



First Presbyterian Church

of Raleigh, North Carolina

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

November 2, 2025

All Saints Sunday

We Gather in God's Presence

Gathering Music

Chiming of the Trinity

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

Introit

Lift High the Cross

Arr. Andrew Carter (1939)

Call to Worship

Let us gather this day to give thanks to God.

We come so that our faith may grow and our love may increase.

Give thanks for the Lord who is faithful and loving.

In gratitude, let us worship God!

*Hymn 691

Lord, When I Came into This Life

LAND OF REST

Prayer of Confession

The Rev. Laurie Taylor Weicher

Gracious God, we confess it is often challenging to love others. People often do not think and behave in ways we understand. They often challenge our ideas of what is right and good. We forget that we are a part of the fabric of all humanity and so are called to care for all. Forgive us, Lord, and teach us to love as Jesus did--sacrificially and extravagantly. May we bear witness to your love by the way we love others.

(Let us continue our confession in silence)

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!

Welcome to Worship!

Some notes about the service:

*An asterisk denotes standing, in body or spirit.

Words in bold are read aloud by the congregation.

Today is All Saints' Sunday. In the Reformed Tradition, the emphasis on this day is the ongoing sanctification of the whole people of God. While we will give thanks for church members who have died in the past year, we also give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age.

Theologian Karl Barth has written, "In the act of confession the believer steps into the freedom of God in which they, too, may be free."

*Response of Gratitude | Hymn 581

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

**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 Listen and Respond to God's Word

Children's Moment (11:00)

Beth Thaxton

*After the Children's Moment, children ages 4 - 2nd gr. are invited to the Library for
Children's Church and will return to their pews during the hymn following the sermon.*

Prayer for Illumination

Becky Glendy

Scripture Reading

Psalm 119: 137-144

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Out of the Deep

John Rutter

Nate Leyland, cello

Scripture Reading

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

A Faith That Works

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

Silent Reflection

*Hymn 375

Shall We Gather at the River

HANSON PLACE

Remembrance of the Saints

Anthem

Pie Jesu

John Rutter

Lindsay Anne McCall, soprano

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.**

Psalm 119 is an
extended poem that asks
for help in following
God's law. Today's
verses speak of the
righteousness and
goodness of God in the
face of humanity's
frailty.

Today we ring the bell
in honor of the saints
we have lost in the past
year:

Evelyn Teeter

Julene McPhaul

Harriett Davidson

Carolyn Cheek

Avery Tatnall

Gerry Rogers

Karen Dunn

Mildred Cooper

Donald McRee

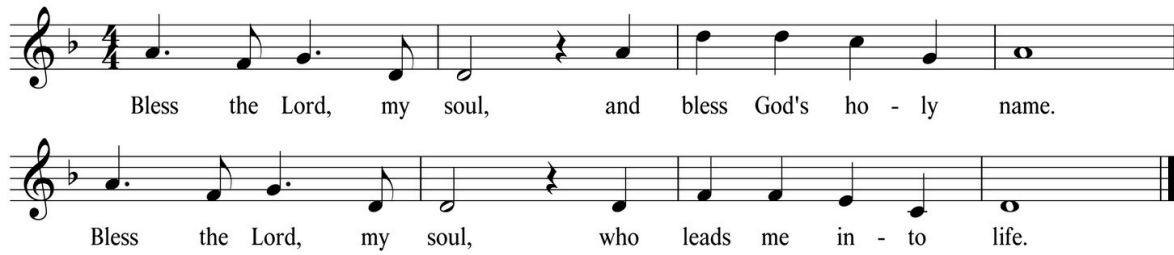
William Steven Keene

Betty Ann Dorman

Rex Cammann

Response to Prayer | Hymn 544

BLESS THE LORD (Taize)



