

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Seasonal Color: White

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please take a moment to silence your cell phones and electronic devices.  
And, with the gift of music, let us prepare our hearts, minds, and souls  
for this special time with God and with one another.)*

PRELUDE: “Be Thou My Vision” arr. Lloyd Larson

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP:

O God, be gracious to me and hear my prayer.

**Know that God has set us apart and hears us when we call.**

O God, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

**O God, be gracious to us and hear our prayer.**

Let us worship God!

\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION:

**Author of life, you have given us breath to praise you, eyes to behold your mercy, and words to proclaim your abiding love. You have set apart a people to worship you in thought, word, and deed, and through Christ you have numbered us in the midst of them. We sleep with the assurance that you will never forsake us and we awaken each day to the glory of your creating goodness. Breathe upon us the promised Holy Spirit, that our minds may be opened to your wisdom and our tongues boldly declare that you alone are God.**

\*OPENING HYMN: “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” GTG #610

*(During the singing of the hymn, worshipers are invited to bring their Daily Change offering forward as an act of worship and place them in the containers in front of the sanctuary.)*

**WE ARE RENEWED IN GRACE**

\*LITANY OF AFFIRMATION:

See what love God has given us that we should be called God’s children.

**What God foretold by the mouths of the prophets, God fulfilled.**

It does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when God appears we shall be in God’s likeness.

**What God foretold by the mouths of the prophets, God fulfilled.**

Every one who thus hopes in God is made pure, as God is pure.

**What God foretold by the mouths of the prophets, God fulfilled.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

“Alleluia” (Taizé Community) GTG # 586

(Cantor sings first, congregation join as repeated)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**WE RECEIVE GOD’S WORD**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

**God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: 1 John 3:1-7 pg. 240

ANTHEM: “I Know that My Redeemer Liveth” Joseph M. Martin

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES: Laura Sparks

SECOND LESSON: Acts 3:12-19 pg. 120

SERMON: “Jesus the Victor” David Roquemore

\*HYMN: “Be Thou My Vision” GTG #450

**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 OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Gaudemus Pariter” Jan Roh

\*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.**

**WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

\*CLOSING HYMN: “Christ is Alive!” GTG #246

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. Erinn Schwarz

TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP:

Amy Owensby

\*Please stand in body or spirit

**Bold** print words are read in unison.

Lay Leader this morning is Margy Butterfield.

Elder on Call this week is Gary McDougal.

Copyright information for today’s service music:

“Be Thou My Vision”, ©2007 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. OneLicense #HB231 “I Know that My Redeemer Liveth.” ©1993 by High Street Music. All rights reserved. OneLicense #80824 “Alleluia 7”, text liturgical, music Jacques Berthier, copyright © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL “Christ Is Alive,” text Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1995; music Musica Sacra, c. 1778, text ©1975. Rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. OneLicense #106093 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty.” ©2011 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. OneLicense #49769

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under OneLicense.net A-701800, all rights reserved.

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”, Words: Public Domain Music: 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Curb Word Music (Admin. by WC Music Corp.) CCLI SONG #2762496

Selections below are held in public domain:

“O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing”, Spanish Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company) ; Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company); “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology, Text: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709, Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; “Be Thou My Vision,” text: Irish poem: trans. Mary E. Bryn, 1905; Eleanor Hull, 1912, alt. Music: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans 1927, music Harm, ©1927 Oxford University Press.; “Gaudemus Pariter”, by Jan Roh.

**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)  
Brandon Winbush - Director of Music  
[bwinbushconductor@gmail.com](mailto:bwinbushconductor@gmail.com)

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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

## MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH

Lawrence & Inge Sthreshley – Congo  
Rev. Dr. John McCall – Taiwan  
Eliane Menezes - Guatemala



## THE SESSION

### 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)

### Class of 2026

Eva Bonnema (1)  
Margie Pulliam (2)  
Ray Rhinehart (5)  
Jim Ten Kate (3)

(1) Council on Discipleship  
(2) Council on Caring  
(3) Council on Administration

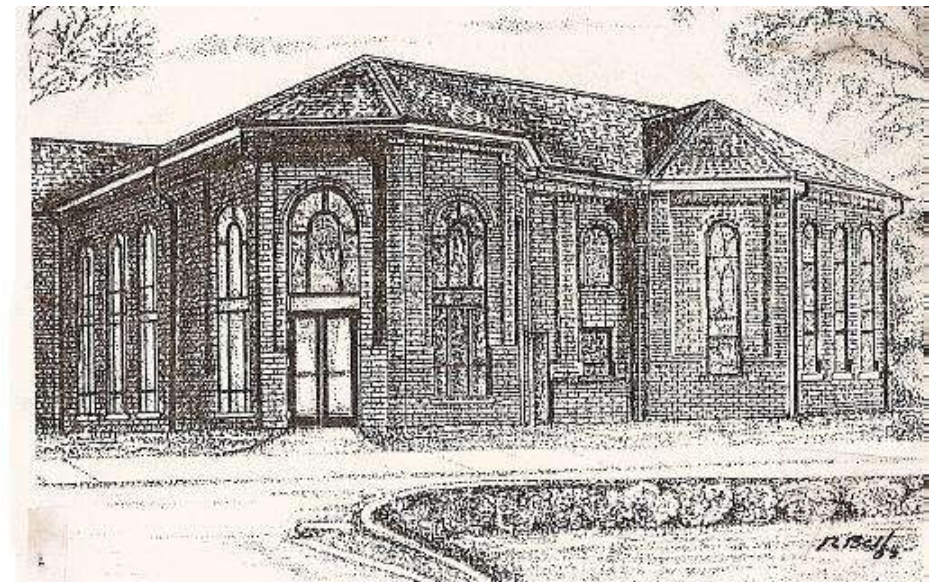
(4) Council on Sharing  
(5) Council on Praise

Amy Owensby - Clerk of Session

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Sunday, April 14, 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
10:00 a.m.



## PASTOR

Rev. Dr. David Roquemore

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.*

### Pastor David Roquemore may be reached at:

828-464-0648 (Church)      [droquemore@fpcnewton.com](mailto:droquemore@fpcnewton.com)  
717-512-2779 (Cell)