

* Hymn 363

Rejoice! the Lord Is King

* Confession of Sin

Shepherding God, you have called to us, but we have not answered. You have sought us out, but we have continued to wander. You have tenderly gathered us together and cared for us, but we have not extended that same care and mercy to others.

Forgive us. Remind us. Teach us. Set us free from sin that we might turn toward your love and justice for the whole world. Guide us so that, tentative step after tentative step, we may walk your way. Amen.

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Response 581

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

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Psalm 100:1-5

Andrew Mead

Scripture: Philippians 4:21-23

Sermon

Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

A Moment for Reflection

Responding to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith

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

Announcements & Celebrations

Offering

Offertory Anthem

My Eternal King
Jane Marshall

Sanctuary Choir

* 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 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

* Benediction

* Benediction Response 273

He Is King of Kings

Postlude

At the Lamb's High Feast
Paul Manz

*Those who are able are invited to stand.
Bold indicates words spoken in unison.

**The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God,
and in honor of Barbara Norman on the occasion of our
65th wedding anniversary by Jim Norman**

Giving Challenge Update

180 megaphones
(including 15 commitments from kids & youth!)
87 hands & feet – \$874,569.00

We are at 73% for our goal of at least 120 hands & feet!

Joys and Concerns:

Acey Worthy, Ellen Muire, Lois Boyd (Ellie Grover's mother),
Richard Franklin, John Smith

Continuing Concerns:

Ann Blankenship, Malcolm Bullock, Dave Clingensmith (Fred Aggers's brother-in-law), Maria Hudson, Vonnie Jordan (Mike Jordan's mother), Harriet Murphy, Tom Overcash, Mary Repsher, Elizabeth Romska, Betty Bonner Steele (David Carmichael's mother), Jesse Tart, Sharon Whittington

Ministry Area – Deeply Rooted

Worship Services: Acolytes: Nick Loeblein, Andrew Mead

Worship Services: Hanging of the Greens! Please join us on Saturday, **December 2, at 9:00 am**, to help decorate our church campus for Advent and Christmas! All ages are welcome. Many hands make lighter work, so come on out and enjoy some great fellowship, too!

Grow in Friendship: JOY Christmas Party @ the Gables Clubhouse! Sunday, December 3, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Music, photo booth, Karl's Christmas stories, and a White Elephant gift exchange with the people at your table. \$5 limit, or wrap something from home that you think would bring a smile to a friend's face. And, great food! For last names A-M, bring a dessert, N-Z, and an appetizer. Limited to 50 people, so please RSVP as soon as possible to the church office. **Today is the deadline!**

Gather: Save the date for the Christmas Extravaganza! Sunday, December 17, at 5:00 pm. Food, games, and fellowship await! Bring a side dish to share; the rest will be provided. **RSVP by Dec. 8!**

Gather: Advent Gatherings are coming! Join us for some food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays, December 3, 10, 17, and 24.

Ministry Area – Core

Staff: Don't assume we know - Your pastors and congregation want to care for you through prayer, visitation, letters, and more, but we can't do that unless you tell us something is going on. Let us love you.

Ministry Area – Branching Out

Embracing the Unchurched: Italian Dinner! Steve and Donna Thomas' THREE WIDE Foundation is inviting our community for an Italian Dinner on Tuesday, December 5, from 4:00-6:00 pm, at the Salisbury Civic Center. Cost: Donate a canned good that evening for each person attending and enjoy some great food. Food will be provided by Il Colosseo.

Embracing the Unchurched: New and Gently Used Coats For RHM - With winter around the corner we would like to collect any new or gently used coats to take to Rowan Helping Ministries for men and women. The Embracing the Unchurched Team will have a red plastic tub in the lobby outside Lewis Hall to collect the coats each week.

Reach: Yoga! We will have an all-level yoga class in Lewis Hall from 9:00-10:15 am on Wednesdays, November 29, and December 6, 13, and 20. Beginners and the not-very-flexible are welcome! A suggested donation of \$10 per class is welcome. Come on and join us!

Showing Up: We now have the One Church One Child Christmas Star tree set up and ready with 60 stars! Each star represents a child in Rowan County who may not receive any gifts for Christmas. Please take a star off the tree in Lewis Hall, print your name and phone number on the spreadsheet on the line with your star's number, then purchase a \$30 gift for your child. Put it unwrapped in a gift bag with the star attached on the outside and bring it back to Lewis Hall no later than Sunday, December 3!

Showing Up: Next Sunday, December 3, is our regular day to bring in items to help stock the shelves at RHM.

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This Week's Events		
November 26	8:30	Worship in Lewis Hall
	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship in Lewis Hall
November 28	10:00	Staff
	6:00	Stephen Ministers
November 29	5:00	Handbells
	5:30	1 st Kids
	7:00	Choir
November 30	6:30	LCW Rehearsal
December 2	9:00	Hanging of the Greens

First Presbyterian Church

November 26, 2023
11:00 am



Missional Priorities

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

Worship of the Living God

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude Tim Waugh
Look Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious!
Paul Manz

Welcome Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

* Call to Worship Rev. Felicia Hoyle
Adapted from On Our Way Rejoicing by John S. B. Monsell

On our way, rejoicing, gladly let us go.
Christ our Lord has conquered; vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety; Christ within, our joy;
If we are faithful, who can our hope destroy?
Unto God the Father joyful songs we sing;
Unto God the Savior thankful hearts we bring;
Unto God the Spirit, we bow and adore,
On our way rejoicing now and evermore.

