



First Presbyterian Church

Open doors, open hearts, a welcome for all just as you are!

June 26, 2022

Next Sunday, July 3 - Worship is at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 10:00

On Ash Wednesday back in 2020, members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - our neighbors across the street - joined us for worship. When Covid shut the world down, we were unable to join them as planned on Maundy Thursday that year.

They have now invited us to share in worship with them at **10:00 on Sunday, July 3** at their outdoor service on the lawn. Session, on our behalf, has graciously accepted!

Parking is behind their church, on the street or in the bank parking lot, and of course you can also park in our lot and walk over. Their driveway can be used to drop folks off right at the lawn. **Bring your own chair if you can, or sit in one that is provided.** In case of rain or too much heat, the service will more indoors.

FPC Sunday School will NOT MEET that day.

Ransom Hunter Remembrance Day Celebration, July 3 at 1:00

Our church has received an invitation to this event to be held at the Burge Memorial Church Cemetery on the corner of S. Hawthorne St. and Catawba Ave.

Ransom Hunter, born into slavery, is believed to be the first freed slave to own property in Gaston County. He owned land that today is downtown Mount Holly. In 2017 the Mount Holly Historical Society named him Person of the Year.

Notice of Live Streaming

Please be aware that we are live-streaming our worship service today.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pastor	Janet DeWater
Administrative Assistant	Shannon Fish
Director of Music	Hanna Lee
Music Worship Leader	Jonathan Brackett
Organist	
Treasurer	Stefanie Faith

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PO BOX 687 133 S. Main St Mount Holly, NC 28120
704-827-0521 FPCMountholly.com

PRELUDE

Dr. Richard Wilson

WELCOME

Rev. Janet DeWater

*Masks are now optional in worship, **except when singing hymns** – at that time you are asked to put a mask on. Thank you.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ has set us free:

Free to serve;

Free to welcome and include;

Free to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Freed in the grace of Jesus Christ,

We come now, with grateful hearts, to worship God!

***SONG #307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

V. 1&4

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Spirit of the Living God, your fruit includes love, peace, patience and kindness, but we are often a divided, hateful people. We turn to violent means and violent words to settle our disputes. We are impatient with each other and fail to honor your commandment to love. Our idols fascinate and distract us from your rightful path. Forgive us. Turn us from our sinful ways. Set us free in Jesus Christ. *(Please pause for a moment of silent prayer...)*

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

In Jesus Christ we have been set free. Let us rejoice in such grace and claim the forgiveness that is offered to us.

Amen and thanks be to God!

***SONG OF RESPONSE #582**

Glory to God

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Children: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Brenda Mc Kinney

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 5:1,13-25 page 190

SERMON

Do not "bite and devour one other..."

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Iona Abbey Worship

We believe in God who made the seas and the earth, the sun and the sky, who calls us to live responsibly. We believe in Jesus Christ who became human, who healed the sick, who talked to children, who made friends with sinners. He burned brightly and offended many. His journey was one of life and death and resurrection. His light continues to shine in the darkness. We believe in the Holy Spirit who inspired the scriptures, and whose breath we breathe. We believe that God calls us to be a community, committed to one another, offering a welcome to everyone, old and young, rich and poor, strong and weak. We believe that God calls us to be peacemakers, workers for justice, brothers and sisters, and a light for our world. Amen. *(written by two 14 year old boys in a workshop on the Isle of Iona)*

SPECIAL MUSIC #384

Soon and Very Soon

PASTORAL PRAYER 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

This week we receive the "Daily Change" offering formerly known as the "5 Cents a Meal" offering

*Doxology #606

*Offertory Prayer

Generous God, you have blessed us with gifts to serve and share. May the offerings we present today be used to further your Kingdom and build your beloved community. Amen.

*HYMN #361

O Christ, the Great Foundation

V. 1&2

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #80

You Shall Go Out with Joy

*POSTLUDE

*Please rise in body or in spirit

A warm welcome to all this morning! If you are visiting a special welcome to you! We hope you find the worship service to be a blessing. We invite you to fill out the visitor card located in the pew racks and place it in the offering box. We would love to get better acquainted, and we invite your participation in the worship, fellowship and mission of this church.

Our service is a little bit different as we worship during these days of pandemic, seeking to love our neighbor by keeping one another safe. The service is shorter in length, and we are taking precautions. We are not passing the friendship pad but if you wish to connect with the pastor please email Janet at jdewater@fpcmountholly.com or call/email Shannon in the church office: 704-827-0521, sfish@fpcmountholly.com

Children are always welcome in worship, wiggles, giggles and all! We value their presence with us as we worship God, knowing that this is how they experience the loving community of Christ and how they learn to worship. We now have a **"Worship and Play"** room available downstairs for children and their parents where we are streaming the service and toys are available for those who need a more active space during the service.

The Offering – as an added pandemic safety measure, we are receiving the offering for our church and ministry at the box at the rear of the sanctuary. There is also a Paypal option available on the church website fpcmountholly.com or through the provided QR Code.



New Office Hours

Shannon is in the office Wednesday - Thursday from 9:30 – 3:00 and on Friday from 9:30 - 12:00. Please note, however, that the office will be closed this week on Friday, July 1.