



## First Reformed United Church of Christ

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

## The Worship of God

October 25, 2020  
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

### Gathering

**"BOLD"** indicates congregational response

Prelude "Service Prelude in F" Robert Wilson  
[Eugene Thayer]

Invitation to Worship and Opening prayer Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Call to Worship Marge Doty

In a world that cries out, "Fear me!"...  
We will listen to Jesus' words, "Don't be afraid!"  
In a world that wants us to hate the other...  
We will live Jesus' call to, "Love God. Love your neighbor, as you love yourself."

In a world that is filled with extremes...  
We, too, will be extreme.  
Extreme with our hospitality.  
Extreme with our hope.  
Extreme with our love.

Then come to this place, ready to be who we are called to be.  
Let us gather together and worship God.

Hymn "The Gift of Love" Ellen Peterson

### Centering

Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Dave Fulton

<sup>1</sup>Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, <sup>2</sup>all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, <sup>3</sup>the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. <sup>4</sup>The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there."

<sup>5</sup>Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. <sup>6</sup>He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. <sup>7</sup>Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. <sup>8</sup>The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

<sup>9</sup>Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. <sup>10</sup>Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. <sup>11</sup>He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, <sup>12</sup>and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Horton

**We all have our longings O Lord,  
And we bring them to you as part of our worship.**

As Moses stood on that mountaintop and looked down,  
Saw the beauty of the Promised Land,  
Longing to be there, longing to see the fulfilment of his dreams  
And the end of his journey.

**We all have our longings O Lord,  
And we bring them to you as part of our worship.**

As Moses spoke with you Lord,  
Shared the closeness of friendship and trust  
With you, the Living God,  
The one who called him and have him a second chance.

**We all have our longings O Lord,  
And we bring them to you as part of our worship.**

As we like Moses, catch a glimpse of a better life,  
A different world, full of changes for the good,  
Longing to take our people there, all those we know and love,  
To a place of hope and kindness, respect and freedom.

**We all have our longings O Lord,  
And we bring them to you as part of our worship**

Liturgy for Baptism

Elizabeth Horton

*Everly Gray Robertson, Daughter of Bradley & Molly Robertson*

Special Music

"Ode to Joy"

Lucas Peterson

Invitation

Pledges to God and to One Another

To the Parents:

Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Will you encourage her to renounce the powers of greed, hatred, selfishness and oppression,  
receiving the freedom of new life in Christ?

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to show love and justice and to witness to the work  
and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able?

Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with Everly in the Christian faith,  
to help her be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ?

To the Congregation:

One: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace  
in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love,  
support and care to Evie as she lives and grows in Christ?

**All: We promise to give Evie and her parents our support and love and care.**

Blessing and Pouring of the Water

The Sacrament of Baptism

Prayer for the Baptized and the Parents

## Proclaiming

New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Rev. Horton

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, <sup>2</sup>but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. <sup>3</sup>For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, <sup>4</sup>but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. <sup>5</sup>As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; <sup>6</sup>nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, <sup>7</sup>though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle<sup>[b]</sup> among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. <sup>8</sup>So

deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Sermon

**"Pressing On in Gentleness"**

## Responding

Hymn

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

Ellen Peterson & Carolyn Robbins

## Sending

Invitation to Serve

Rev. Horton

Benediction

Postlude

"A Song of Joy"  
[David Paxton]

Robert Wilson

Join our **"Fellowship & Prayer Concerns" Zoom Chat [HERE](#)**  
after worship from 12-12:30pm and catch up with your church friends!  
**(Meeting ID: 207 685 007 Password: 3n7IX8)**

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### Infant Baptism

Everly "Evie" Gray Robertson is the daughter of Molly and Bradley Robertson. Her big sister is Lily. Proud grandparents are Bill and Carolyn Robbins. She is the niece of Jeremy and Ellen Peterson and cousin to Lucas.

## OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER



We extend Sympathy to and share Christian Hope with Frankie Hedrick and her family upon the death of her husband, Harold "Buddy" Foil Hedrick, Jr.

We extend Sympathy to and share Christian Hope with Smithie Parrish and her family upon the death of her mother, Emma Bass.

