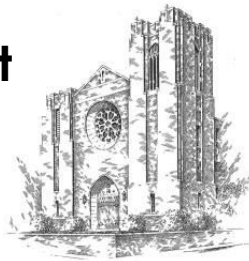


First Reformed United Church of Christ



The Worship of God

Fourth Sunday of Easter
The Unexpected Acts of God

May 12, 2019 Mother's Day
11:00AM

Where People Discover...The Love of God...The Power to Love Others...The Ability to Love Ourselves

Gathering

(*Please stand as you are able
"BOLD" indicates congregational response

Prelude

*Chiming of the Hour

Choral Opening

"Come to the Waters"

Call to Worship

Jeremy Lovell

Come, God gathers us for worship,

like a mother hen gathers her brood under her wings.

Our God, loving, nurturing.

In love, God saves and supports us,

teaching us the way we should go.

Trusting in God, we continually offer our praise!

*Passing of the Peace

Elizabeth Horton

*Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Insert

*Invocation

Welcome

Centering

Young Disciples

(All youth are invited to join in this worship at the front.)

A Prayer for Mothers Everywhere

Jeremy Lovell

Gift of Music

"God We Praise You for the Women"

Ellen Peterson

God, we praise you for the women who have taught us to be strong,
who have held us, who have raised us with a prayer and with a song.

...For Sarah, Pharaoh's daughter, and Mary mother of Jesus...
for the mothers all over the world

Scripture Reading

Psalms 23

Jeremy Lovell

(page #491 in pew bible)

Prayer Shawl Blessing

Harriette Murphy

Without even knowing who would receive it, this shawl was made.

May the recipient see the intricate love and care given to this shawl, mirroring the intricate love and care that God bestows upon all people.

This shawl was made to bring warmth to someone who feels a chill.

May they feel the warm breath of the Holy Spirit as they wrap themselves with it.

This shawl was made to bring comfort to someone who feels alone.

May they feel comfort in knowing that someone prayed for them as they crafted it.

This shawl was made to bring peace to someone in need of prayer.

May they feel the power of our prayers as they feel the fibers of the fabric winding through their fingers.

This shawl was made to remind the recipient that they are part of this community.

May they feel touched by our love, moved by our guidance and held up by our support.

Anthem

"No Greater Gift"

Ruth Elaine Schram

Though I speak the language of angels, though I know all there is to know,
If I have no love, I am nothing at all. There is no gift greater than love.

And though I understand every mystery, and my faith could remove any mountain,
If I have no love, I am nothing at all. There is no gift greater than love.

Love is kind and gentle, rejoicing in the truth. Love is not proud. Love is not rude.
Love never fails, though all other gifts will cease. Love hopes and endures, love bears and believes.

Though I give all I have to the hungry, though I give my very life,
If I have no love, I am nothing at all. There is no gift greater than love.

There is hope, there is faith; they will always remain.
But, there is no gift greater than love.

Proclaiming

Scripture

Acts 9: 36-43
(page #1001 in pew bible)

Elizabeth Horton

Sermon

"Surprises in Faith and Fashion"

Responding

*Hymn

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Insert

Invitation to Receive Offerings

Elizabeth Horton

Offertory

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God with all the hosts above. Praise God in wonder, joy and love.

Praise the Spirit, holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Jeremy Lovell

Sending

*Call to Discipleship

Jeremy Lovell

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us to share God's love in the unexpected places?"

People: Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

*Benediction

Elizabeth Horton

*Choral Benediction

"Peace I Leave with You"

*Postlude

You are invited to join the Intercessory Prayer Circle at the front of the sanctuary after worship.

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292

PHONE: 336-248-2617 WEBSITE: www.fruc.org FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc)

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Horton (elizabeth@frucc.org, cell/text #336-972-8895)

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com #336-248-5668)

Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal: Cathy Waitman (cathy@frucc.org)

Choir Director: Ellen Peterson

Organist: Lee Ann Peele

Admin. Asst.: Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org)

Financial Secretary: Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

**WELCOME TO
FIRST REFORMED UCC**

If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate when passed.

