



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

The Service for the Lord's Day

November 5, 2023
11:00 am Worship Service
All Saints' Day



With thanksgiving for those who have joined the Church Triumphant this past year:

Allen Eugene Keil	January 24, 1940 - November 11, 2022
Joseph Bennett Riddle, III	September 15, 1933 - November 25, 2022
Orville Larry Fincher	December 8, 1922 - December 8, 2022
Jo Ann Wadsworth	July 24, 1935 - December 16, 2022
Jean Kennett Haynes	July 14, 1932 - December 23, 2022
Wayne Swope Montgomery	April 21, 1925 - January 6, 2023
Stephen Edward Cooper	January 29, 1951 - January 28, 2023
Betty Owen Moore	May 3, 1931 - October 3, 2023

We believe God loves everyone without exception. All are welcome here.

Our mission is to experience the love of Jesus Christ by practicing radical hospitality, forming deep relationships, and joining in shared ministry.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHEVILLE

We hope that you experience the boundary-breaking love of Jesus Christ in our worship service and ministries.

If you are interested in learning more about FPCA, please scan here for the “I’m New” page on our website. Children are welcome in services and you can find worship bags for them in the narthex. Nursery care is also available as needed.



We are in the middle of our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, and are just at 64% of the way to our goal. Every pledge makes a difference! If you haven’t yet, please scan the QR code to the left to make your pledge today.

Please speak with an usher if you would like a large print bulletin.

The Chancel flowers are given by Jansen McCreary to the glory of God, and for all those we have cared for and lost and remember today with love.

Leading in Worship Today:

Pastors: Caitlin Johnson, Patrick Johnson, Shannon Jordan

Liturgist: Beverly Williamson

Organist: Jeremy Roberts

FPCA Chancel Choir; Soloist: Bailey Farmer

Trumpet: Casey Coppenbarger, George Emrick

Trombone: Rienette Davis, Jamie Warren

GATHERING IN

VOLUNTARY

Sonata da Chiesa
I. Invocation
II. Kyrie eleison

Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Patrick Johnson

INTROIT

Lux Aeterna
*I heard a voice from heaven
saying unto me
“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,
for they rest from their labors.”
Even so sayeth the Spirit,
for they rest.*

John Rutter

*CALL TO WORSHIP

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

Caitlin Johnson

**Please stand if able*

From Revelation 7

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

*HYMN 326 For All the Saints SINE NOMINE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Shannon Jordan

**Eternal God, in every age
you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith.
Forgive our indifference to your will.
You have commanded us to speak,
but we have been silent.
You have called us to do what is just,
but we have been fearful.
Have mercy on us, your struggling servants.
Keep before us faithful people for us to follow
so that, by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we may grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
to the praise of your holy name.**

(Silent prayer of confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS
Siblings In Christ, declare with me the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS
*HYMN 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD

Our Lord Jesus said:
**You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.**

This is the greatest and first commandment.
And the second is like it:
you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

*PASSING OF THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*The movement from
confession to
forgiveness to
thanksgiving invites the
natural response to live
in a way that is
pleasing to God.*

Beverly Williamson

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson Psalm 34:1-10, 22
The grass withers and the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Second Lesson Matthew 5:1-12
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Blessed Are They

Patrick Johnson

*HYMN 172 Blest Are They

BLEST ARE THEY

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed is an ancient and ecumenical creed that affirms the main content of the Christian faith.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Keith Love *Keith serves as the Board Chair of the FPCA Child Care Center.*

To give online, use the QR code. The gifts we offer express our stewardship of creation, demonstrate our care for one another, support the ministries of the church, and provide for the needs of the poor.



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Every generous act of giving,
is itself a gift from God above.

OFFERING

ANTHEM

Pie Jesu

John Rutter

<i>Pie Jesu Domine</i>	<i>Blessed Lord Jesus</i>
<i>Donna eis requiem</i>	<i>grant them rest</i>
<i>Requiem aeternam</i>	<i>Rest eternal</i>
<i>Donna eis domine</i>	<i>grant them, Lord.</i>

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SUNG RESPONSES & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN 552

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

HYMN 553

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

HYMN 554

Amen.

**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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

SINE NOMINE

*BLESSING

We invite you to remain seated for the voluntary as we prepare to be sent from worship.

After the service today, you are invited to join us for fellowship in the Wallace Foyer on the ground floor.

We are glad you worshiped here today.

We believe God loves every person without exception. As followers of Christ, we strive to be a holy community that reflects the diversity of God's creation through the welcome and full participation of every age, ability, socioeconomic status, family background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, skin color, and racial identity. We lament the history of exclusion in the church. We rejoice in the wholeness that comes when we are all in relationship together. We invite you to join us in ministry at FPCA.

