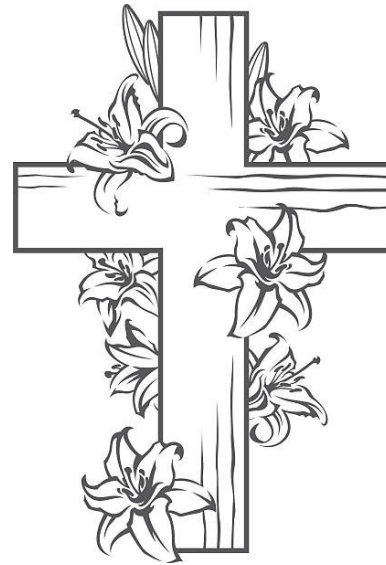


The **Easter Lilies** are placed in the Chancel to the glory of God and in loving memory of those of our church family who have died since last Easter. They now live in the fulfillment of the Resurrection to the eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord:

He is risen! Alleluia!



THANK YOU for joining us for worship this Easter Sunday! We hope that you find your experience at First Presbyterian to be uplifting and meaningful. Any usher (designated with a name tag) will be glad to assist you and answer your questions. If you need a large print copy of today's bulletin and hymns, please notify an usher. A special welcome to all visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please let us know you were here by signing the Friendship Register in the pews or by emailing our church office at hello@firstonthird.org. We invite you to join us for regular worship on Sunday mornings at 10am and to visit our website (www.firstonthird.org), our Facebook page (First Presbyterian Wilmington NC), or follow us on Instagram (@firstonthird) for upcoming events. We would love to hear from you!

Leading in Worship:

Dan Lewis, Senior Pastor	Diane Giannola, Parish Associate
Natalie Raygor, Associate Pastor	John Tabler, Director of Music
Benjamin Horrell, Choir Director	First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

We welcome guest instrumentalists for today's services:

Joshua Greenberger, violin	Dr. Aaron Peisner, soloist
Carl Seaholm, trombone	Walter Kraybill, trombone
David Dimiro, percussion	Jonny Capotosto, trumpet
Christopher Luebke-Brown, trumpet	

Please join us for Homecoming with Reverend Kathy Beach next Sunday, April 12th for a combined service and a catered luncheon to follow. Please RSVP in Realm!



First Presbyterian Church
Growing in Faith and Love

Resurrection of the Lord

April 5, 2026

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

The music of the Opening Voluntary draws us from the outside world into the presence of God. In preparation for worship, you are invited to use this time for prayerful reflection.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Jesus Christ Is Risen Again
Thine Is the Glory

Stephen Walters

Brass, Timpani, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 118)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His steadfast love endures forever!
The Lord is my strength and my God is my might!
The Lord has become my salvation!
I shall not die, but I shall live!
And recount the deeds of the Lord, my God!
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His steadfast love endures forever!

+ HYMN 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, why do we confess our sin even on the day of resurrection?
Because new life in the Risen Christ compels new life from us.
But why do we do it together?
Because we are a community, a covenant people of hope.
Let us pray together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that too often we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn. We are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace. We hide your good news and forget your claim on our lives. Forgive us, God of Mercy, and help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, in whose name we offer these prayers... (our silent prayers of confession) And let all God's people say, **Amen.**

[+You are invited to stand. For each hymn, please stand as the last line of the introduction is played.]

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Ed Burke | Joe Pace |
| Jack Carnegie | Ellen Pearsall |
| Naomi Causey | Lou Powers |
| Jon Cook | Betty Rusher |
| Dot Daughtry | Judi Smith |
| Carolyn Finley | Joyce Southerland |
| Jason Gurganus | Bill Stokes |
| Gene Hayes | Sam Stone |
| Taylor Johnson | Faye Stophel |
| Kevin Longenecker | Clancy Thompson |
| Connor Mahoney | Web Trask |
| Daphne Nelson | Joe Walser |
| Betsy Ormand | |



ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from 1 Corinthians 15)

Brothers and sisters, if for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. Let us all believe this good news: **in Jesus Christ, there is life eternal!**

+ GLORIA PATRI (581)

GREATOREX

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.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!
And also with you!

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

[Children will come forward, place their offerings in the plate, enjoy a short message and prayer with the minister, then go to Room 208 for their worship service called Worship and Wonder.]

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION****SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Jeremiah 31:1-6
Pew Bible OT p. 733

ANTHEM

Let the People Praise Thee, O God

William Mathias

Let the people praise thee, O God; O let the nations rejoice and be glad, for thou shalt judge the folk righteously and govern the nations upon earth. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing. God shall bless us and all the ends of the world shall fear him. God be merciful unto us and bless us and show us the light of his countenance and be merciful unto us. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. 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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10
Pew Bible NT p. 33

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dan Lewis

"Back to Galilee"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**+ HYMN 238**

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Romans 8)

What then are we to say about these things?
If God is for us, who is against us?

**He who did not withhold his own Son,
but gave him up for all of us,
will he not with him also give us everything else?**

Who will bring any charge against God's elect?

It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?

**It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised,
who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.**

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress, or persecution,
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through him who loved us.**

**For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP AND GENEROSITY**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Lights Glittering Morn Bedecks The Sky

Horatio W. Parker

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky. Heaven's thunders forth its victor cry. The glad earth shouts her triumph high, and groaning hell makes wild reply. While He, the King, the mighty King despoiling death of all its sting, and trampling down the power's of might, brings forth His ransomed Saints to light. That Easter-tide with joy was bright. The sun shone out with fairer light. When to their longing eyes restored the Apostles saw their risen Lord. He bade them see His hands, His side, where yet the glorious wounds abide. Those tokens true which made it plain their Lord was risen again. O Jesu King of gentleness, do Thou Thyself our hearts possess, that we may give Thee all our days, the tribute of our grateful praise. O Lord of all with us abide. The strife is o'er, the battle done. In this our joyful Easter tide. The victory of life I s won. From every weapon death can wield, Thine own redeemed for ever shield. The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia.

+ DOXOLOGY (609)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper by *intinction*, which means "dipping". All are invited to come forward by rows, as ushers direct, to receive a piece of bread ("The body of Christ, broken for you") and to dip it lightly into the cup ("The blood of Christ shed for you"). There are many appropriate responses, including "Thanks be to God," "Amen," or just prayerful silence. Through the grace of Baptism, Christ welcomes all to the table. There is a single serve gluten free option at each station. For those who are unable to come forward, please alert an usher, who will make sure you are served in your seat. The prayer at the table includes the Lord's Prayer, which can be found on page 35 of your red hymnal.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Meditation

Alexander Glazunov

Songs without Words

Felix Mendelssohn

*Joshua Greenberger, violin; John Tabler, organ***WE GO IN GOD'S NAME****+ HYMN 233**

The Day of Resurrection

LANCASHIRE

CHARGE & BENEDICTION**+ CHORAL RESPONSE**Hallelujah (*from "Messiah,"* HWV 56)

George Frederic Handel

*Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become the king of our Lord
and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.
King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
Hallelujah.*

Revelation 19:6, 11:15, 19:16

CLOSING VOLUNTARYSymphony Op. 42 No. 5
Toccata

Charles-Marie Widor