



First Presbyterian Church

September 13, 2020

10:00 a.m.

(for those who prefer to remain in their vehicles, an area of Darby Avenue will be marked off)

2101 North Herritage Street
Kinston, NC 28501

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Gathering Around God's Word

Prayer for Preparation

O God who is our strength, you have protected us from those who would seek to oppress us. You have shielded us from those who would seek to destroy the good gifts you have put in us. Your love and power never fail. Thanks and praise to you, our safety and stronghold. We exalt you, O God, majestic in holiness, for there is none like you. Amen.

Music for Meditation

“Voluntary”

John O'Brien, organ
-John Stainer

Greeting and Announcements

Cathy Wooten

*Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-6

Cathy Wooten

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—

One: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

All: who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

One: who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

All: The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

Opening Hymn Duet

Zach Palma and Jordan Snow, soloists

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down.
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you come and help us? Moses’ sister aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior. Tell them that he will be found.
Sisters, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.

Is there here a trembling jailer, seeking grace and filled with fears?
Is there here a weeping Mary pouring forth a flood of tears?
Brethren, join your cries to help them; sisters, let your prayers abound!
Pray, O pray, that holy manna will be scattered all around.

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven; at his table we’ll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

Call to Confession

Cathy Wooten

Prayer of Confession

Cathy Wooten

**Gracious and loving God, you lived for us—we have not lived for you.
You have forgiven us—we have not forgiven others. You have loved us—
we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another. Take pity on
us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us
to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Cathy Wooten

One: People of God, our sins are forgiven. God is merciful and gracious and is
Lord of us all.

**All: Reconciled to the God who loves us, let us live and love through
Christ our Lord.**

Hearing God's Word

Unison Prayer for Illumination

Cathy Wooten

Special Music

“With a Voice of Singing”

Zach Palma and Jordan Snow, soloists

arr. Alice Carpenter

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard,
Alleluia! Declare ye this, Declare ye this, declare ye this,
And let it be heard, Alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth, of the earth.
The Lord hath delivered his people.
The Lord hath delivered his people.
O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
O sing praises to the honour of his name, make his praise to be glorious.
With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard,
Alleluia! Declare ye this, declare ye this, declare ye this,
And let it be heard, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!

Scripture Lessons

Romans 14:1-12

Cathy Wooten

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Matthew 18:21-35

Pastor Travis

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Keeping Score”

Pastor Travis

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith (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 and the Lord's Prayer (*unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings *Freely we have received; let us freely give.*
[Give online here.](#)

Sending into the World

Sending Hymn Duet

Zach Palma and Jordan Snow, soloists

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,

And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

*The Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

“Fanfare”

John O’Brien, organ
-Antonio Solar

*At this sign, you are invited to rise in body or spirit.

Rev. Travis Allen, Pastor
Doctor John B. O’Brien, Organist/Choirmaster
Rev. Sydne Allen, Director of Education and Nurture
J. C. Carraway, Assistant Organist/Choirmaster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Kids’ Club and PYC will begin meeting today, Sunday, September 13. Kid’s Club at 4:30 and PYC at 6:00 p.m.
- A *Youth Jangle Jam* will be at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 20 at the Labyrinth
- **School Supply Drive:** We have partnered with Northwest Elementary School to participate in a school supply drive. They need these items: Folders with pockets, 1-subject notebooks, Notebook paper, 1” binder, #2 pencils, Pencil boxes, Glue sticks, Erasers, and Crayons. You may bring them with you to worship, or the church office during the week.
- Circle 4 will meet Wednesday, September 15, at 1 pm at the home of Mary Louise Smith.
- There will be an Administration Committee Meeting Monday, September 14, at 5:30 p.m. in Hamilton Hall.
- Session will meet on Monday, September 21, at 5:30 p.m. in Hamilton Hall.

Guidelines for Outdoor Worship at FPC Kinston:

- In the event of inclement weather, notice of cancellation will be shared via Facebook and email no later than Sunday morning at 9:00am. If in-person worship is canceled due to weather, worship will still be offered via *Facebook and YouTube*.
- Worship will be similar to what has been offered online since March. Worshipers can anticipate that the service will last about 45 minutes.
- Worshipers **must bring their own seating** (chairs, blankets, etc.). This will minimize the risk of transmission and not require church property to be cleaned after each use.
- Worshipers of different households must sit and remain at least 6-ft apart at all times.
- For worshipers who prefer to remain in their vehicles, an area of **Darby Ave.** will be marked off for you.
- Bulletins will be available online. Worshipers are encouraged to print bulletins at home or view on their own device. A few bulletins will be provided on a table.
- Hand sanitizer and face coverings will also be provided on the same table. All worshipers are strongly encouraged (and **worship leaders are required**) to wear face coverings properly.
- The church building will remain closed throughout the service. Worshipers are advised to use the restroom before leaving home, though the restrooms in the hallway outside the sanctuary will be available for emergencies. (Access to the restrooms will be available through the door by the Bell Tower.)
- Since singing produces an especially widespread droplet count music will be instrumental or offered by a soloist. If congregational hymns are offered we strongly encourage you wear your face covering to help reduce the droplet count.
- Until further notice, nursery, Sunday school and other Sunday morning fellowship gatherings will not be offered.

SPECIAL PRAYER CONCERNS

Bill Anderson (Father of Mary Riddick)
Becky Barbee, 521 Dartmouth Rd., Raleigh 27609
Nancy Hill Berise (friend of Doug and Patricia Noble)
Linda Brown, 1905 Stanton Rd., 28504
Ralph Clark, 1103 Devonshire Dr., Trent Woods, NC 28562
J. Warren Creech, 3005 Camelot Dr., 28504
Kristin Cummings, (daughter-in-law of June Cummings)
Honey Fuller, 1305 Ridge Rd., 28504
Kirk Fuller, (brother of Lyndon Fuller)
Bill Gay, (friend of Lyndon Fuller)
Judy Greer, (friend of Becky Berry)
Peggy Holliday, (Aunt of Karla Grizzard), Spring Arbor
Sue Martin (Mother of Mike Martin), 139 Fulcher Dr., Atlantic, NC 28511
Shannon Moore, (daughter-in-law of Bill and Dixie Jernigan)
Chuck Murray, (Son of Kathryn Murray)
Joe Poole, (brother-in-law of Ruthie Stroud), Tennessee
Kenneth Rouse (brother of Ron Rouse)
Donald Shiffler, Jr., (son of Don and Jo Shiffler), 9505 Peralta Dr. NE,
Albuquerque NM 87109
Mary Louise Smith, 707 Westminster Lane, 28501
Ruthie Stroud, 802 Cody Lane, 28504
Mitchell Tippet, (nephew of J. C. Carraway)
Kathryn Thutt, 1603 Crawford St., 28504
Glenwood Waters, 3470 British Rd., 28501
Charles Welby (grandfather of Sydne Allen)
Honey Marlow Whitaker, 1202 Harding Ave., 28501
Pamela Williams, 1802 Sedgfield Drive, 28504
Faye Womble, (sister of June Cummings)

Home Bound

Fred Antonowich, NC Vet Home, Rm. 101, 2150 Hull Rd., 28504
Gertrude Dalzell, Cypress Glen, 100 Hickory St., Greenville 27858
Jim Marshall, Spring Arbor, 3207 Carey Rd., Rm 303, 28504
Hope Shackelford, 506 St. David St., Tarboro, NC 27886
Max Tabory, Spring Arbor, 3207 Carey Rd., Rm 203, 28504