COMMUNITY JOYS & CONCERNS

Please join the FPCA Family as we celebrate joys among us and pray for loved ones. If you have a prayer request, please call the church office at 828-253-1431 or email life@fpcasheville.org. If it's an emergency, call the church office, and if after hours, choose option 5 to reach the pastor on call.

Prayers for:

Ashley, granddaughter of **Susan Gaddis**, as she recovers at home following a recent hospitalization for mini strokes.

Martha Branden, who will be having shoulder repair surgery on November 7.

Erin Carver, dear friend of **Kim Thomas**, as she prepares for a bone marrow transplant.

Emily and Jonathan Gaddis; Emily is the daughter-in-law of **Susan Gaddis**. They are waiting for news about a lung transplant that is needed as a result of leukemia.

Denise Griffiths, friend of **Gloria Dupree**, who is hospitalized with blood clots in her lungs and legs.

Doug Huntley, who was hospitalized this past week for another infection.

Neal Imm, stepfather of **Nathan Gruver**, as he recovers from surgery on October 23 and navigates other health related issues.

Jimmy, uncle of **Tabitha Bakhshwain**, who is recovering from a hospitalization due to infection.

Ron and Sandra Macklem, as she receives therapy and navigates loss of eyesight from another stroke.

Michael, son-in-law of **Micki and Jerry Argall**, who has brain cancer. Prayers for strength for the family and wisdom for the doctors.

The Moss Family; **Chris, Grant, Riley, Gardner**, and **Emma Ann** as **Grant** undergoes treatment for stage 4 cancer.

Rev. Beth Duttera Newman, who is currently in Atlanta receiving care following a bone marrow transplant.

Margaret and Pete Peery and their family, as they grieve the death of her brother-in-law, **Chuck Reiley**.

Mary Alice Sisk, sister of **Laura Carson**, who will be receiving a cardioversion procedure on November 9 to treat Afib.

For **Sam and Sally Thornburg** and the **community of Lewiston, Maine**, as they process the violence of the recent mass shooting.

Mission co-workers (serving in Madagascar), **Dan and Elizabeth Turk**. They are currently in the US and Madagascar is facing serious challenges. Additionally, Dan is experiencing significant back pain and difficulties, impacting his ability to travel and speak at supporting congregations.

Pat Williams, friend of **Jansen McCreary**, who is receiving hospice care for an aggressive form of cancer.

Bill Winkler, as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.

For the war in Israel, the victims of violence, the peacemakers, those in harm's way, leaders in the region, and those who are providing aid.

We Celebrate:

Stewardship Celebration! Because of your support through money, time, and talent, our church was able to recognize Reformation Sunday as, in the words of one congregant, "an epiphany for me through the Invitation to the Offering—Never before had I thought of *my* desire to give *to* the church as a gift from God." Thanks be to God!



Below are some of our upcoming church events. For a full list, scan to see our most recent *Thursday News*.

For information on our Staff and Leadership, please scan here:



Sunday, November 5, 2023

Rev. Patrick Johnson will be preaching at 8:45 am and 11:00 am.
Text Talk, Faith & Fellowship, and Godly Play faith formation classes will take place at 9:45 am.
The Preschool Singers will meet from 9:50 am - 10:05 am in Room 103.
The Percolating Presbies youth group will meet in Room 209/210 at 9:50 am.
The Choir will warm up in the Choir Room at 10:15 am.
Youth Choir meets at 4:15 pm and Youth Group (with dinner) meets from 5:15 pm - 7:15 pm.

Monday, November 6, 2023

The Presbyterian Women will have a meeting from 10:30 am - 11:30 am.

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

The Men's Group is meeting at Whole Foods on Tunnel Road from 9:00 am - 10:30 am.
The Children's Choirs will meet for dinner and practice from 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm.
The Bell Choir will meet from 5:45 pm to 6:45 pm in the Music Library.
The Women's Group will meet in the Widman Room at 6:00 pm.
The Chancel Choir will meet from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm.

Saturday, November 11, 2023

Saturday Sanctuary will take place in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30 am - 3:00 pm.

Sunday, November 12, 2023

The First Notes group will warm up in the Choir Room from 8:00 am - 8:45 am.
Rev. David Germer will be preaching at 8:45 am and 11:00 am.
Text Talk, Faith & Fellowship, and Godly Play faith formation classes will take place at 9:45 am.
New Members will be received in the Library, Room 108, at 9:45 am.
The Parents of Youth will meet at 9:45 am in Room 214.
The Preschool Singers will meet from 9:50 am - 10:05 am in Room 103.
The Percolating Presbies youth group will meet in Room 209/210 at 9:50 am.
The Choir will warm up in the Choir Room at 10:15 am.
A Pan Harmonia Concert will be in the Sanctuary from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.
Youth Choir meets at 4:15 pm and Youth Group (with dinner) meets from 5:15 pm - 7:15 pm.

Partners at 40 Church Street



FPCA Affiliations

