

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

Blessed Are They Who Are Persecuted for Righteousness’ Sake

Roberta Rowland-Raybold

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Hannah Ostlund

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

Welcome to this place, where all is made ready:

Where heaven and earth embrace in peace.

Around the world God’s children gather to break bread and pour wine.

At this table we find God’s love all around,

We hear the tender voice of Jesus.

Welcome to this place, where God has been, is, and always will be.

† HYMN #300

We Are One in the Spirit

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Meredith Honeycutt

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 4:1-13 p. 554

Paula Mead

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:5-15, p. 5

SERMON

Rev. Hannah Ostlund

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Children of the Heavenly Father

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.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROMISE MOMENT

Steve Fisher

Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

Stewbo Adams (6th), Dillin Galloway (12th)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Our Father

Craig Courtney

† 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.

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

Blessed Are They That Hunger and Thirst

Roberta Rowland-Raybold

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING TO SHARE THE WORD

† HYMN #838

Standing on the Promises

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

Paul Fey



The flowers this morning are given by Richard and Lynn Miller to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Lois Simone and other family members.

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: Hurricane Relief Trip Participants, Bob Lewis, Chris LaRoche, Elayne McCoy, Linda Thurston, Harold and Susan Mesimer

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

BIRTHDAYS: Ebbie Lescoe, Susan Sember, Matt Dunkin, Jessica Holman Settineri, Fredna Farris, Chris Mead, Adriane Morris, John Ware, Jeanette Lassiter, David Garwood, Joseph Dufour, Renee Bradshaw, Bree Whittington, Madison Horton, Robert Coleman, Judy Currin, Mary Ellen Kennedy, Del Denny, Nan Fisher, Violet Muñoz, Gayle Yatawara, Troy Creamer

ANNIVERSARIES: Henderson and Callie Lentz, Chad and Charlotte Hoskins, Richard and Barbara Franklin, Drew and Wendy Weant, Austin and Savannah Lucas

WE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED

PRAYER WALKS: Prayer serves as the channel to God; faith is the sustaining trust that carries us forward; hope is the confident expectation rooted in God’s promises; love is the driving force behind all we do; and service is the visible expression of that love in action. Together, these elements form a continuous cycle: prayer strengthens faith, faith nurtures hope, hope deepens love, love inspires service, and service ultimately leads us back into prayer. Prayer is our spiritual foundation. With this in mind, join us for Prayer Walks as we intentionally pray and walk together around First Pres. Mondays now through October 19, at 10:00 AM. Meet Kyna Grubb in the parking lot as she leads the walks.

COMMUNION ELDER: Savannah Lucas

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 at 9:45 AM, in Classroom 223. Snacks, Bible study, & fellowship.

GROUP: Sundays at 5:00 PM. Classroom 223. Snack, study, & fellowship.

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

YOUNG ADULTS:

COFFEE TIME: Saturday, October 10 at 10:00. Coffee at Koco Java (W Innes St) with Pastor Hannah. Coffee, goodies, and fellowship.

THEOLOGY ON TAP: Wednesday, October 21, 6:30-7:30, at New Sarum. Join Pastor Hannah for a little theology, food and drinks, and lots of fellowship.

ADULTS:

MEN: Bible Study. Tuesdays at 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.

BOOK STUDY: A Trevor Eppehimer Book Study. Wednesdays at 11:00. October 7 - November 4. *Am I just my brain?* by Sharon Direkx. Sign up by emailing teppenhimer@hoodseminary.edu. Sponsored by the Messenger-Williams Community Education Initiative. Space is limited. Books are available on Amazon.

CONCERT: Teresa de Freitas in Concert @ Trinity Oaks! Friday, October 9 at 2:00.

JOY: Just Older Youth is planning dinner and a play. Friday, October 16. Dinner at 5:00 at Santos, then to the Piedmont Players’ *Fiddler on the Roof*. Get your own play tickets and let them know you want to sit with JOY. Call the church office to sign up for dinner.

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.

UNIFIED SUNDAY SCHOOL: Each Sunday in October, we remember all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. We are entrusted to steward these gifts through the church, in the community, and through our very being. This giving season, we are inviting the congregation to join us for three unified Sunday School opportunities on the topic of stewardship and its role in your life and in the work of First Pres. Join us!

- Sunday, October 4 - with Pastors Lara and Hannah in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, October 11 - Congregational State of the Church in Lewis Hall (come for food and fellowship)
- Sunday, October 18 - with Pastor Josh and the Give Team in Fellowship Hall

WE HAVE A HEALTHY CORE

GIVING UPDATE:

2026 Budgeted Pledges through 09-30-26: \$864,350

2026 Year-to-Date Received: \$779,124

WE ARE BRANCHING OUT

SERVE:

MAXWELL CHAMBERS TRUST: The biannual meeting of the trust will be held on Monday, October 19, at 6:00, in Everyman’s Bible Class. We need all current and former Elders to attend.

FOOD PANTRY: Rowan Helping Ministries food donation days. 1st Sundays. 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, October 4.

BLOOD DRIVE: Red Cross Blood Drive, Tuesday, October 13, 2:00-6:30, in Fellowship Hall. Sign up now for your appointment.



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!

Children’s Sunday School



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.

Operation Christmas Child



First Pres Giving



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

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Service of the Lord’s Day

WWJD

Sermon on the Mount Series



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 4, 2026

11:00 AM | Sanctuary

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

308 W Fisher St | Salisbury, NC 28144

www.firstpressalisbury.org | 704-636-1321

Where God’s Love is Alive for Mission