

**5th Sunday of Easter
ORDER OF WORSHIP
10:00 a.m.**

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Seasonal Color: White

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE:

“Kommst du nun Jesu vom Himmel herunter, BWV 650” J.S. Bach

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 31

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame.

Incline your ear to me, rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name’s sake lead me and guide me.

Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

Let us worship God!

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

You are cause for rejoicing, O God, and the source of our gladness. You know what afflicts us; you can sense our distress. You remove whatever net will ensnare us; you give our feet firm places to stand. In Christ you have brought us deliverance. For all your mercies we praise your name and worship you now as our refuge and strength. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: “I Danced in the Morning”

GTG # 157

WE ARE RENEWED IN GRACE

*A LITANY OF ASSURANCE

Come to Christ, the living stone, chosen and precious in God’s sight.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s chosen people.

Like living stones, be built yourselves into a spiritual house.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s chosen people.

Offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s chosen people.

Declare the wonderful deeds of Christ who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people.

Once you were no people but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

“Alleluia” (Taizé Community)

GTG # 586

(Cantor sings first, congregation join as repeated)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

WE RECEIVE GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Peter 2:2-10

pg. 233

ANTHEM: “The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me”

K. Lee Scott

The love of Christ, who died for me, is more than mind can know;

His mercy measureless and free to meet the debt I owe.

He came my sinful cause to plead, He laid His glories by,

For me a homeless life to lead, a shameful death to die.

My sins I only see in part, my self-regarding ways;

The secret places of my heart lie bare before His gaze.

For me the price of sin He paid; my sins beyond recall

Are all alike on Jesus laid, He died to bear them all.

O living Lord of Life, for whom the heavens held their breath,

To see, triumphant from the tomb, a love that conquers death,

Possess my heart, that it may be, Your kingdom without end,

O Christ who died for love of me, and lives to be my friend.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES:

Laura Sparks

SECOND LESSON: John 14:1-14

pg. 108

SERMON: “Where Does God Live?”

Rev. David Roquemore

*HYMN: “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

GTG #624

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Prelude on Rhosymedre”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*DOXOLOGY: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

GTG # 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, O God, may we find in him the source of our strength. As we carry gifts to you, empower our hands to lift others to Christ. As we offer our praise, place on our lips the good news of your love. As we hear your word spoken, lead us to a new wisdom to impart the truth of the gospel; your people are free! Accept all that we do in the name of the Christ who makes all things new. Amen.

WE ARE SEALED IN GOD’S GRACE

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING...

The Lord be with you! **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

(The prayer continues, ending with "who forever sing to the glory of your name." Congregation joins in singing the Sanctus, GTG # 562)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

(The prayer continues until "Great is the mystery of Faith." Congregation joins in singing: 'Christ Has Died; Christ Has Risen' GTG # 563)

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

... 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.

(After the Lord's Prayer, congregation join in singing 'Amen' GTG # 564)

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(Please come forward to receive the communion elements. An Elder will give you a piece of bread. Take a cup from the tray (red cups contain wine and clear cups contain juice).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: The Song of Simeon Luke 2:29-32

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Amen.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN: “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

GTG #240

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: Toccata in d “Dorian,” BWV 538

J. S. Bach

(*Please stand in body or spirit)

TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP:

Lay Leader for this morning is Elizabeth Philhower.

Elder on Call this week is Mimi Michael.

Copyright information for today’s service music:

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“Kommst du nun Jesu vom Himmel herunter, BWV 650” by Johann Sebastian Bach, “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”, text *Psalms*, Strasbourg; music *Genevan Psalter*; “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”, text Thomas Ken, music Genevan Psalter; Toccata in d “Dorian,” BWV 538 Johann Sebastian Bach.

Music selections held in public domain

THE MINISTERS
All Members of First Presbyterian Church

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Bill Inscoc - Treasurer Emeritus

MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH
Lawrence & Inge Sthreshley – 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 Inscoc (2)
David McCart (3)
Mimi Michael (4)
Randy Miller (4)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) Council on Discipleship | (4) Council on Sharing |
| (2) Council on Caring | (5) Council on Praise |
| (3) Council on Administration | |

Suzanne Rhinehart - Clerk of Session

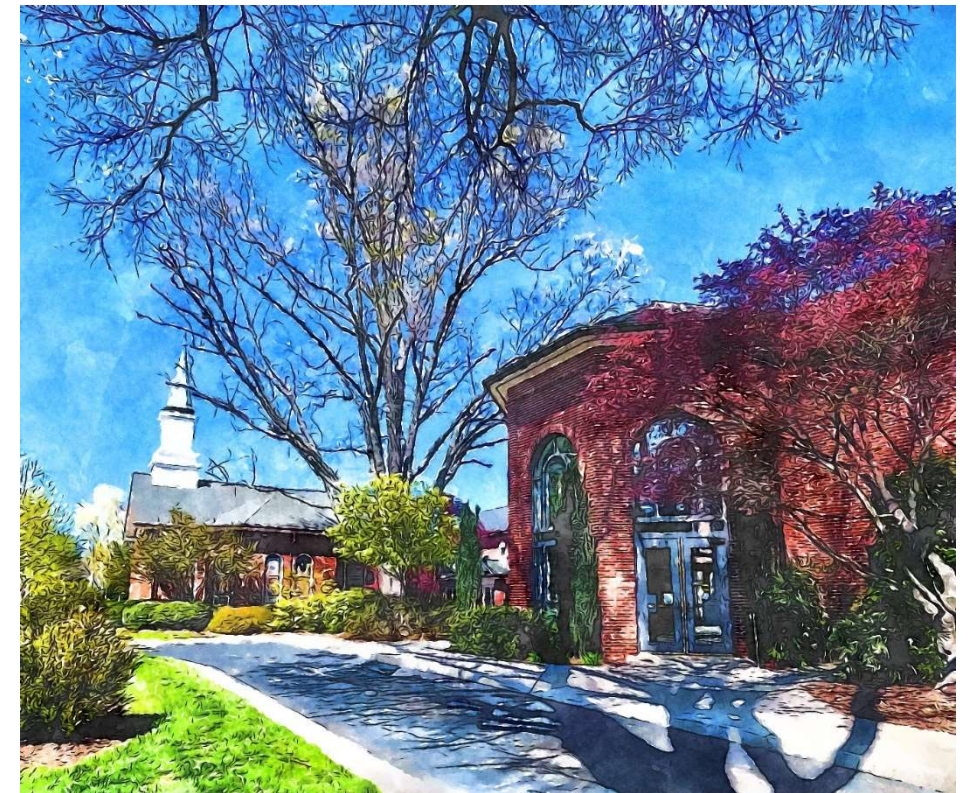
PASTOR
Rev. Dr. David Roquemore

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Sunday, May 7, 2023
5th Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m.



701 N. Main Avenue
(828) 464 – 0648

Newton, NC 28658
www.fpcnewton.org

MISSION STATEMENT:

Following Christ together in witness, love and service.

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.