

**April 28, 2024
First Presbyterian Church
5th Sunday of Easter**

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *A Joyous Prelude* Bob Burroughs
Youth Bells

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship** Cam Beck

We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,
for we are the church of Jesus Christ!
We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,
opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

***Hymn** 81 *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken* AUSTRIAN HYMN

Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)

When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We must also remember who we are, and we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy or loving. So let us confess our sin, trusting in God's goodness to forgive us and create us anew for our lives ahead.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon *from 2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

***Holy Interruption** *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

***Gloria Patri**

**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.**

Choral Anthem *Rest On Us* Lake/Galbraith
(Chancel Choir & Youth)

*As the Spirit was moving over the waters spirit come move over us,
Come rest on us
Come rest on us. As the Spirit was moving over the waters, Spirit,
come move over us,
Come rest on us, Come rest on us
Refrain: So, come down, Spirit, when You move You make my heart
pound
When You fill the room, You're here and I know You are moving,
I'm here and I know You will fill me (repeat).
Fire and wind, come and do it again
Open up the gates, let Heaven on in
Come rest on us, Come rest on us (repeat) Refrain
Holy Spirit, come rest on us
You're all we want, You're all we want (repeat) Refrain*

Children's Message

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Exodus 19:1-6
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading Acts 8:26-40
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Message "Take Me to the River" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith *(from The Apostles' Creed)*

**WE 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. We 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.**

***Hymn** 738 *O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee* MARYTON

Announcements

Pastoral Prayers & 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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *I Love to Tell the Story* Keveren

***Doxology Hymn** *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night* TALLIS' CANON
**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.**

Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of
your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for
your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. Amen.**

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn** 833 *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* ST MARGARET

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth* Aguiar
(Chancel Choir)

*The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, to make of all the
earth a better place to live. Amen.*

***Postlude** *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Her* Walther
(All Glory Be to God on High)

Please wait until the end of the benediction response by the choir before exiting.

*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Rev. Stuart Nickles by Ginny Nickles.

The Church This Week (4/28/2024)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	Women's Community Bible Study
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	Women's Community Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Thurs.	6:30 p.m.	Mission Outreach
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of April 28, 2024

Gerry & Bobby Rogers
 Ina Coggeshall
 Gray & Bea Sloop
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore
 Bobbie Jones
 Dr. Sue Arledge and her husband, Bob
 Shenell Malloy (Susan & Bill's daughter-in-law)
 Edward Tinsley
 Penny Angle
 Barbara Dickson
 For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
 Ruth Jackson
 Avery Dickson



The church has several volunteer opportunities available, including placing flowers in the sanctuary, providing nursery coverage during Sunday worship, and monitoring students and Pathfinders. If interested, please go to <https://www.cherawfpc.org/signup> and click the appropriate link. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Chapman.

The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

Exciting news! Registration is now available online for Vacation Bible School! Check out the home page of our church website to register. Also, if you would like to help, there is a sign-up poster on the wall next to my office door. Please consider registering, signing up to help, or both! Due to limited seating, we are accepting the first 150 registrants!

<https://www.cherawfpc.org/>

What: Vacation Bible School

When: June 18-20

Time: 5-8 p.m.

Dinner included! Join me in diving deeper into a relationship with God!

Senior Organ Recital at First United Methodist Church in Wadesboro

You are invited to the Senior Recital of Wesley Bradshaw, an organ student of Barbara C. Dickson, where he will perform music for piano and organ. This recital will be held on Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at **First United Methodist Church in Wadesboro, North Carolina**. Following the recital, a reception will be held at First United Methodist.



Our Vision

*Rooted by God's Grace,
 Growing in the Spirit,
 Reaching Out with Christ's Love*

Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2024

Marietta Melton Burch
 Cathy Chapman
 Dan Tillman, III
 Charlene Tillman

Class of 2025

Kelli Beck
 Avery Dickson
 Mary Jane Evans
 Jean Page Watson

Class of 2026

Mary Anderson
 Andrew McLeod
 Kristen Miller
 Richard Pierce

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor
 Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary
 Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton
 Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper
 Mrs. Mary Gulledege, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
 Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO

Mission Partners

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica
 Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland

Sunday, April 28, 2024

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