

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 11, 2024

Transfiguration of the Lord

Youth Sunday

11:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER FOR GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Please use this time to silently prepare for worship.

PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

OPENING PRAYER

Mary Stewart Efirid

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 66)

Jackson Farris

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name.

Look! What God has done for us!

All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.

Look! What God has done for us!

God has turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

Look! What God has done for us!

God has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip. Blessed be God.

Come, let us worship God.

†HYMN #649

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

AMAZING GRACE

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION (Psalm 27:7-8)

Jackson Farris

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sins. Return us to the paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior, (silent confession) amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (1 John 3:1-2)

Jackson Farris

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. Through Christ our sins are forgiven. Amen.

†**GLORIA PATRI #581**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Thomas Efird

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Thomas Efird

Psalm 50:1-6

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Lord the Light of Your Love Is Shining"

Young Presbyterians

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Madeline Letts

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL LESSON

Anne Bradley Bing

Mark 9:2-9

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Look! What God Has Done for Us!"

Alvord Apau-Kase, Class of 2024

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

Copeland Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Confirmation Class of 2024

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Tithes and offerings may be presented online at www.fpcgastonia.org/giving or by scanning the QR code on the right.

Anne Bradley Bing



OFFERTORY

"Interlude"

Heinrich Scheidemann

†DOXOLOGY #606

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

Anne Bradley Bing

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Mary Stewart Efird

I believe that you are The Ruler of the Universe.
The one and only God, My God.
Wise and Almighty,
Benevolent and Brilliant,
Powerful and Passionate.

I believe that it is The Good Book.
Inspired by the one and only God, My God.
Truthful and trustworthy,
Comforting and Convincing,
Purifying and Perceptive.

You are the King of Kings,
Who created me.

It is the Holy Bible,
Which teaches me.

I believe that He is The Messiah.
The right hand of the one and only God, My God.
Caring and Compassionate,
Holy and Healing,
Righteous and Real.

I believe that we are a community of disciples.
Who worship the one and only God, Our God.
Dynamic and Devoted,
Inviting and Inspiring,
Responsible and realistic.

He is Jesus Christ,
Who died and rose for me.

We are the Church,
Which impacts me.

I believe that It is The Advocate.
For the one and only God, My God.
Provoking and Purifying,
Mighty and Moving,
Remarkable and Restoring.

To serve you,
The one and only God,
My God.

It is the Holy Spirit
Who transforms me.

WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #645

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

MIT FREUDEN ZART

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Alvord Apau-Kase

†POSTLUDE

"Ye Sons and Daughters of the King"

Healey Willan

†If you are able, please stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICER NOMINATION FORMS

Use the forms inserted in this bulletin to nominate an officer. Submissions are due today. Forms can be placed in the designated box at the receptionist desk.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 14 — We will observe Ash Wednesday and the start of the Lenten season with a drive-thru Imposition of Ashes at noon under the Chapel Portico, then dinner at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a service with the Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

WOMEN'S CONNECTION RETREAT

August 9-11 — We are excited to announce our plans to send a group to attend the Women's Connection Retreat at Montreat Conference Center this year. To secure space for 25 women from our congregation, we need your commitment by **Thursday, February 15**. Email Mary Taneti at mtaneti@fpcgastonia.org if you plan on attending.

LENTEN LUNCHESES

Wednesday, February 21, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall — Various churches in the community will host a Lenten lunch and worship service every Wednesday throughout Lent. Meals will be available at a cost of \$8 per person. An offering supporting Displaced Roses and CAM will be taken during the service. If you require transportation, please gather under the Church Portico at 11:30 a.m.

Feb. 21	FPC Gastonia	Stuart Cramer High School Choir
Feb. 28	First ARP	Rev. Tom Corbell, (Holy Trinity)
March 6	Holy Trinity	Rev. Brad Simpson, (FPC)
March 13	First Baptist	Dave Wilcox Organ Program, (St. Mark's)
March 20	FUMC	Rev. Dr. Carolyn Dewberry, (St. Stephen's AME Zion)

COLLECTIONS FOR OUR FRIENDS AT BLACK MOUNTAIN

Saturday, February 24, 10:00 a.m. — A truck from Black Mountain will be at the church to collect items for their thrift store. Early donations will be accepted Wednesday, February 21, through Friday, February 23, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the PAD. Please consider donating gently used items such as clothing, shoes, purses, accessories, housewares, collectibles, kitchen items, art, books, gently used furniture, etc. (everything besides furniture should be in bags or boxes). Contact Sally Hilton at gshilton@bellsouth.net or (704) 460-0813 for more information.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BAKE SALE

Saturday, March 2, 9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall — The Presbyterian Women are hosting their annual food fest and bake sale. You can purchase casseroles, soups, cakes, pies, and more. Your support will benefit the Presbyterian Women and our local missions!

WOMEN'S SUNDAY

Sunday, March 3 — Rev. Dr. Edna Banes, former Dean of Students at Union Presbyterian Seminary, will lead us in worship for Women's Sunday. During the service, we will receive an offering for Blanket Sunday; please consider a donation by making your check payable to First Presbyterian Church with "Blanket Sunday" in the memo line.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT US AT FPC GASTONIA!



WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church - where faith is alive! Your presence here is our honor and joy. We pray that your heart is encouraged, that the Word is clear, and that you go from this place renewed and refreshed in search of an ever deeper connection with our awesome God! If you would like more information about First Presbyterian Church, please sign the welcome forms in your pew or stop by the welcome table to receive a gift in gratitude for your presence with us.

NURSERY CARE

Professional nursery care is offered for infants and children up to four years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

PASTORAL STAFF OFFICE HOURS*

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford	Mondays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*
Rev. Brad Simpson	Mondays 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*
Mary Taneti	Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*
Rev. Grady Moseley	By appointment
Jill Kimbirl	By appointment

*Throughout the week, the ministry of the pastoral staff will lead them to meetings at church, beside the hospital bed, homes of members, and elsewhere in the community in order to serve the mission of FPC. Although they are always available by appointment, they will also be available in their offices for unannounced visits during office hours. Be sure to come on by and say hello!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford - Senior Pastor
Rev. Brad Simpson - Associate Pastor
Rev. Grady Moseley - Minister of Visitation
Mary Taneti - Director of Faith Formation
Mot Davis - Receptionist
Myles Davidowitz - Director of Childcare
Caleb Hayes - Director of Communications
Bethany Jennings - Director of Music Ministries
David Jennings - Organist
Jill Kimbirl - Pastoral Assistant
David McFadden - Business Administrator
Ana Meyer - Financial Secretary
Cheryl Mims - Director of Mother's Morning Out
Sherry Moore - Administrative Assistant
Rodney Owens - Maintenance Supervisor
Becky Rowland - Director of Presbyterian Weekday School
Matt Smith - Thrive Music Leader & Audio/Visual Supervisor



The Chancel rose is presented
in honor of
Hadley Hope Cherry,
born on February 1, 2024.
Proud parents are
Catherine and Trevor Cherry.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford, Mary Taneti, Matt Smith, Young Presbyterians (elementary), Youth Group (middle and high school), Bethany Jennings, David Jennings

YOUTH USHERS AND GREETERS

Carter Robinson, Joshua Duncan, Brynn DuBois, Parks Peak; Harper Humphrey, Henry Humphrey