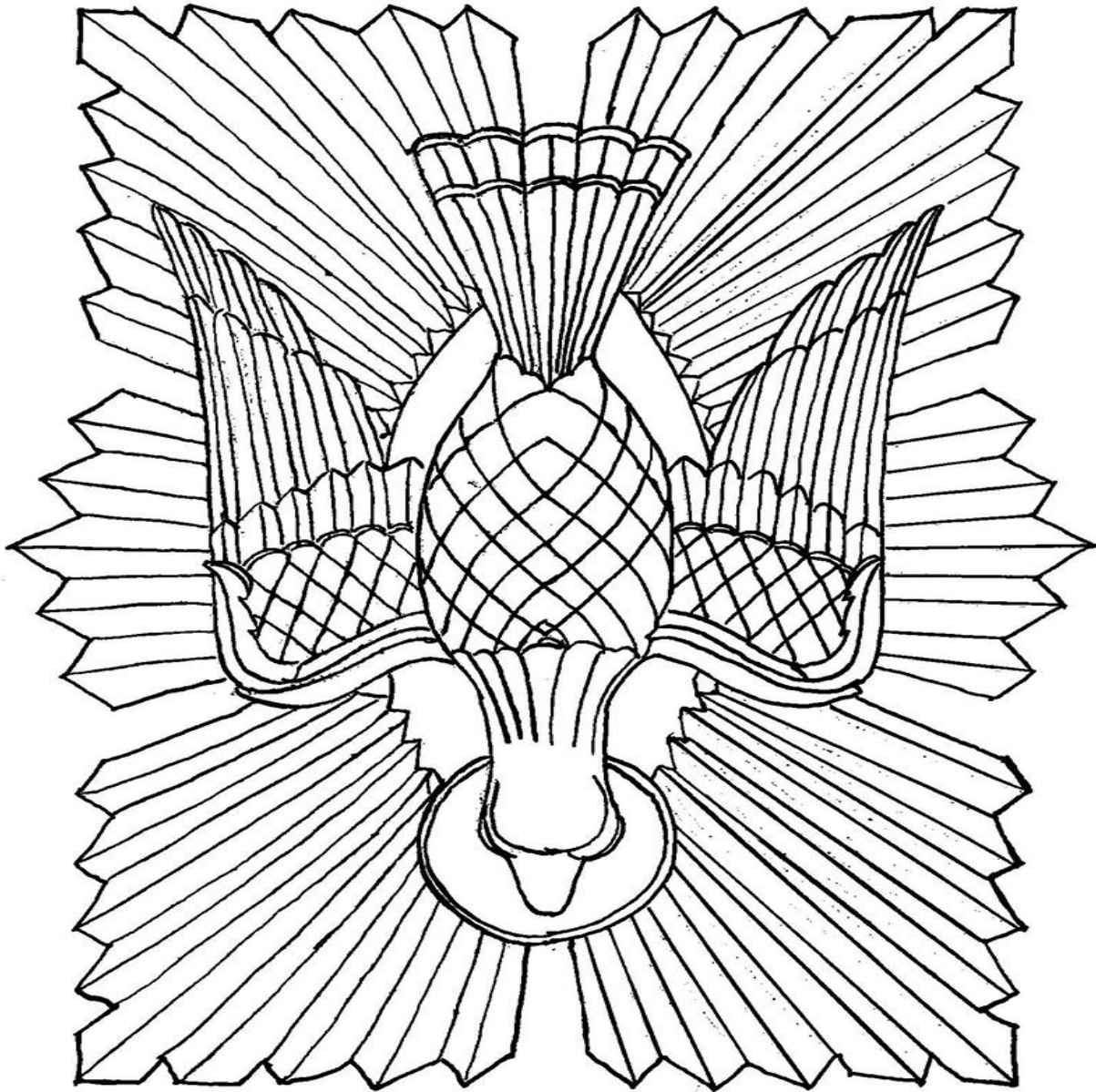


First Presbyterian Church

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

January 22, 2023
3rd Sunday after Epiphany



Luke 3:21 "When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as He was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove."

We Gather in God's Presence

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Eight Little Preludes and Fugues
No. 4. F major

J.S. Bach
BWV 556

Call to Worship

Hear, O Lord, when we cry aloud, and be gracious to us!

"Come," my heart says, "seek God's face." Your face, Lord, do we seek.

The Lord is my light and our salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Let us worship God!

*Hymn

["Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"](#)

No. 12

Prayer of Confession

If you are our stronghold, Loving God, and we continue to live in fear, we are liars. If we claim to possess the light, but choose the ways of darkness, we are fooling ourselves. And if we know of Christ's call to discipleship, but ignore his call to radical compassion, we are not as faithful as we hope to be. Forgive us, Mighty God, and return us to your embrace. Set us along your paths and give us courage. We pray this and our personal prayers of confession in this time of silence...

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!

*Gloria Patri | Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

We Celebrate our Life Together

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Ed McLeod

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.**

Congregational Response to Prayer

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace.

We Listen to God's Word

A Moment for Children

Katy Schafer

Children age 4-2nd grade can leave for children's church

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 4:12-23

Sermon

"Call and Response"

Laurie Taylor Weicher

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn

["You Walk Along Our Shoreline"](#)

No. 170

*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

(8:30) Confidence

Felix Mendelssohn

Nat Sparrow, piano

(11:00) BWV 61, Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland

J.S. Bach

Chancel Choir

*Doxology | **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God above; ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

We Bear God's Word into the World

*Hymn

["Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"](#)

No. 687

*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

From Fantasia in G

J.S. Bach

BWV 571

*All those who are able may stand.

Children's Church is offered for four years - second grade during the sermon.
Today's *lay reader* is **Fran Yohman**

The *Chancel Flowers* are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in loving memory of Jim's mother, Mrs. Helen Louise Dority Crew, by Dr. and Mrs. James C. Crew.

Offertory Lyrics

Now come, saviour of the Gentiles,
You who are known as the Virgin's child,
So that the whole world marvels
That God ordained him such a birth.

Upcoming Events

FPC's 207th Birthday Celebration - Today!

First Presbyterian church turned 207 years old yesterday, January 21st. Join your FPC family for fellowship in the Gathering Space and enjoy a slice of birthday cake following the 11:00 service this morning. Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church Foundation.

Reminders

FPC Shares Donations - January

The item for the month of January is Canned Fruit or Applesauce. Please drop off donations at one of the receptacles in the Edge Lobby or in the Lisa Ham Gathering. Thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry.

Connect with us every week just to let us know you worshiped with us today or send us your prayer requests. Go to www.fpcraleigh.org/connect.

To make a contribution to FPC, use this QR code. We are grateful for every expression of generosity.

