

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

Liturgist: Marge Doty
Sound Tech: John Gray
Acolyte: Ethan Lovell
Ushers: Doris Sink, John Smith
Digital Media Tech: Jeremy Peterson
Bible Steward: Lucas Peterson



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. June Grubb, *Minister of Pastoral Care*
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Rev. Evan Sieges, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday,
9-1 Walk-ins Welcome
1 – 1:30 Closed for Lunch
1:30 – 5 Please call ahead or make an appointment

First Reformed United Church of Christ
104 East Center Street, Lexington NC 27292

Praise to God, the World’s Creator
(Tune: Ode to joy)

Praise to God, the world’s creator,
source of life and growth and breath,
cradling in her arms her children,
holding them from birth to death.

In our bodies, in our living,
strength and truth of all we do,
God is present, working with us,
making us creators too.

Praise to God our saving Wisdom,
meeting us with love and grace,
helping us to grow in wholeness,
giving freedom, room, and space.

In our hurting, in our risking,
in the thoughts we dare not name,
God is present, growing with us,
healing us from sin and shame.

Praise to God, the Spirit in us,
prompting hidden depths of prayer,
firing us to long for justice,
reaching out with tender care.

In our searching, in our loving,
in our struggles to be free,
God is present, living in us,
pointing us to what shall be.

— Jan Berry,



No matter who you are or where you are on
life’s journey, expect extravagant welcomes here.

May 8, 2022
The Worship of God
Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother’s Day

**Please stand as you are able*

Prelude Christopher Kiser

***Chiming of the Hour**

Welcome Rev. Horton

Call to Worship Marge Doty

We are the people of God.
Together we are family.
God calls us from many places;
some of us come from busy homes with many people
some of us live alone.
We are a part of the family.

This week has been different for each of us;
some of us have had happy news we want to celebrate
some of us have faced grief and need to cry.
We are part of God’s family.

Yet we all come to this same place;
all of us seeking God’s presence in our lives
all of us seeking God’s presence with each other.
Together we become family.
We are the people of God.
Let us worship God together

***Hymn** “Come Thy Fount of Every Blessing” Page 3

***Invocation** Marge Doty

Young Disciples Rev. Horton

Prayer of Confession
God of unending love, we hear your promises yet some of us are tempted to believe we are unlovable or cannot show grace as you desire. We are tempted by resentment and bitterness because of those who have let us down. We are tempted to condemn ourselves for past failings, and when we have fallen short. Forgive us for our doubt, resentment and unforgiving hearts. In Spite of our failures, may We trust in Your power to transform our lives. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, Lord Jesus, so that our lives may bring grace into this world.

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture Reading**John 19: 23-27**

Marge Doty

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and his sandals, and divided them into four shares, one for each soldier. His shirt was seamless, woven as one piece from the top to the bottom. They said to each other, "Let's not tear it. Let's cast lots to see who will get it." This was to fulfill the scripture,

*They divided my clothes among themselves,
and they cast lots for my clothing.
That's what the soldiers did.*

Jesus' mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood near the cross. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

A Prayer for Mothers Everywhere

Rev. Horton

Anthem*"Special Moments"*

Dan and Jean Perry

For those special moments, a time when we recall,
a father's guiding presence, a mother's gentle call,
the laughter and the singing, the teaching of your way
the quiet times together, that taught us how to pray.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 66:12-13 (NRSV)

Rev. Sieges

¹²For thus says the Lord:
*I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
and dandled on her knees.*
¹³As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Sermon

"In the Arms of the Mother"

Rev. Sieges

Praise to God, the World's Creator

Back Page

The Call to Give and to Serve

Rev. Horton

***Prayer of Dedication**

Marge Doty

***Benediction**

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:
May God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:
May God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.
May almighty God bless us, now and forever.

Amen.

Congregational Response**"Go, My Children"**

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Postlude

Christopher Kiser

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON (8.7.8.7 D)

Robert Robinson

♩ = 120
Verse



Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
Here I find my greatest treasure;
O to grace how great a debt-or-
tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceasing,
hith-er by thy help I've come; and I hope, by thy good plea-sure,
dai-ly I'm con-strained to be! Let that grace now, like a fet-ter,
call for songs of loud-est praise. Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net,
safe-ly to ar-rive at home. Je-sus sought me when a stran-ger,
bind my wan-dering heart to thee. Prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel it,
sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove; praise the mount! I'm fixed up-on it,
wan-dering from the fold of God; he, to res-cue me from dan-ger,
prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it;
mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
bought me with his pre-cious blood.
seal it for thy courts a-bove.

**FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION**

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.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR**Sunday, May 8 Mother's Day**

9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service

Monday, May 9

6:00am Serve meal at Crisis Ministry Shelter
(Circle & Adult Sunday School serving)
6:30pm Open Hands Meal, Music & Message
(St. Stephen UMC) FRUCC Clothes
Ministry Give-Away

Tuesday, May 10

12:00pm Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race
2CFAR (Parlor & online)
7:00pm Adult Book Study (online)
His Truth is Marching On by Jon Meacham

Wednesday, May 11

6:30pm Choir
Children's Fun & Activities
Youth Study

Thursday, May 12

4-6:00pm Clothing Ministry Workday-Basement
6:30pm PFLAG (parlor)

Saturday, May 14

12:00pm Saturday Lunch Ministry

Sunday, May 15 Graduation & Milestone Sunday

9:30am Adult Sunday school
10:30am Worship Service - Reception Following

TO HOLD IN PRAYER

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES: Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Ellen Bouchard, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Gerri Hill, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS: Franklin Waters (Cathy Whitley's father), Yvonne Dobey (Frankie Hedrick's sister), Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovell's daughter), Janice Mullineaux (Cathy Browder's mother), Charm & Steve Ketner, Marc Frye (friend of the congregation), Lynn McCarn