

\* Hymn 267 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

\* Confession of Sin

**Lord, have mercy on us.  
We talk about love,  
but our actions betray us.  
We talk about love,  
but we neglect the poor.  
We talk about love,  
but we fail to love one another.  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, and abide in us  
by the power of your Spirit  
so that our lives may show  
our love for Jesus Christ,  
in whose body we live  
and in whose name we pray.**

\* Assurance of Forgiveness

\* Response 581

***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.***

### Proclamation of the Word

Children's Message

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: 1 John 3:1-7

Scripture: Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

Moment for Reflection

### Responding to the Word

\* Affirmation of Faith Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I 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.  
I 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.**

Prayers of the People

Announcements

Minute for Mission Rev. Bill Hoyle

Celebrations

Offering

Offertory Bell Tower Ringers  
*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*  
arr. Matthew Compton

\* Hymn 507 *Come to the Table of Grace*  
Vv 1 and 4

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

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*  
arr. Faye Lopez

\* Prayer after Communion

Presentation of Certificates

### Sending to share the Word

\* Hymn 826

*Lift High the Cross*

\* Benediction

\* Benediction Response Sanctuary Choir  
*Amen* (Hymn 561)

Postlude

*Sonatina* in G Major  
Ludwig van Beethoven

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**Please join us after worship for a reception  
to celebrate our First Kids growing in faith by  
joining us at the Table for Holy Communion this morning.**

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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.

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### **Celebrations**

**Birthdays:** Tim Smith, Tip McCachren, Glenna Todd, Sharon Whittington, Vick Bost, Evelyn Mead, Carley Drye, John Harrington, Robert Ogden, Mike Farris, Richard Hudson, Maria Hudson

**Anniversaries:** Chris and Paula Mead, Colin and Cindy Dailey

### **Joys and Concerns:**

Dave Boyer (Carol Worthy's cousin)

### **Continuing Concerns:**

Fred Aggers, Bill and Sybil Baker, Malcolm Bullock, Eric Finland (Glenn and Nancy Phillips's son-in-law), James Fisher, Charles Hoffman (Sharon Hoffman's brother), Jan Kichefski, Sarah Kizziah, Vonnie Jordan (Mike Jordan's mother), Jonathan Lynch (Roxanne Myers's nephew), Elizabeth Romska, John Smith, Sharon Whittington

The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Madeline Hoskins and Austin Gansz, who were married here at First Presbyterian yesterday, by her parents, Guy and LeeAnna Hoskins.

**Church Life**

**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.

**Worship Music:** This morning, we welcome guest musician Tina Brown. Tina teaches piano in her private studio in Rockwell. She has been organist/choir director at Organ Lutheran Church and organist at St. Mark's Lutheran (Salisbury) and Union Lutheran Church.

**Worship Services: Communion Elder:** Margaret Harris

**Grow in Faith: First Kids** proudly recognizes the following children for completing the Welcome to the Table curriculum with First Presbyterian. This curriculum included information about baptism, worship, and communion. Welcome: Blake Adams, Drew Adams, Frank Adams, Ryan Adams, Stewart Adams, Eleanor Behrooz, Holden Carlton, Sawyer Carlton, Nora Coleman, Heidi Cross, Finley Currin, Ben Dunkin, Pace Fowler, Amos Hathcock, Knox Menees, Merritt Menees, John Micheal Muth, Zoe Pace, and Barrett Shoaf.

**Worship Services:** 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: The Outlook Sunday School Class** – Join us beginning April 21, at 9:45, as we discuss Greg Garrett's *The Gospel According to James Baldwin: What America's Great Prophet Can Teach Us about Life, Love, and Identity*. Participants are responsible for getting their own books. The class meets in the confirmation classroom on the second floor. New participants are welcome.

**Grow in Faith: Year End Celebration!** All children, youth, and their families of the church are invited to join us in an end-of-year cookout on Sunday, April 21, 5:00-6:30, in the courtyard.

**Grow in Faith: VBS Registration is OPEN!** For Pre-K through rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade, join us for Seekers and Sneakers 2024! June 2-6, 5:00-7:30 pm. Sign up now!



**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. Sign up now!



**Ministry Area – Core**

**Core:** Maxwell Chambers Trust will meet on Monday, April 15, at 6:00 pm, in Everyman's Bible Class. All current and former Elders are asked to attend in order to have a quorum to conduct this year's business.

**High School Senior & College Undergrad Scholarships** – It's time to apply for our First Pres Scholarships. **The deadline is April 26!** Forms are on our website and in the Business office.

**Ministry Area – Branching Out**

**Hosting: Tim Waugh's funeral** – Volunteers are needed to help with parking from 8:00-11:00 on Saturday, April 20. Call Keith Garner at 704-798-4242 if you can help.

**Showing Up: Red Cross Blood Drive** – First Pres will host a blood drive in Lewis Hall on April 23, 2:00-6:30 pm. Please consider giving this life-saving gift. Sign up now for your time slot.



**This Week's Events**

April 14	9:45	Sunday School, New Elder Training, Youth Breakfast & Bible
	11:00	Worship in Lewis Hall
	12:00	Welcome to the Table Reception
	5:00	Youth @ the Worthys' home
April 15	5:00	Fund Team
	6:00	Maxwell Chambers Trust
	7:00	Session, Gather Team (on Zoom)
April 16	10:00	Staff
April 17	9:00	Yoga
	12:00	Newsletter Deadline for May edition
	5:30	First Kids, Handbells
April 18	6:30	LCW Rehearsal, New Horizons @ RHM
<b>April 20</b>	<b>10:30</b>	<b>Prelude Music begins</b>
	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Tim Waugh's Memorial Service</b>
		<i>2 Cents a Meal Offering Sunday</i>
April 21	8:30	Worship in Lewis Hall
	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship in Lewis Hall
	5:00	First Kids Year-end Party with Youth

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# First Presbyterian Church

April 14, 2024  
11:00 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 Tina Brown, organist

*Morning Has Broken*  
arr. Carol Tornquist

Welcome Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

\* Call to Worship Dr. Randy Kirby

The bread of life opens our eyes.  
**The word of life opens our ears.**  
The risen one shows us God's own brokenness,  
**and by those wounds, we are healed.**  
Peace be with you.  
**And also with you.**