An Invitation to Generosity

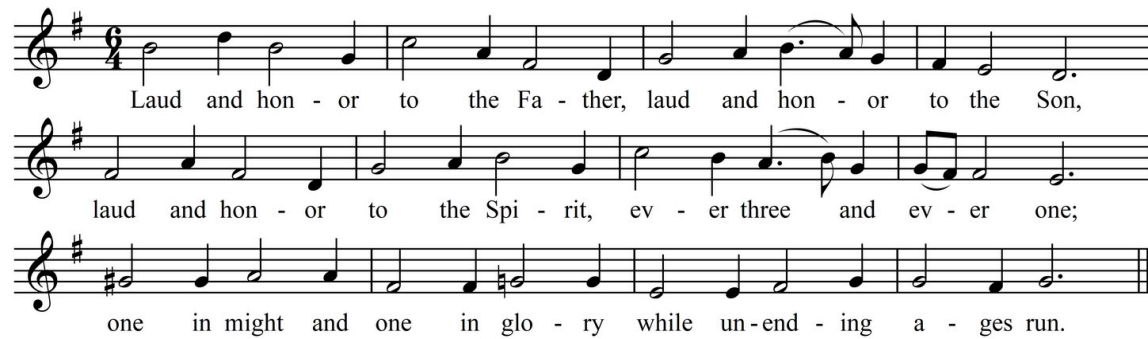
Offertory

The Lord is My Shepherd

John Rutter

*Doxology | Hymn 394, stanza 4

WESTMINSTER ABBEY



*Prayer of Dedication

We Carry God's Word into the World

*Hymn 326

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response | Hymn 541 stanza 1

RANDOLPH

**God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

*Chiming of the Trinity

Postlude

Lift High the Cross

Arr. John Leavitt (1956)

Scripture tells us that we are able to love ourselves and others because God first loved us. So, too, we give of ourselves and our resources out of gratitude to God for what God has already graciously given us. We give because God has first given to us.

Having been fed with the very Word of God, we go out to share that nourishment in the ordinary intersections of our daily lives. The Lord's Day service is the indispensable event that identifies the church with its Lord and equips it to identify with those whom the Lord has called us to serve.

Anthem Lyrics

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well, the voice of my complaint.
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss:
O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee: therefore shalt thou be feared.
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him: in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord; before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust, in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:
and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel: from all his sins.

Psalm 130

Blessed Jesu, Lord I pray, in thy mercy grant them rest.
Lord our God, we pray thee, grant them everlasting rest.
from 'Dies Irae', Missa pro defunctis

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore shall I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths
of righteousness, for His Name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with my; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23



The Chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in loving memory of
Mike and Barbara Swaim, by their daughter Anne.

Scan the QR code for
ways to become
connected to our
ministries.



On the Calendar This Week November 2 – November 8

Today – All Saints Sunday Sunday School 9:45am | Worship 11:00am | Camino Interest Meeting 9:45am
Officer Training (Memorial Hall) 12-4pm | Pathfinders & ROCK Stars 5:00pm | Youth Group 5:30pm

Monday, November 3 – Program Staff Meeting 9:30am | Staff Meeting 1:00pm
Zoom Interest Meeting for FPC Walks the Camino 7:30pm

Tuesday, November 4 – Enough for Today Podcast 8:00am | CDC Chapel 10:30am
Glenaire Lunch 12:00pm

Wednesday, November 5 – Early Birds 6:30am | CDC Board 7:00pm
Choir Rehearsal at Good Shepherd 7:00pm

Thursday, November 6 – Knitting Group 10:00am | Bible Study at Glenaire 2:30pm
Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm

Friday, November 7 – MS Service Retreat | RYM

Saturday, November 8 – MS Service Retreat | RYM

Announcements and Upcoming Events

FPC Walks the Camino

We are planning a trip to walk 100km of the Camino (The Way of St. James) in Spain next fall and hope you'll consider joining us. The trip will be September 30-October 7, 2026. If you weren't able to make the in-person meeting, we'll have a zoom interest meeting tomorrow, November 3 at 7:30pm. Reach out to Laurie Taylor Weicher with any questions. See First Press for the Zoom link.

