

**4th Sunday of Easter  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
10:00 a.m.**

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Seasonal Color: White

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: “It is Well with My Soul” arr. Marilyn Ham

*(Please stand in body or spirit and let us join together in the Call to Worship)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

**You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.’**

Let us worship God!

**\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION**

**Christ is the door by which we enter your new order, O God; he is the source of our comfort and the anchor of our faith. Through him you have shown us the way unto the land of your promise, where peace is eternal and grace has no bounds. As we enter the courts of your sanctuary may we know you are with us, and give you all honor due your glorious name. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN: “The Church’s One Foundation” GTG# 321

**WE ARE RENEWED IN GRACE**

**\*LITANY OF ASSURANCE:**

When you do right and suffer for it patiently, you have God’s approval.

**We are healed by Christ’s wounds.**

For to this you have been called, that you should follow in Christ’s steps.

**We are healed by Christ’s wounds.**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

**We are healed by Christ’s wounds.**

For you were straying like sheep, but now returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

**We are healed by Christ’s words.**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**We are healed by Christ’s wounds.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:**

“Glory to God” (Taizé Community) Jacques Berthier

(Cantor begins, congregation join as repeated)

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

**WE RECEIVE GOD’S WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 23 pg. 501

ANTHEM: “My Vision, My Shepherd” arr. Philip Kern

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.  
Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, Thy child let me be;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I one with Thee.  
The King of love my Shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine forever!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES: Laura Sparks

SECOND LESSON: John 10:1-10 pg. 103

SERMON: “Good Shepherds” Rev. David Roquemore

\*HYMN: “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” GTG #801

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE**

**\*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.**

**\*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.**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

OFFERTORY: “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” arr. Mark Hayes

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:**

“As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought” (vs-3) GTG # 712

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,  
To serve your cause and share your love with all along life’s way.  
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your son,  
Help us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**We hear the voice of Jesus the Shepherd, O God, and seek to follow his course for our lives. We bring our gifts now before you as results of our search. Accept them and use them so that others may join in the quest. Bring others to the gates of your promised land, and let them hear you calling them to come, enter in. Amen.**

**WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

\*CLOSING HYMN: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” GTG # 187

**\*BENEDICTION**

\*POSTLUDE: “Sylphs, Op. 109” Frederich Burgmuller

(\*Please stand in body or spirit)

Elder on Call this week is Amy Yenderusiak.

Lay Leader this week is Margy Butterfield.

We welcome Laura Michael as our guest service pianist today. Laura is the daughter of Doug and Mimi Michael, and she grew up in our church. Laura now lives and works in Greensboro. We thank her for sharing her talents with us today.

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“The Church’s One Foundation”, text Samuel John Stone, Music Samuel Sebastian Wesley; “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”, text Scottish Psalter, music Jessie Seymour Irvine; “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”, text Thrupp’s *Hymns for the Young*, music William Bradbury.  
All above selections held in public domain.

**WELCOME NEWCOMERS – THERE ARE NO STRANGERS WITHIN THIS SANCTUARY: If you would like more information about the church and our programs, please stop by the visitor’s table in the narthex.**

1. You are in God’s House. We want you to feel God’s presence.
2. All around you are Christian people. They will want to shake your hand and greet you in the name of Christ. Won’t you meet them with a friendly smile? We would not have you leave this place without a warm welcome and a feeling that you want to come back.
3. Please sign the Friendship Book.
4. Those interested in membership information or who desire to join are asked to speak to David Roquemore, Pastor, call the church office, or check the Friendship Book.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** (10:00am) Worship bags for children are located in the entryway. In addition, children (ages 3 yrs. old – 2nd grade) are welcome to stay with their families for the entire service, or they may attend B.L.A.S.T. Children's Church following the *Time for Young Disciples*, when children will be led from the Sanctuary to our Children’s Church room and they will return to the sanctuary before the closing hymn.

**THE PEACE CANDLE:** The smaller, glass candle on the Communion table is a *peace candle*, and here is the candle’s story and meaning.

In 1986, a group of Americans attended a Russian Orthodox worship service. At the close of the service, an elderly woman pressed a three-ruble note into the hand of a Presbyterian pastor (only about \$5 in American dollars, but a significant gift for this elderly woman). The woman asked him to buy a *candle* with it, and light that candle in his church as a symbol for *peace*. That Presbyterian pastor purchased a *candle* with the money, placed it on the Communion table in his sanctuary, and lit it during each worship service. Then the church bought other candles, in glass containers, and sent them to other churches with the request that they be lit during their worship services, as a symbol of our common hope for *peace*.

These *peace candles* have since spread across our world and across denominations. Our congregation received our *peace candle* on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014. And, we have shared a *candle* with our sister church of El Redentor in Guatemala. Together with sisters and brothers in Guatemala and around the world, we light our candles every time we worship to remind us to pray for peace in our lives, in our communities, and in our world.

## THE MINISTERS

All Members of First Presbyterian Church

## THE MINISTRY STAFF

Laura Sparks – Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry  
[lsparks@fpcnewton.com](mailto:lsparks@fpcnewton.com)  
Catherine C. Murdock – Music Director

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kim J. Berry – Office Manager  
[kberry@fpcnewton.com](mailto:kberry@fpcnewton.com)  
Jim Ten Kate - Treasurer  
Bill Inscoe - Treasurer Emeritus

## MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH

Lawrence & Inge Sthresley – Congo  
Rev. Dr. John McCall - Taiwan



## THE SESSION

### Class of 2023

Brenda Eckard (5)  
Debby Reynolds (2)  
Suzanne Rhinehart (2)  
Randy Williams (4)

### Class of 2024

Gary McDougal (1)  
Charles Moody (3)  
Amy Owensby (1)  
Amy Yenderusiak(3)

### Class of 2025

Lynette Inscoe (2)  
David McCart (3)  
Mimi Michael (4)  
Randy Miller (4)

(1) Council on Discipleship

(2) Council on Caring

(3) Council on Administration

(4) Council on Sharing

(5) Council on Praise

Suzanne Rhinehart - Clerk of Session

## PASTOR

Rev. Dr. David Roquemore

### Pastor David Roquemore may be reached at:

828-464-06485 (Church)

704-325-3916 (Home)

[droquemore@fpcnewton.com](mailto:droquemore@fpcnewton.com)

717-512-2779 (Cell)

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Serving the Newton-Conover area since 1858  
Partners with Iglesia El Redentor, Guatemala

Sunday, April 30, 2023

4th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m.



701 N. Main Avenue  
(828) 464 – 0648

Newton, NC 28658  
[www.fpcnewton.org](http://www.fpcnewton.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT:

*Following Christ together in witness, love, and service.*