



“There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice.”

– JOHN CALVIN

January 12, 2025

WE GATHER IN HIS PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

Allison Thorp

Les Garrett

“This is the Day”

This is the day. (This is the day.)
That the Lord hath made. (That the Lord hath made.)
Let us rejoice. (Let us rejoice.)
And be glad in it. (And be glad in it.)

This is the day that the Lord hath made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day.
This is the day that the Lord hath made.
(x2)

“Great is the Lord”

Michael Smith

Great is the Lord! He is holy and just;
By his power we trust in your love.
Great is the Lord! He is faithful and true;
By his mercy he proves, he is love.
Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory.
Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice.
Lift up your voice: Great is the Lord!
Great is the Lord!
(x2)

“Jesus, Name Above All Names”

Naida Hearn

Jesus, name above all names, Beautiful savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.
(x2)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING THE TRINITY

PRELUDE “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” arr. James Pethel
Diane Combs

***CALL TO WORSHIP, responsive**

Praise the Lord, people of God! Praise the Lord!
We praise God, for this is the day the Lord has made.
Put aside your worries, for God is here!
We lift up our hearts to worship God alone!

***OPENING HYMN “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” #32**

**1. I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God’s command,
and all the stars obey.**

**2. I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where’er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky.**

**3. There’s not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.**

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, in unison
**Creator God, we are “fearfully and wonderfully made”,
yet we complain. Our lives belong to our Maker, yet we choose
to live for ourselves. You continually seek sweet fellowship with
us, yet we hide behind less important things. Forgive us, O Lord.
Heal us from our self-centeredness. Draw us back to you, we
pray, through the power of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

:: A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION ::

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, from A Brief Statement of Faith**
**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and fe-
male; of every race and people, to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God
in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neigh-
bor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted in
our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts
with justice and mercy to redeem creation. Like a mother
who will not forsake her nursing child; like a father who runs
to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

:: PASSING THE PEACE ::

*And now, as people who are loved and forgiven by the grace of God,
we pass the peace of Christ, remembering God’s command to love
and forgive one another.*

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” Plainsong (1582)
Sanctuary Choir

FIRST SCRIPTURE Psalm 148 *Sarah Cifani*

SECOND SCRIPTURE Genesis 1

SERMON “In the Beginning”
Rev. Holly K. Davis

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

:: PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ::

HYMN OF RESPONSE, seated
“Children of the Heavenly Father”

**1. Children of the heavenly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird or star in heaven
such a refuge ne’er was given.**

**3. Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**4. Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne’er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.**

GOD’S TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS



OFFERTORY "Near to the Heart of God" arr. Mary McDonald

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN "Let All Things Now Living" #37**

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

2. By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

***BENEDICTION**

:: ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ::



* Please stand as you are able for these portions of the service.

Our Mission:
Love God and Love Our Neighbors.

Our Deacons

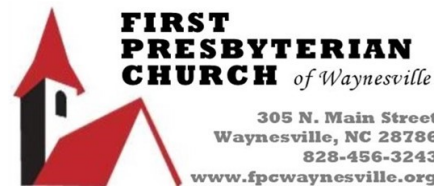
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Our Church Elders

Clerk of Session	RON TINGLE	828-400-6900
Building & Grounds	EDDIE HENDRICKSON (2027)	910-690-7944
Discipleship	LAURA JANSON (2026)	828-712-7938
Elder for Deacons	MERRY MATLOCK (2027)	732-423-4713
Fellowship	MELONIE GROSS (2026)	773-405-5889
Finance	MIKE MCKINNEY (2025)	828-734-7192
Missions	PAT BRIGGS (2027)	828-550-8432
Personnel	RON TINGLE (2026)	828-400-6900
Worship	WES LEE (2025)	828-400-0037

Church Staff

Rev. Holly K. Davis, Pastor
Dr. Allison Thorp, Music Co-Director
Diane Combs, Music Co-Director
Jenny Price, Accountant
Anthony ("Tony") Caldwell, Sexton
Kristi Siplon, Office Manager
Morgan McNeil, A/V Tech



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First Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church, USA

1875-2025

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YEARS OF
GOD'S
FAITHFULNESS



January 12, 2025