Following the example of Jesus, we believe that God's love, Christ's church, and the power of the Holy Spirit are for all people. We believe our unity as one body in Christ transcends worldly differences. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

First Reformed United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. This means we welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people, regardless of ability, age, education, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, income, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. At the baptismal font and at the communion table, from the nursery cribs to the church leadership, whether you were raised in a church or have never before attended one, you are welcome here.

We affirm and celebrate the diversity of God's children as a blessing. We welcome you to First Reformed United Church of Christ.

Childcare for infants through Kindergarten is offered. Hearing devices are available. Please let an usher know if you need assistance.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our mothers, Sue Stancil Robbins and Laura Kepley Williams; given by Bill & Carolyn Robbins.

LITURGIST: Rich Johnson **PLATE ATTENDANT:** Doug Sink **GREETER:** Michell Winters
USHER CHAIRPERSON: Jeff Hutchens **SOUND TECHNICIAN:** Dave Fulton **NURSERY:** Anne Bevan & Cheryl Walser
USHERS: Mike Brown (Captain), Keith Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Ramona Yarbrough, Jeremy Peterson

*A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom (through left door at the chancel.)
 A comfort area with rocking chair, monitor and speaker is available if you need to leave the sanctuary to calm or soothe a baby or young child*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DESSERT-OF-THE-MONTH RAFFLE TICKETS are on sale in the Narthex after worship today and May 19th. Money collected will benefit the Send-a-Kid-to-JRVC fund. Four winning tickets will be drawn at the luncheon on May 19th.

1 ticket for \$2.00 or
 3 tickets for \$5.00

YOU CAN STILL HELP SEND-A-KID-TO-JRVC by putting a check in the offering plate with "JRVC" on the memo line or donate on line.

JUNE 2nd WE WILL CELEBRATE GRADUATES AND ALL MILESTONES IN EDUCATION... kindergarten, elementary, middle, or high school or college. Please advise the church office by Sunday, May 26th.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED on JUNE 2nd. Please contact the office if you are interested in joining our church.

"A CONVERSATION ON RACE AND FAITH" continues each Tuesday in May from 12:00-1:00pm in our church Parlor. Bring your own lunch. Meetings will be led by Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly, Rev. Elizabeth Horton and Rev. Jim Luck.

A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held Wednesday, May 29 from 2:30-7:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

THE NEXT COMMUNITY MEAL is Tuesday, May 21st from 5-7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: hotdogs, baked beans, potato salad, dessert and drink. There is a suggested \$5.00 donation for the meal, which will benefit Davidson County Crisis Fund.

SIGN UP TO HELP WITH THE CHURCH PICNIC ON JUNE 9th. Sign-up sheets are available in the adult Sunday school class and the Narthex. One will also be available during the May 19th luncheon. Please sign up to help by Sunday, May 26!

**SALAD BAR & SANDWICH LUNCHEON
SUNDAY, MAY 19**

Menu: Salad bar and Sandwiches... (pimento cheese, chicken salad or PB&J)
Dessert & Drink

**DONATIONS WILL ASSIST YOUTH GOING TO JOHNS RIVER VALLEY CAMP
SIGN UP BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 15**

NAME _____

ATTENDING _____

**PLEASE HELP US WITH PLANNING
by placing this slip in the offering plate when passed or calling the
church office by May 15 to add your name to the list. (336-248-2617)**

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

PRAYER CONCERNS:

To add a name to the prayer list please fill out a prayer request card located on the backs of the pews OR call the church office (336-248-2617).

