

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Planned Giving Sunday

11:00 a.m. Worship

### WE GATHER FOR GOD'S WORD

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

King's Cadence

CARILLON PEAL

PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION

"Cantabile in C"

J.H. Knecht

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

CHORAL INTROIT

King's Cadence

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore

Christ has borne our sin and endured death for our sake.

**Jesus is worthy of our praise!**

Christ has conquered death for our sake.

**Jesus is worthy of every blessing!**

Christ has released us from the bondage of our sin.

**Jesus is worthy of every honor!**

Christ meets us here today, offering us new life.

**Jesus is worthy to be worshiped!**

We gather to worship our savior, who lived, died, and was raised again for us.

**Together, let us worship God!**

†HYMN #267

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

MADRID

### WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, we confess that we forget to embrace the new life you offer us. We become stuck in the ways of sin and death. We allow our failures to define us; we allow our brokenness to hurt others; we allow our fear to paralyze us when our neighbors suffer. Forgive us when we forget what you have done for us. Help us to embrace the life you give us so that we may live a transformed life that spreads your Good News until the day you come again.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Be at peace with God and one another, for in Christ, we are all forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

## †GLORIA PATRI

## MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Planned Giving

Liz Sumner

## ANTHEM

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 30:1-3

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Revelation 5:11-14

## SERMON SERIES

Alpha and Omega

## SERMON

“This is Not the End”

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## †HYMN #839

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”

ASSURANCE

## †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Confession of 1967 9.21-22)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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](http://www.fpcgastonia.org/giving) or by scanning the QR code on the right.



## OFFERTORY

King's Cadence

## †DOXOLOGY

## †DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

## WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

## †CHORAL BLESSING

King's Cadence

## †CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

C.S. Lang

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PLANNED GIVING SUNDAY

Today, May 15th, we will be celebrating our first Planned Giving Sunday. There will be a display table providing information so that you can learn more about including FPC in your estate plans. There will be a luncheon for all members of the 1882 Giving Circle which is comprised of church members who have remembered the church in their will, retirement plan, life insurance policy, donor advised fund or otherwise.

### NAVIGATING THE PATH TO EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

Join us in person or online for the latest edition of our webinar series on emotional wellness, focusing on resiliency. Register by visiting this link: [www.fpcgastonia.org/emotionalwellness](http://www.fpcgastonia.org/emotionalwellness)

### FAITH AND FICTION

Faith and Fiction will meet on Sunday, June 5, at 5:00pm at Covenant Village. We will be discussing the book *No Man's Land* by David Baldacci. Our hostesses will be Lenise Melton and Geraldine Johnston. This will be our last meeting before our summer break. Please contact Sarah Wentz if you have questions or need a copy of the book.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us this summer for Vacation Bible School! Register now to join the fun! Look for sign-ups for both children participants, and youth and adult volunteers in the Faith Formation weekly newsletter.

When: August 1-4, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m. - Noon

## **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.

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford - Senior Minister  
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore - Associate Minister  
Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport - Interim Minister of Visitation  
Mot Davis - Receptionist  
Myles Davidowitz - Director of Childcare  
Caleb Hayes - Director of Communications  
Holly Howell - Director of Children's Music  
Bethany Jennings - Director of Music Ministries  
David Jennings - Organist  
Lisa Marisiddaiah - Parish Nurse  
David McFadden - Business Administrator  
Cheryl Mims - Director of Mothers' Morning Out  
Nancy Moore - Financial Secretary  
Sherry Moore - Administrative Assistant  
Rodney Owens - Maintenance Supervisor  
Becky Rowland - Director of Presbyterian Weekday School  
Matt Smith - Thrive Music Leader  
Trip Stewart - Information Services  
Rev. Rachel Vogado - Director of Faith Formation

### **Thrive Service Worship Leaders**

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford  
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore  
Matt Smith  
Thrive Band

### **Traditional Service Worship Leaders**

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford  
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore  
Bethany Jennings  
David Jennings  
King's Cadence, Guest Musicians

# THRIVE

May 15, 2022

8:55 a.m.



## WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

### †GATHERING SONG

"Revelation Song"

J. L. Riddle

### WELCOME

### MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Planned Giving

Liz Sumner

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### †HYMN OF PRAISE

"Our God Is With Us"

Springer/Binion/Binion

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 30:1-3

Revelation 5:11-14

### SERMON SERIES

"Alpha and Omega"

### SERMON

"This is Not the End"

### ANTHEM

"That Where I Am"

R. Mullins

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

### OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

### †HYMN OF DEDICATION

"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

P. Scholtes

### †BLESSING