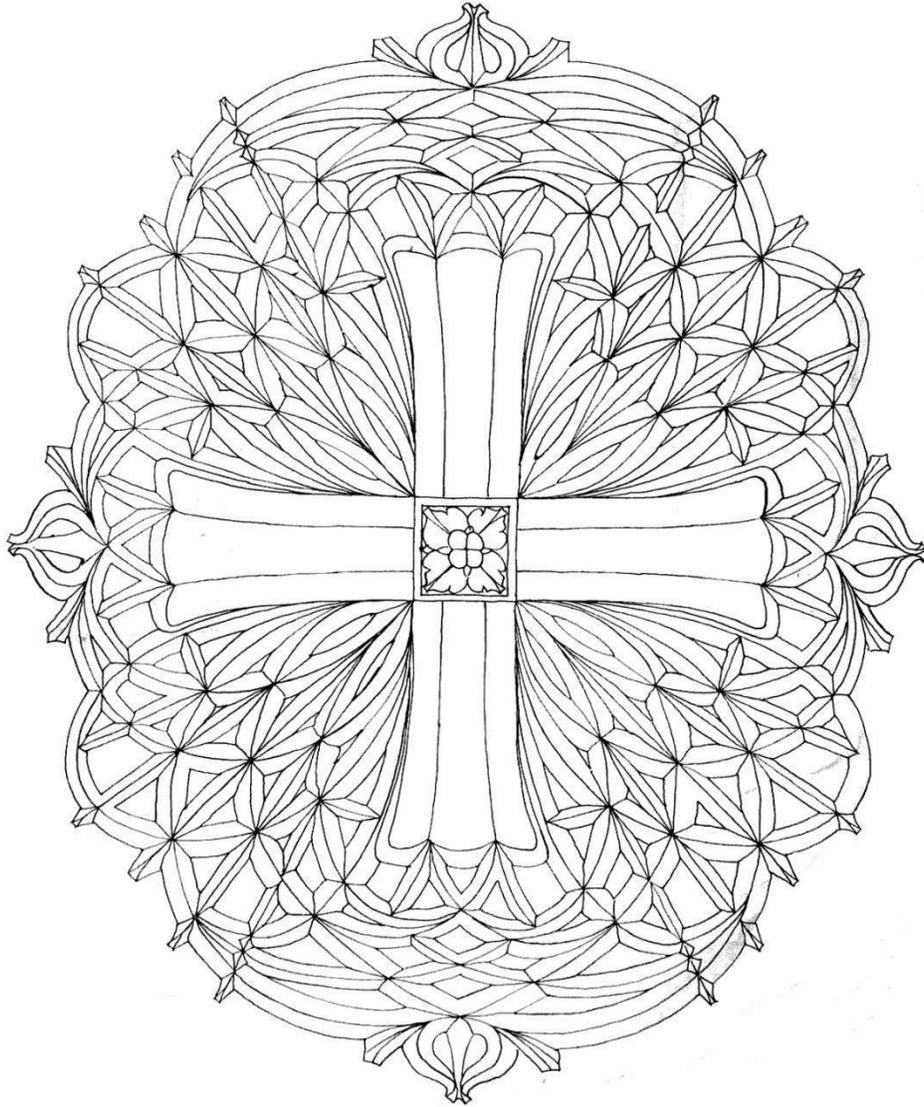


First Presbyterian Church

May 16, 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of Raleigh

*Serving Christ from the heart of the city to the ends
of the earth with love, faith and action.*

We Gather in God's Presence

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

arr. Diane Bish

Call to Worship

Blessed are those whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who dwell on the Lord's goodness.

Blessed are we, when we find ourselves in the presence of the Lord our God!

Hymn

["Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"](#)

No. 620

Prayer of Confession

We confess, O God, that we have looked elsewhere for truth and wisdom, settling for less of both than you intend for us. On this day of confirmation, when young people set upon the path you have placed before us, help us remember the promises we have made to you, and help us remember the promises you have made to us, that we might live our lives with gladness and devotion, through Christ our Lord. And now, in silence, hear the prayers we lift before you this day...

Kyrie | Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Pardon

Friends in Christ, in response to this gift of God's grace, how then shall we live?

**With gratitude, following after the Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to love
God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves.**

This is the way of Jesus, in whom we find life!

We Celebrate our Life Together

Moment for Mission | Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen

Tammy Gregory, Executive Director

Reception of Confirmands | Joseph Yeatts Ackerson, Hugh Faircloth Butler, Joshua Aidan Dunning

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession 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.

We Listen to God's Word

Moment for Children

Laurie Taylor Weicher

Scripture Readings

Psalm 1; Ephesians 4:17-32

Sermon

"It Matters Where We Stand"

Ed McLeod

We Respond to God's Word

Hymn

["Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"](#)

No. 707

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 at 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.

An Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

"To Thee, O God"
Andy Eaton, Baritone

Ludwig van Beethoven

Prayer of Dedication

We Bear God's Word into the World

Hymn

["How Happy Are the Saints of God"](#)

No. 457

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response

Go with us Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in Your Spirit, strong and true, our lives may be our gift to you.

Postlude

"Toccatina"

Clara Schumann

Today's acolyte is Will Ackerson.

The Chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are given by Dr. and Mrs. William L. Miller in loving memory of Laura's parents, Charles and Elizabeth Sanderson, and her brothers Hugh and Charles Sanderson.