### OUR MEMBERS:

Patti Lovell, Susan Odom, Ellen Bouchard, Kelly Greathouse, John Potts, Charm Ketner, Margot Everhart, Lisa Price, Jeff Hutchens, Deanna Michael

### OUR MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crofts, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Bob Shaak, Lib Sink, Katherine Skipper, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

### Piedmont Crossing:

Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt

### OUR FRIENDS:

\*Susan Wilkerson (Carolyn Robbins' cousin), Barbara Miller (Eddie Yates' mother), Angie Bouchard (Lee and Ellen Bouchard's youngest daughter)

*\*Indicates newly added. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. To add a name to the prayer list please call the church office (336-248-2617).*

## OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

25<sup>th</sup> ...Jamie Link

28<sup>th</sup> ...Nicole Smith

### ANNIVERSARIES

25<sup>th</sup> ...Henry & Kay Crouse

30<sup>th</sup> ...Albert & Melody Evans

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### October 25:

**9:30AM**     **Adult Bible Study on Exodus via Zoom. Join the meeting [HERE](#).**  
(Meeting ID: 899 1141 8582    Passcode: 793724)

**10:45AM**     **Worship online via YouTube [HERE](#) or Facebook [HERE](#).**

**12:00PM**     **Join us [HERE](#) for Fellowship & Prayer Concerns via Zoom**  
(Meeting ID: 207 685 007 & Password: 3n7IX8)

**12:00PM**     **Called Consistory Meeting via Zoom**  
Join the meeting here:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85159172530?pwd=bkhsZisrdjZrYkQ1a25BRk5XSG5vUT09>  
Meeting ID: 851 5917 2530    Passcode: 805597    Dial in: +1 929 205 6099

**6:30PM**     **Prayer Vigil: A Call to End Racism outside at 2<sup>nd</sup> United Church of Christ, 330 North Church Street**

### October 27:

**12:00PM**     **2CFAR: Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race via Zoom. Join the meeting [HERE](#).**  
(Meeting ID: 873 4191 8684 & Password: 222495)

**7:00PM**     **Adult Book Study on "Evangelicals" via Zoom**  
Join the meeting using the link below.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83691735429?pwd=R3c5L1JBUVI2SGNyeXVqZWpQdXBsZz09>  
Meeting ID: 836 9173 5429    Passcode: 262712    Dial by your location    +1 929 205 6099

### October 28:

**12:00PM**     **Worship Service (Sign up [HERE](#) to reserve your space.)**

**5:30PM**     **Middle School Youth Meeting via Zoom. You may join the meeting [HERE](#).**  
(Meeting ID: 826 0087 0645)

**7:00PM**     **Worship Service (Sign up [HERE](#) to reserve your space.)**

### October 30:

**6-7:00PM**     **Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat**

We invite you to dress up in your Halloween costumes, and if you are so inspired "dress up" your car. We will have TRUNKS decorated for all to enjoy and give each of you a treat. This will be held in the parking lot of the Education Building. **Please enter through the Center Street entrance.** We are looking forward to seeing you all.  
**This is Rev. Susan's last activity with us as Associate Pastor of Faith Formation. Please come through and give her a blessing!**

### October 31:

**Halloween**

**DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR BEFORE YOU GO TO BED!**

### November 1:

**HOMECOMING SUNDAY AND HOLY COMMUNION**  
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS**

**9:30AM**     **Adult Bible Study on Exodus via Zoom. Join the meeting [HERE](#).**  
(Meeting ID: 899 1141 8582    Passcode: 793724)

**10:45AM**     **Worship online via YouTube [HERE](#) or Facebook [HERE](#).**

**12:00PM**     **Join us [HERE](#) for Fellowship & Prayer Concerns via Zoom**  
(Meeting ID: 207 685 007 & Password: 3n7IX8)

**2:00PM**     **Service of Remembrance for families of church members who have died this past year**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 8:** Stewardship Sunday and Congregational Meeting to announce 2021 Consistory Nominees

**November 15:** Congregational Meeting to accept nominations from the floor for 2021 Consistory

**November 29:** First Sunday in Advent

# ITEMS OF NOTE from FIRST REFORMED UCC

**OCTOBER 23, 2020**

## **NEW TIME FOR SUNDAY SERVICE: 10:45AM**

on both our **YouTube Channel** [HERE](#) and **Facebook page** [HERE](#)

**SPECIAL NOTE: Closed Captioning is available on the YouTube channel.**

**Look for the  symbol to select options.**

Join us for a **“FELLOWSHIP & PRAYER CONCERNS” ZOOM Chat**  
after Worship at 12:00PM EST [HERE](#) (Meeting ID: 207 685 007 Password: 3n7IX8)

## **LOOKING TOWARD SUNDAY: A MESSAGE FROM REV. HORTON**

Where is God calling you to serve at First Reformed?

