo.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Join these ladies for Bible Study on the 1st Mondays of the month in Fellowship Hall, now through May. Contact moderator Denise Fink for more information.

YOGA: Wednesdays, 9:15-10:15. Certified instructor. All levels. \$10 suggested donation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays, 9:45-10:45. Various classes. Ask a pastor for class suggestions to find your right fit.

WE HAVE A HEALTHY CORE

GIVING UPDATE:

2026 Budgeted Pledges through 10-31-26: \$960,388

2026 Year-to-Date Received: \$847,974

WE ARE BRANCHING OUT

SERVE:

DAY SCHOOL: Come to the Book Fair! Buy books for loved ones or for the Day School. Christy Godbold, our director, will be in the Children’s Library in the basement level of the Day School, 9:30-12:30 today. Come out and support this vital ministry.

FOOD PANTRY: Rowan Helping Ministries food donation days are the 1st Sundays of each month. They always need peanut butter, cereals, and canned goods. If you cannot make it on the 1st Sunday, drop off your donations anytime at the church office. Next donation day: Sunday, November 1.

ADULTS: Children’s Ministry Needs: Our children need you! Are you able to lend your time on a Sunday morning or for a few hours on Wednesday evening? Have you taken Child Protection Training, or are you willing to do so? We need your help in shepherding the next generation!

First Kids



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: 3 Ways to Share God’s Love!

1. Take a shoebox home, fill it up, and return it to the church by November 9.
 2. Go online and build a shoebox.
 3. Give to First Pres OCC, and the Team will buy the supplies to fill the shoeboxes.
- *Call Del Denny for Volunteer Opportunities

Operation Christmas Child



First Pres Giving



For more information on classes and events, visit our website at www.firstpresssalisbury.org or call the church office at 704-636-1321.

Service of the Lord’s Day

WWJD Sermon on the Mount Series



REFORMATION SUNDAY / PROMISE SUNDAY

October 25, 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