

**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.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING**

**Liturgist:** Rev. June Grubb

**Ushers:** Eddie Yates, Doris Sink, Betty Barr

**Sound & Stream Team Leader:** Kivi Miller

**CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Elizabeth Parker Horton. *Pastor*  
elizabeth@frucc.org

Rev. June Grubb, *Minister of Pastoral Care*  
june@frucc.org

Jackie Mock, *Church Administrator*  
jackie@frucc.org

Ellen Peterson, *Choir Director*  
ellen@frucc.org

Bruce Tippet, *Organist/Pianist*  
bruce@frucc.org

**First Reformed United Church of Christ**  
**104 East Center Street, Lexington NC 27292**  
Please visit our website: [www.frucc.org](http://www.frucc.org)

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** Monday – Friday  
9-1 Walk-ins Welcome  
1 – 2pm Closed for Lunch  
2 – 5pm Please call ahead or make an appointment

**Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;  
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!  
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.  
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



Artwork: *The Baptism of The Christ*, by Daniel Bonnell

**January 15, 2023**

**The Worship of God**

**Remembering our Baptism**  
**Installation of Consistory and Trustees**  
\*Stand as you are able

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. To help us connect with one another, please fill out a Communication Card if you are new here, have a question, or a prayer request. You can drop it into the offering plate when passed and we'll get back with you.

**Prelude** **Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing** Bruce Tippet

**\*Chiming of the Hour**

**Introit** **Take Me to the Water** Choir

**\*Call to Worship** Rev. June Grubb

One: Family of God, today we recall: Jesus came to the waters of baptism.

**All: In baptism, our Creator claims us and frees us from the power of hatred and death.**

One: In baptism we are joined to Christ, and we are joined together in unity, recalling

**All: "There is no longer Jew or Greek there is no longer slave or free there is no longer male or female for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."**

One: In baptism, the Spirit of God anoints us for ministry and makes us signs of divine love. It is the mark of acceptance into the church and the beginning of our growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**All: Therefore, on this day, the whole church, the Body of Christ, remembers and celebrates.**

**\*Hymn** **Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing** back pg.

**\*Opening Prayer** Rev. Horton

**Welcome** Rev. Horton

**Scripture Reading** **from Genesis 1** Patrick Horton

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

## Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, too often our lives reflect chaos instead of creation. Forgive us when we concentrate too often on our doubts and fears rather than on your tender Spirit. Have mercy on us, we pray, and breathe through lives your Mighty Winds of Change. Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Horton

## \*Passing the Peace

## \*Hymn

### Morning Has Broken

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## Affirmation of Ministry

### The Presentation

Deacons: Jeremy Lovell, Smithie Parrish, John Maze, Dave Fulton, Jay Whitley  
 Elders: John Gray, Lisa Nelson, Betty Barr, Clifton Murphy, Jerry Lovell  
 Trustees: Clifford Lopp, Jerry Smith, Mark Smith, Walter Hoffman, Raeann Allred

Our Covenant Together ...let us now rise and affirm our covenant with them.

**People: We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and participate with you so that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

## Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Horton

**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.**

## Scripture Reading

**Matthew 3: 13-17**

Rev. Horton

## Sermon

**Up From the Water**

Rev. Horton

## Invitation to Give and Serve

You are invited to give your offerings in worship or online: [www.frucc.org/give](http://www.frucc.org/give)

## Remembering Our Baptism

## Prayer of Dedication

Rev. June Grubb

## \*Hymn

### Called as Partners in Christ's Service

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol-low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-que-ers strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho-sen end.  
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

## \*Benediction

## Postlude

**Morning Has Broken**

Bruce Tippet

## WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, 1/15

9:30am .....Adult Sunday School  
 10:30am.....Worship Service  
 Consistory Meeting following Worship (Room 101)

### Monday, 1/16 Church Office Closed

5:00pm.....FRUCC Clothes Ministry Open  
 5:00pm.....Open Hands Meal & Service (Fellowship Hall)  
 7:00pm.....NAMI (Zoom)

### Tuesday, 1/17

7:00pm.....Adult Book Study via Zoom

### Wednesday, 1/18

6:30pm.....Handbell Practice  
 7:15pm.....Choir Practice

### Thursday, 1/19

4-6:00pm.....Clothing Ministry Workday

### Saturday, 1/21

12:00pm.....Saturday Lunch Ministry

### Sunday, 1/22 122<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of First Reformed UCC

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

### UPCOMING:

Thursday, 1/19 PFLAG at 6:30pm

Friday, 1/20 Directory Pictures 2:00pm – 8:30pm

Saturday, 1/21 Directory Pictures 10am – 4:30pm

## GET YOUR SOUP ORDERS IN!

Contract Paula Lopp to place your order

336-250-3343 [pls155@yahoo.com](mailto:pls155@yahoo.com)

\*Soup pick-up will be Sunday, Jan. 29th

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Adena Wall, Brian McKerlie

**AT HOME:** Eulene Shepherd Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, J.W. Bates, Peggy Bates, Ruth Essick, Gerri Hill, Myrtle Latimer, Deanna Michael, Carolyn Spivey, John Potts & Janette Neal, Adena Wall, Merle Hodges,

**IN CARE FACILITIES:** Vogen Everhart, Sherry Bonner, Marguerite Leonard, Patti Everhart

**OUR FRIENDS:** Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovell's daughter), Ray White, (Step-father to Travis White), Rena Y. Curia (sister to Cheryl Walser), Charles Hines (Friend of Alane Holste), Diane Womack (Nina Smith's mother), John Ray Ward (Patti Lovell's, Brother in Law)