Over the next couple of weeks please give prayerful thought to the ways that you can contribute your time, talents, and financial resources to the ministries God has set before us. Recently, a Time and Talent sheet and Pledge Card for 2021 was distributed. These tools help the church plan for the upcoming year, yet they are not binding. If your circumstances change, you can certainly make adjustments. If you are currently serving in an area and want to make a change, please let us know that as well.

Friday, October 30 is Rev. Susan's last official day as our Associate Pastor of Faith Formation. I am grateful for the ways she has helped our Children and Youth Ministries form and take flight. Please come by the Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat and share a blessing or word of gratitude with her.

During the worship service, we will witness the baptism of Everly Robertson, daughter of Molly and Brad Robertson. Although the actual baptism took place last week, we will celebrate it virtually this Sunday and make our covenant with Everly and her parents to help her grow in faith.

Seeking to serve faithfully with you,  
Elizabeth

## **DRIVE-THRU TRUNK OR TREAT**

**WHEN:** FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>  
6:00-7:00PM

**WHERE:** FIRST REFORMED UCC  
EDUCATION BUILDING PARKING LOT  
(PLEASE ENTER FROM EAST CENTER STREET DRIVE)

**WHAT:** Dress up in your Halloween costumes and if you are so inspired, “dress up” your car. We will have TRUNKS decorated for all to enjoy and give each of you a treat.

**This is Rev. Susan's last activity with us as Associate Pastor of Faith Formation. Please come through and give her a blessing!**

## **NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> IS HOMECOMING SUNDAY**

Next Sunday we celebrate Homecoming and All Saints Day. We will give thanks and remember those who, within the past year, have joined the Church Triumphant. We will also share Holy Communion together virtually.

## **2021 TIME & TALENT SHEETS AND PLEDGE CARDS**

In what ministries would you like to serve? Please complete your Time and Talent sheets and pledge for 2021. You may drop them off in the church office, mail them (104 East Center Street, Lexington, NC 27292) or call the office and let us know in which areas you'd like to volunteer.



**First Reformed United Church of Christ**  
**2021 Time & Talents**  
*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know ways you would like to serve in the mission and ministry of First Reformed UCC in 2021. Every Sunday, volunteers fill more than two dozen roles, serving the church and each other in many different ways. Community service, social justice, and other mission work are essential parts of First Reformed UCC's ministry.

Our church Consistory is organized into **SIX BOARDS**, each with responsibilities related to the overall ministry of the church and its activities. When you check with interest to serve on one of the boards, a lay leader will contact you to discuss how you would like to serve. They will also use this list as the "first people to call" as new opportunities and needs arise throughout the year.

<b>Board of Evangelism</b> Promotes the church in the community, brings new members into the church & involves members in caring for one another. Pray / Contact / Visit for sick & homebound members Call / Write members who have missed church Volunteer to drive others Participate with Prayer Shawl/Blanket Ministry Work with or assist LGBTQ+ people Work on racial justice issues Work / Assist with homeless and/or low-income people	<b>I will help</b>	<b>Board of Congregational Life</b> Promotes and coordinates church meals, Sunday socials, bereaved family meals, kitchen management & other fellowship activities. Meal set up / Meal clean up Cook / prepare food for church functions Prepare food for bereaved families Photograph church events Sunday School Coffee Cart set up /clean up Host First Sunday Social Serve on History Committee Help plan Homecoming Sunday	<b>I will help</b>
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<b>Board of Community Outreach</b> Coordinates to meet various needs in the community with service events, partnerships & volunteers Help plan / participate in community activities Prepare / Serve meals for homeless shelter Deliver Meals on Wheels Volunteer - Touching Davidson County with Love Volunteer - Grace Episcopal Church Lunch (Nov.) Volunteer - Community Garden Volunteer - Open Hands Ministry Meals Volunteer - Salvation Army Kettle Bell Ringer	<b>I will help</b>	<b>Board of Worship &amp; Sacrament / Music</b> Helps plan and implement worship services, including communion, music, altar preparations and decorations. Serve as worship hour greeter Serve as liturgist/lay reader Serve as usher Serve as sound system and/or help with digital ministry Help with decorating / altar preparation Assist with communion preparation / clean up Candle preparation Sing in Adult Choir Participate in Bell Choir Play a musical instrument	<b>I will help</b>
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<b>Board of Faith Formation</b> Manages the faith formation of children, youth and adults, including Sunday school *Serve as Sunday school teacher for... Adults High School youth Middle School youth Children (K-5 <sup>th</sup> ) *Serve as Substitute Sunday school teacher *Assist with Vacation Bible School *Serve as caregiver for nursery (18 & older) *Serve as Children or Youth Leader	<b>I will help</b>	<b>Board of Property Management</b> Maintains and repairs church's facilities, equipment and property. Volunteer to open / close buildings for events Special skills that would be helpful to board...	<b>I will help</b>
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\*must have background checks