Adult Fellowship Outing-Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory

On Thursday, November 13, we are headed back to the Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory and we'd love for you to come along! We'll begin our day with lunch together at Smithfield's Chicken 'N Bar-B-Q in Siler City. After lunch, we will head to Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory in Bear Creek, where you can browse a wonderful selection of delicious treats, holiday gifts, and, of course, their world-famous fruitcakes. It's a perfect opportunity to get a head start on your Christmas shopping! Invite a friend and make plans to be part of this joyful outing! Transportation will be provided. Bus departs FPC Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m. RSVP by November 10.

PW Product Sales

The Presbyterian Women will hold their PW Product Sale again this year. You will find their table in the Edge Lobby on several Sundays over the next few months. Visit their table on October 26, November 23, December 7, and December 14.

Lunch and Learn: Planning your Funeral

If that title doesn't sound like fun, I don't know what does! Join us Sunday, November 16 at noon for lunch and a discussion around the theology and practicalities of a service of witness to the resurrection. Thinking about what hymns or scripture you want at your service is a huge gift to your family, and to the church. This lunch and learn will help you think through your wishes and is designed for adults of all ages. Email Laurie Taylor Weicher with any questions. You can sign up on the church website or by calling the church office.

FPC Shares Item for November

This month's FPC Shares item is Canned Vegetables! Bring this item and/or your favorite non-perishable food donations to the church. There are FPC Shares receptacles on both sides of the Edge Lobby and in two places in the Lisa Ham Gathering Space outside the sanctuary.

Mission Highlight

Children's Hope Alliance (CHA)

In 1883, two Presbyterian women in Charlotte, North Carolina, founded the Presbyterian Orphans Home, called Barium Springs. In 1914, almost 100 miles away in the small mountain community of Banner Elk, North Carolina, Presbyterian minister Edgar Tufts established the Grandfather Home for Children. Both of these historic agencies functioned primarily as orphanages until the mid-1900s. Children coming to these homes would stay for long periods of time. Many came as infants and stayed until graduation from high school or college. Both homes were self-sustaining farms where the children learned trade skills and assisted with daily chores.

In the 1950s, the need for an orphanage decreased, partially due to peacetime and advances in medical technology. Instead, children needing care had one or both parents still living, but suffered from abuse and neglect. Not only did these children need a place of refuge, but they also required treatment and therapy. Services expanded after the 1970s to focus mainly on the needs of children who were classified as "troubled" or abused. Between the 1970s and early 2000s, both Barium Springs and Grandfather Home for Children experienced expansion of services to better meet the needs of children at the time. These expansions included foster care and adoption services, educational services, and therapeutic services for children who had suffered complex trauma.

In April of 2014, the two organizations merged in an effort to have a greater impact in helping children and families across the region. The name chosen for the newly formed, merged organization was Children's Hope Alliance (CHA). This name allows everyone to understand their deeply rooted mission, to provide hope and healing for hurting children and families. In 2018, CHA became the state's largest provider of therapeutic foster care, primarily focusing on training quality foster parents.

During the 2020 COVID pandemic, Children's Hope Alliance group homes closed including those on the Grandfather Home campus. While CHA operated residential homes on the Grandfather Home campus for more than 100 years, the organization recently shifted its service model from a physical home for children to serving children in their homes—whether biological, kinship, or foster homes. Since the campus was no longer used, the Grandfather Home property was sold to nearby Lees McRae College with the promise to host a Grandfather Home for Children museum. Today, the stone buildings of the 1930s and 1940s still stand. Alumni, or children who grew up at Grandfather Home, still visit yearly and maintain contact. These amazing individuals continually tell the stories of love and memories at Grandfather Home. With 2020, a new decade called for a new vision. Imagine a world where that tragic gap is eliminated and the needs of today's children are met – where they have everything they need to meet mental health challenges, and can be successful members of a community. Imagine who these children can grow up to be. Imagine what they can bring to the world, how they can change it, and how they can make it better.

The FPC mission support, annually given by FPC, helps CHA continue to provide high-quality service to children in their care. In 2013, the FPC Foundation awarded CHA a \$13,000 grant to support its mission. Children's Hope Alliance and the children they help always welcome and appreciate our prayers. The future of Children's Hope Alliance is bright. To learn more, visit <https://www.childrenshopealliance.org/>