

* Song *Nobody Loves Me Like You*
Ed Cash | Scott Cash

* Confession of Sin
Gracious God, our souls are restless until they find their rest in you.
We confess that we resist this rest. We frenzy ourselves with activity and rush past your presence. We surround ourselves with sound and do not hear your voice. We fill our lives with productivity and miss your calling.
Turn us from our frenzy toward you where we can lay down all of our burdens and find rest in you.

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Response *Glory Be*
Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Jonas Myrin

Proclaiming the Word

Children's Message Karen De Graaf

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:1-11

Scripture: John 15:9-17

Sermon Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

Moment for Reflection

Responding to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith Dr. Randy Kirby
The Church is the body of Christ.
Christ gives to the Church
all the gifts necessary to be his body.
The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts in its life as a community in the world.
The Church is to be a community of faith,
entrusting itself to God alone,
even at the risk of losing its life.
The Church is to be a community of hope,
rejoicing in the promise that, in Christ,
God is making a new creation.
The Church is to be a community of love,
where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished,
and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.

The Church is to be a community of witness,
pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God's transforming grace.
Where Christ is, there is the true Church.
We affirm that the Church is faithful to Christ's mission,
when it proclaims and hears the Word of God,
administers and receives the Sacraments,
and nurtures a covenant community of disciples of Christ.
The great ends of the Church are:
the proclamation of the gospel
for the salvation of humankind;
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
the maintenance of divine worship;
the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness;
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

Presentation of New Elders

Prayers of the People

Announcements & Celebrations

Offering

Offertory

What a Friend
Matt Maher | Matthew Hein | Adam Palmer | Abbie Parker

* Doxology *Doxology (God Be Praised)*
Louis Bourgeois | Thomas Ken | Todd Fields

Sacrament of Holy Communion
Invitation to the Lord's Table
Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer
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.
Communion of the People
"The body of Christ, given for you."
"The blood of Christ, shed for you."

Music during Communion
Table of Grace
Anna Hutto | Connie Harrington
You are invited to sing as Communion is served.

* Prayer after Communion

Sending to share the Word

* Song *By Our Love*
Peter Scholtes | For King and Country

* Benediction

Postlude

The living Christ encounters us in the ordinary elements of Communion. Christ extends the invitation to the Lord's Supper and is open to all – believers and doubters, young children and adults, members and non-members. To highlight this gracious welcome, 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. 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."

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

The flowers this morning are given by the Julie Steele Flower Fund to the glory of God and to welcome Teresa de Freitas, our new Director of Music Ministries.

Celebrations

Birthdays: Caren Steele, Doug Glasgow, Diane Coggin, Judy Mabe, Steve Hunter, Coleman Bergsma, Tootsie Billings, Barrett Shoaf, Ellie Grover, Melissa Harrington, Glenda Askew, Steve Thomas, Gerald Ross, Dan De Graaf, Carter Cook, Tracy Smith, John Michael Muth, Mike Fuller

Anniversaries: Duane and Angela Galloway, Steve and Diane Coggin

Joys and Concerns:

Tricia Johnson, Lynn Hales, Libby Fowler, Elizabeth Lewis Romska, Walter Broadway (Elizabeth Calvert's cousin), Betty Carli

Continuing Concerns:

Fred Aggers, Bill and Sybil Baker, Malcolm Bullock, Charles Hoffman (Sharon Hoffman's brother), Jan Kichefski, Vonnie Jordan (Mike Jordan's mother), John Smith

Ministry Area – Deeply Rooted


Welcome! We welcome all new and returning visitors to First Pres. We are glad you're here and hope you feel God's presence as you worship and fellowship among this community of believers. Children are always welcome in worship. However, if your little one needs some time to wiggle or play, a nursery is available for children 4 and younger. The nursery is open from 8:15 to 12:15 each Sunday morning. Please see an usher for more information.

Grow in Faith: Everyman's Sunday School Class – Join us today at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall for the conclusion of Trevor Eppheimer's series on the Doctrine of the Trinity. Everyone is welcome! This series is sponsored by the Roberts Teaching Fund.