<b>Opportunities for Christian Growth</b> Attend Morning Glory Circle Attend Women's Life Fellowship Attend United Friendship Club Attend Men's Brotherhood Participate in Adult Sunday school Participate in Bible / Book study Study Suggestions...	<b>I will help</b>	<b>Opportunities for our Youth</b> Serve as Bible Steward / Acolyte Serve as Youth Usher Serve as Youth Liturgist Serve as a Community Garden Volunteer Participate in Children's Youth Activities Participate in Middle School Youth Activities Participate in High School Youth Activities Participate in special Sunday school / church programs Attend Vacation Bible School	<b>I will help</b>
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<b>Tell Us about Other Special Talents You Would Like to Share</b>	<b>Tell Us about Other Ways You Would Like to Serve</b>

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY**

Wednesdays in October, at 12:00PM and 7:00PM, 30-minute **WORSHIP SERVICES** will be held in the Sanctuary. Each session will be limited to 20 people. Please wear masks and practice social distancing. **You may reserve your space [HERE](#) or contact the church office if you are interested in attending.**

**SUPPORT FIRST REFORMED UCC'S GIRL SCOUT TROOP #2160**

Our Girl Scout Troop 2160 is hosting the fall Nut, Candy, and Magazine Sale this month. If you would like to support Jianna Miller and the rest of the troop, please visit [www.gsnutsandmags.com/nut](http://www.gsnutsandmags.com/nut) or [www.gsnutsandmags.com/mag](http://www.gsnutsandmags.com/mag) and enter the code: 27UUVTNK. You can choose from a wide variety of delicious snack items or magazines for many interests.

You can choose to have items shipped directly to you now, or Jianna can meet you at church to deliver your items in person in mid-November.

Thanks for supporting our Girl Scouts!

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

If you happen to miss a week of our worship services and other events that are shared on our Facebook and YouTube pages, they will remain on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)'s history, so you may go back to watch any time.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to **participate in the online worship** by videoing yourself reading scripture or passing the peace of Christ, please let us know. Rev. Horton would love to have as many faces as possible present for our services. If you're interested, please contact Rev. Horton or the church office. **Please click [Here for Sign-Up Sheet](#)**

## MEETINGS IN THE CHURCH BUILDING

Meetings in the church Fellowship Hall may be held, but the following guidelines **MUST** be followed:

- **The church office must be notified several days prior to using the building to avoid conflicts and to make sure air/heat are left on for you.**
- **Meetings must be limited to 10 or fewer people.**
- **You should use the tables set up as they are at the back of the Fellowship Hall.**
- **Face masks must be worn by all participants.**
- **Participants must practice social distancing.**
- **Tables must be wiped down with a Clorox solution and chairs must be sprayed with the solution and left to dry. All supplies will be available in the Fellowship Hall. Please return supplies to their original location in the Fellowship Hall.**
- **PLEASE ASSIGN SOMEONE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING TABLES.**

## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE NEWS OF THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

**If you would like to receive the SOC weekly news, you may sign up by following the directions below.**

ALL persons are invited and welcome to receive the Southern Conference e-News. Churches may share this invitation with their members for individuals to self-subscribe.

**To add names, submit by e-mail to editor: [stumb@boone.net](mailto:stumb@boone.net)**

**Please include 1) name, 2) e-mail address, 3) church or other affiliation, and 4) role in church, agency, etc. (OPTIONAL).**