WWJD
Sermon on the Mount Series

Worship of the Living God

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Welcome & Greeting — Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

†Call to Worship — Rev. Hannah Ostlund

†Song — *Come Now Is the Time to Worship*
Brian Doerksen

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Forgiveness

†Response — *Glory Be to the Father*
John Stafford

Proclamation of the Word

Special Music — First Kids

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Romans 8:6-11

Scripture: Matthew 7:12-14

Sermon — Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

Moment for Reflection

Responding to the Word

†Affirmation of Faith — Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Offertory — Praise Team
Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly
Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram

†Doxology — *Doxology (Alleluia)*
Chris Cleveland | Thomas Ken

†Prayer of Dedication

Sending to share the Word

†Song — *This Is Amazing Grace*
Jeremy Riddle | Josh Farro

†Benediction

Postlude

†Those who are able are invited to stand.

The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of our parents (grandparents), Paul & Sue Fisher and George & Rita Ennis by Steve & Robin Fisher and their family.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Bill Carter, Myrna Crocker, Marny Hendrick, Scotty Benson (Roxanne Myers's cousin), Mary Ann McCubbin (Cindi Graham's friend), Acey Worthy, Diane Vigil

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Preston and Glenda Askew, Bill Baker, Betty Carli, Alice Edwards (Tracy Smith's mother), Scott Hay, Rosalie Laughlin, Bob Lewis, Elayne McCoy, Harold Mesimer, Martha Michael, Wib Manuel, Frank Saunders, John Smith, Jesse Tart, Bill Troxler, Jeanette Whitley, Jean Wurster

BIRTHDAYS

Barb Bruce, Gordon Hurley, Martha Michael, John Goodman, Stewbo Adams, Marjie Aggers, Randy Chandler, Ben McAreavy, Liza Hoizer, Mike Morris, Maggie Behrooz,Merritt Menees, Lydia Hayes, Dennis McCoy, Ozzie Reynolds

ANNIVERSARY

John and Melissa Harrington, Harold and Susan Mesimer, Mark and Teresa Rufty

Ministry Focus

WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

FRIENDSHIP PADS in your rows 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 back of the room on the Welcome Table.
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.

CHURCH LIFE

Over the last couple of years, the Session of First Pres has been exploring what the next chapter of faithfulness to God might look like. We are in a period of discernment, exploring how our campus supports and potentially limits our ability to live into our current calling. We are considering a short list of capital projects for our campus. We need your input. Below you will find two QR codes. One links to a Vision Statement describing the projects we are considering, and the other links to a survey to share your feedback. Your perspective is essential to our future discernment.

Vision Statement **Survey**

WE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED
EVERYONE:

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Packing Party will be held TODAY, 6:00-7:00, in Fellowship Hall. Bring your family and enjoy pizza, fellowship, and fun while we pack shoe boxes.

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 desserts. 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.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: Join us for a bite of lunch, fellowship, and lots of decorating after the 11:00 service on Sunday, November 22. Bring your family. Many hands make light work.

CHRISTMAS STAR TREE: Help children in Rowan County have a brighter Christmas. Stop by the Star Tree (Sanctuary Narthex or Lewis Hall foyer), choose a star, record your name on the list, and then purchase a $30 gift. Return them to church in a gift bag with the star attached. Do not gift wrap the presents. Deadline to return: December 6.

Ministry Focus

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS: Join us for Advent wreath-making and a children's craft during our annual Countdown to Christmas. Sunday, November 29, 9:45-10:45, in Lewis Hall. Bring your family. No Children's Sunday School that day.

ADVENT GATHERINGS: Stop by for our annual Advent Gatherings, a time for fellowship and snacks in Fellowship Hall. Sundays, November 29, December 6, 13, and 20, 9:15-10:00.

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)

LONGEST NIGHT: Our Longest Night service will be held on Sunday, December 20, at 7:00 pm, in Lewis Hall. This is a service of prayer, music, and reflection.

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.

JOY is looking for volunteers for the Day School's Thanksgiving Tea on Friday, November 20, from 10:00-11:00, in Lewis Hall. Volunteers will assist children with snacks and a craft directed by the teachers. Contact the church office to sign up.

JOY will attend the free Christmas service of Lessons and Carols in Keppel Auditorium at Catawba College on Tuesday, December 1. Meet at 6:00 in the Peeler Crystal Lounge. After the service, they will head to Culver's for dessert. Contact the church office to sign up.

WE HAVE A HEALTHY CORE

GIVING UPDATE:

2026 Budgeted Pledges through 11-30-26: $1,056,427
2026 Year-to-Date Received: $976,466

WE ARE BRANCHING OUT

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 days: Sunday, December 6 and January 3

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

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First Presbyterian Church

Where God's Love is Alive for Mission

November 15, 2026
8:30 AM



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MISSION PRIORITIES

Spirit-Centered Discipleship
Hands-On Local Mission
Friendships Across Differences
Embracing the Unchurched

first pres SALISBURY