

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



October 10, 2021

OPENING VOLUNTARY*Three Early American Folk Hymns*

Setting by Don Hustad

*CLEANSING FOUNTAIN, IRWINTON, BEACH SPRING***WELCOME**

Linda Hogon

*** CALL TO WORSHIP***Leader:* Come before the Lord with joyful songs.**People:** Let us enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.*Leader:* Know that the Lord is God, and we are God's people.**People:** Let us enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.*Leader:* It is God who has made us to the praise of God's name.**People:** Let us enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.*** HYMN 49***The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

PRAYER OF CONFESSION**Holy God, your Word cuts like a two-edged sword exposing our sins against You and our neighbor. May your Spirit's surgery uncover our wrong thinking and inappropriate actions that we might truly be reconciled to You. We pray this prayer in the name of Christ who offers compassion and restoration. Amen!** *(Silent Reflection)***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Sing Twice)**

LOE DI ÍSÁ

*Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.***ASSURANCE OF PARDON***Leader:* The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. God will not always accuse. God's grace restores and redeems.**People:** Thanks be to the God of our salvation! God's grace is sufficient in our times of need!*** GLORIA PATRI***** PASSING OF THE PEACE****CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Valerie James

*Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2nd grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.***SCRIPTURE READING**

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Ansley Blanding

Seek the LORD and live, or he will sweep through the tribes of Joseph like a fire; it will devour them, and Bethel will have no one to quench it. There are those who turn justice into bitterness and cast righteousness to the ground.

There are those who hate the one who upholds justice in court and detest the one who tells the truth. You levy a straw tax on the poor and impose a tax on their grain. Therefore, though you have built stone mansions, you will not live in them; though you have planted lush vineyards, you will not drink their wine. For I know how many are your offenses and how great your sins. There are those who oppress the innocent and take bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts. Therefore the prudent keep quiet in such times, for the times are evil. Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say he is. Hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the LORD God Almighty will have mercy on the remnant of Joseph.

CHORAL RESPONSE*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

BEACH SPRING

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 4:12-15

Rev. Joel Long

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

SERMON

“Leave No Stone Unturned”

Rev. Joel Long

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Offertory Anthem

I Have Found a Hiding Place

Pamela French Block

Denise Lynch, Piano Solo

* Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* Offertory Prayer

* **HYMN** 343 (V. 1-4)

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

GERMANY

*** BENEDICTION**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

O Christ, Surround Me

GREEN TYLER

*God be the love to search and keep me; God be the prayer to move my voice;
God be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postlude on BELLEVUE

Setting by Don Hustad

* Please stand as you are able



Today, Pastor Joel will explore the ways in which scripture is like a two-edged sword. It cuts deep enough to expose our greatest of needs to bring healing and reconciliation. Nothing is left covered or untouched by the compassionate, all-seeing God we know in Christ.

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A nursery is provided for children 2 years old and younger in the nursery on the first floor of the Educational Building.

WELCOME!

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to fill out a Welcome card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering basket as you leave. We look forward to meeting you. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Long.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Linda Hogon, Glenn Woodrum
Deacons: Suzanne Wates, Lark Haynie
Youth Liturgist: Ansley Blanding
Junior Usher: Richard Dwight

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Ashley Blum/Caron DuRant
Volunteer: Dee Dailey

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Glenn Woodrum, Liza Cooper
Deacons: Macaulay Smith, Taylor Geddings
Youth Liturgist: Edmunds DuBose
Junior Usher: Lucas DuBose

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Karen Ingram
Volunteer: Pam George



Town Hall meetings will be held in the Fellowship Hall today and next Sunday, October 17, immediately following our worship service. The purpose of our Town Hall meeting is to **address the priorities of the congregation in hiring an interim pastor.** We look forward to your attendance and participation. The content of these meetings will be identical as we hope to reach as many people as possible. Please make plans to attend only one of these meetings as your schedule allows. We look forward to conversation and dialogue regarding our interim process. Remember, a Town Hall meeting is not meant to take formal action by the congregation. It is meant to be an educational opportunity.

“ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS”

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel

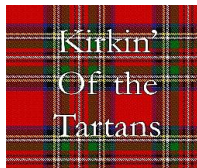
Children, 3K – 5th Grade

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will begin at 5:00 pm at the West Building with food and fellowship! We are looking forward to our time together as we dig into God’s word. Please note we strongly encourage everyone to wear masks, except while we are eating.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

First Presbyterian Church is collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes are available in front of the Church Office, along with guidelines for filling the shoeboxes and a label for each box. **All shoeboxes are due by October 20 and should be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall.** Should you have any questions please contact Karen Ingram. Thank you for supporting this mission outreach of FPC.



KIRKIN' OF THE TARTANS

October 31, 2021

Reserve your participation in the Kirkin' of the Tartans Processional by contacting Linda Hogon, 803-775-4167 or 803-840-7671, or lhogon03@yahoo.com. Reservations, including the name of the tartan and the carrier, are needed by **Monday, October 18.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Richland: Mike Carnes

Cone Hospital (Greensboro, NC): Bill Bailey (Ashley Long’s father)

Home: Charlie and Glenda Denny, Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee,
Ashley Long (Joel & Ann Long’s daughter-in-law), Tom Tindal (John Tindal’s Brother),
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

Austin, TX: Robert Cain (George Cain’s Father)