

# First Presbyterian Church

April 28, 2024



Under Construction – God’s Work in Us

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[firstpresbyteriancarrollton.org](http://firstpresbyteriancarrollton.org)



First Presbyterian Church

April 28, 2024

10:30 A.M

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

—Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.

**For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.**

He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet.

**He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.**

God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

**God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.**

The nobles of the nations assemble, along with the people of the God of Abraham,

**For God has authority over the rulers of the earth. He is highly exalted!**

INVOCATION (Opening Prayer)

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and through our lives magnify your holy name through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

\*HYMN “Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”

#483 BLUE

1 Sing praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory!

2 What God’s almighty power hath made God’s gracious mercy keepeth;

By morning glow or evening shade God’s watchful eye ne’er sleepeth;  
Within the kingdom of God’s might, Lo! all is just and all is right:  
To God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,  
An ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing;  
As with a mother’s tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory!

4 Thus, all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud Thy praises  
That all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part:  
To God all praise and glory!

CALL TO CONFESSION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us for our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

**Let us confess our sins to God for he will abundantly pardon.** *(Based on Psalm 103:8-12)*

*(Time of silent personal confession)*

We come to you, O Lord, because we fail at following you.

**You call us to be brave and courageous, yet we cower in our pews, forgetting all you have already done for us.**

O God, forgive us. In your mercy, grant us the resolve to follow you.

**Give us courage to take on new ways of doing things, new challenges and new ideas.**

Help us to be willing to follow you into new challenges.

**This we ask because of your great love for us.**

Hear the Good News. Our sins, though many, are insignificant compared to God's grace and love. We are forgiven through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*HYMN "Open Our Eyes, Lord" #633 GREEN**

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

**MESSAGE "Under Construction – God's Work in Us"**

**\*HYMN "There's a Spirit in the Air" #433 BLUE**

1 There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:

"Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world!"

2 Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world what God has done:  
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!

3 When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed,  
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.

4 Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right:  
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!

5 When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home,  
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.

6 May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways.  
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!

7 There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere:  
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostle's Creed" PAGE 14 BLUE**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

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

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**The Lord's Prayer**

***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.***

**HYMN "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" #343 BLUE**

1 Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace  
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend  
Equal partners in our caring to fulfil God's chosen end

2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth

Let us follow never faltering reconciling folk on earth  
Men and women richer poorer all God's people young and old  
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold

3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission in a small or global sense  
Help us bear each other's burdens breaking down each wall or fence  
Words of comfort words of vision words of challenge said with care  
Bring new power and strength for action make us colleagues free and fair

4 So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife  
Make us partners in our living our compassion to increase  
Messengers of faith thus giving hope and confidence and peace

### **CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE**

**BENEDICTION** —based on 1 Corinthians 16:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:13-22; 1 Peter 2:17

Go out into the world in peace: have courage;

**Hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil;**

Help the suffering; honor all;

**Love and serve the Lord,**

Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**With God's help we will.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

**Be upon us and remain with all God's people forever. Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION RESPONSE –**

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### **Up Coming Events:**

May 8 6:00 PM Community Prayer – FPC

### **Deacon of the Month:**

April: Mary Ellen Richards

**Worship Leaders:** Hannah Mergen, Jay Stoneman, and Pastor Tim Dyck.

### **Philippians 2:12-30**

So then, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence but even more in my absence, continue working out your salvation with awe and reverence, for the one bringing forth in you both the desire and the effort— for the sake of his good pleasure— is God.

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God without blemish though you live in a crooked and perverse society, in which you shine as lights in the world by holding on to the word of life so that on the day of Christ I will have a reason to boast that I did not run in vain nor labor in vain. But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice together with all of you. And in the same way you also should be glad and rejoice together with me.

Now I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be encouraged by hearing news about you. For there is no one here like him who will readily demonstrate his deep concern for you. Others are busy with their own concerns, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know his qualifications, that like a son working with his father, he served with me in advancing the gospel. So I hope to send him as soon as I know more about my situation, though I am confident in the Lord that I too will be coming to see you soon.

But for now I have considered it necessary to send Epaphroditus to you. For he is my brother, coworker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to me in my need. Indeed, he greatly missed all of you and was distressed because you heard that he had been ill. In fact he became so ill that he nearly died. But God showed mercy to him— and not to him only, but also to me— so that I would not have grief on top of grief. Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you can rejoice and I can be free from anxiety.

So welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him, since it was because of the work of Christ that he almost died. He risked his life so that he could make up for your inability to serve me.