OUR MEMBERS: *Mike Price, Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crofts, Ruth Essick, Margie & Vogen Everhart, Margot Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR MEMBERS IN CARE FACILITIES:

Accordius Health (formerly Brian Center): Valerie Price

Brookdale: Hoyle Potts

Lexington Health Care: Jo Hudson

Piedmont Crossing: Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt, Rita Tussey

Westchester Manor: James Everhart

OUR FRIENDS: Leonard Prevette (Bill Walser's cousin), Janice Tritt (Friend of Lisa Nelson), Susan Wilkerson (Carolyn Robbins' cousin), Sarah Stapler (Friend of Janette Neal)

Names with an * indicate newly added. **Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, unless the church office is notified.**

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 12-18

BIRTHDAYS

12th Sloan Gray
15th Ellen Bouchard
17th Devin Odom
 Susan Odom
 Ashley Potts

ANNIVERSARIES

14th
 James & Alice Gray

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

BEGINNING JUNE 16th, WORSHIP WILL BE HELD AT 10:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY.

A MESSAGE from OUR CHOIR DIRECTOR,



ELLEN PETERSON

WANTED: PEOPLE TO SHARE THEIR MUSICAL GIFTS
WHEN: SELECTED SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES
WHO: ANYONE... YOUNG OR OLD
WHAT: PIANO to BANJO...SOLOS...QUARTETS... and EVERYTHING in BETWEEN
HOW: If you are interested, please email ELLEN [ellenrpeterson@gmail.com] or contact the church office and a message will be sent to her. (336-248-2617)

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, May 12 Mother's Day

9:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

{Downstairs} Younger Children
 Older Children
 Teens
{Parlor} Adults: "Love Wins" book study

11:00AM WORSHIP

Carnations for Ladies (Bd. of Evangelism)
 Prayer Shawls Blessing
Following Worship: Ticket Sales for Dessert of the Month for Send-a-Kid-to-Camp

Monday, May 13

5:00PM Crisis Ministry Shelter Meal (*Adult Sunday School Class & Morning Glory Circle*)
6:30PM Open Hands Ministry Meal *{FH}*

Tuesday, May 14

10:00AM Willing Weavers *{Rm 3}*
12:00PM "A Conversation on Race and Faith" *{Parlor}*
6:00PM Men's Brotherhood and Women's Life Fellowship *{FH}*
{WLF will meet in the Parlor following the meal}

Wednesday, May 15

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR THE MAY 19TH LUNCHEON

10:00AM Staff Meeting
7:00PM Choir *{Chapel Annex}*

Thursday, May 16

6:30PM Adult Spiritual Growth Subcommittee Meeting *{P}*
5:30PM Yoga *{Dance Studio}*
7:00PM Square Dancing *{FH}*

Saturday, May 18

11:00AM Families First set-up for Luncheon *{FH}*

Sunday, May 19 Holy Communion Sunday

9:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

{Downstairs} Children's Service Project
 Teens
{Parlor} Adults: "Love Wins" book study

11:00AM WORSHIP

Holy Communion
 Children's Church
Following Worship: Ticket Sales for Dessert of the Month for Send-a-Kid-to-Camp
 Salad & Sandwich Luncheon *{FH}*
 Dessert-of-the-Month Drawing *{FH}*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

... God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son. 1 Jn. 4:9

CHARLES WESLEY, 1747

8. 7. 8. 7. D.

BEECHER
JOHN ZUNDEL, 1870

In moderate time



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us be;



Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown:
Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find the prom - ised rest;
Gra - cious - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place,



Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - MEN.



Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain
Unison

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you. *Last time, end*

1 Knelt at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, show - ing our faith by our
 5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

feet, Je - su, you act - ed as ser - vant to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 deeds, serv - ing the neigh-bors we have from you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you. *to Refrain*

This African folk melody was presented to the Church at Chereponi, Northern Ghana, by Ghanaian musicologist, A. A. Mensah, when United Church of Christ missionaries, Al and Sue Krass were serving there. Like Tom Colvin, a Scottish missionary in neighboring Tamale, Al Krass was encouraging the making of hymns to indigenous melodies. Tom Colvin wrote these words to this adapted form of the melody in dedication to the Church at Chereponi.

Tune: CHEREPONI Irr. with refrain
 Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969
 Arr. Jane Marshall, 1982