Grow in Friendship: First Pres Fireballs kickball team will play their final regular season game on Monday, May 6 at 7:30 pm at JC Optimist Sports Complex (1113 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave S., Salisbury) Come and cheer on our team!


Grow in Faith: All women are invited! Presbyterian Women will hold their final Bible Study of the season on Monday, May 6, at 11:00. A covered dish luncheon will be served in Fellowship Hall. Join us for this celebration!

Worship: Save the date! Sunday, May 19, we will celebrate Baccalaureate Sunday by having a unified worship service at 11:00.

 **Gather: Spring into Summer Congregational Picnic** – Join us in Lewis Hall on Sunday, May 19, following our unified worship for a picnic. If your last name begins with: A-G: please bring a dessert, H- Z: please bring a side. The Gather Team will provide hotdogs & hamburgers. Use the QR Code or call the church office to let us know you are attending.

Grow in Faith: VBS Registration is OPEN! For Pre-K through rising 5th grade, join us for Seekers in Sneakers 2024! June 2-6, 5:00-7:30 pm. Please use the QR code to sign up and share with your friends and neighbors!

Grow in Faith: Would you like to help with Vacation Bible School but are unable to volunteer? Consider donating Food Lion gift cards of any amount to help offset the cost of providing meals for our children nightly. Donations can be given to Noel Adams or Amanda Hathcock.

 **Grow in Faith: Vacation Bible Volunteers Needed!** We need all available volunteers, youth and adults, for VBS June 2-6, 5:00-7:30 pm. Please use the QR code to sign up, we need many volunteers and have the perfect spot for you!

Ministry Area – Core

Core: Child Protection Training will be offered TODAY at both 9:45 and 12:15 in the Everyman's Bible Classroom. All volunteers who would like to work with VBS or other programs within our church are encouraged to attend. Please see Kathy Sanborn for more information.

Ministry Area – Branching Out

Hosting: RSS Summer Meals Program – School will be out soon, which means the Summer Meals Program will be starting. We need three volunteers a day to host the families that attend. June 5-July 26. Remember the office will need a current copy of your driver's license. Sign up now to help!



Ordered Ministries Leaders

We welcome the newly elected Elders of First Presbyterian Church of Salisbury:

Class of 2026: Cathy Adams, Maggie Behrooz, and Jon Nagy

Class of 2027: John Cave, Steve Coggin, Savannah Lucas, and Kathy Vestal

Our gratitude is extended to the Class of 2024 Elders for their dedicated service to the Church and Jesus Christ over the past three years: Melanie Burton, David Carmichael, Beffie Cook, Jan Corriher-Smith, Troy Creamer, Diane Fisher, Margaret Harris, Kent Roberts, and Kathy Sanborn.

This Week's Events

May 5	8:30	Worship in Lewis Hall
	9:45	Sunday School, Child Protection Training
	11:00	Worship in Lewis Hall-Ordination & Installation of New Elders
	12:15	Child Protection Training
May 6	10:15	Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team
	11:00	Presbyterian Women's Bible Study
	3:00	Grow in Friendship Team
	5:30	Showing Up Team
	6:00	Gather Team on Zoom
May 7	10:00	Staff
	10:30	JOY @ Antique Emporium & Lunch
May 8	9:00	Yoga
	7:00	Choir
May 9	6:30	LCW Rehearsal
May 12	8:30	Worship in Lewis Hall
	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship in Lewis Hall
	12:00	Reception for Teresa de Freitas

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First Presbyterian Church
308 W. Fisher St., Salisbury, NC 28144
704-636-1321 www.firstpressalisbury.org

First Presbyterian Church

May 5, 2024

8:30 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

Welcome

Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

* Call to Worship

Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

In our gathering from far-off distant places,

God is here.

In scripture, in song, and in the sacred calling of leaders,

Christ is here.

In our breaking of bread in communion,

the Spirit is here.

In all of our human acts of worship to the transcendent God,
the Triune God is in our midst.

Let us worship God together!