

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR APRIL 28, 2024

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

INTROIT 399 *God Welcomes All* THEMBA AMEN

Gathering Around The Word

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the wilderness, water brings life.

All: **Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**

One: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

All: **Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**

One: In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior
nourishes everyone.

All: **Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.**

One: Here is the water of life, the word that feeds,
the food of eternity.

All: **Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.**

*HYMN 301 *Let Us Build a House* TWO OAKS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) *from John 15:5*

God of mercy,
we confess that we have not borne the fruit
of the Spirit.

We have not loved others as you have loved us.

We have denied the promises of baptism
and cut ourselves off from you.

Forgive us, restore us,
that we may abide in your love
and live out your mercy,
for the sake of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *from John 15:3*

One: You have already been cleansed by the word that God has
spoken to you. In baptism God claimed you and joined you to
Christ, as branches to a vine. Believe the promise given to
you: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

We invite you to share the peace of Christ with others.

*RESPONSE 581 *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, amen.

Listening To the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING *PSALM 22:25-31*
(The scripture readings can be found on the back of the bulletin)

ANTHEM 408 *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* by Doris Akers, 1962

SECOND READING *JOHN 15:1-8*

SERMON *Rev. Dr. Tim Noel*

Responding to the Word

*HYMN 450 *Be Thou My Vision* SLANE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Ionian Creed*

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.

A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,
he died alone and forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,
and His kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of all resurrection and of eternal life.

Amen.

SHARING OUR PRAYERS *See prayer concerns list, back page*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER *page 35 in hymnal*

GIVING BACK TO GOD'S KINGDOM

*Offering what we have for the sake of others
is a discipline of pruning—letting go of our possessions,
our time, and even ourselves—
to extend the gospel witness into the world.
Be generous in your ministry of giving.
You need not fear; you abide in the vine.*

OFFERTORY

TEN CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

(Any donation placed in the baskets today will go toward feeding those in need)

*THE DOXOLOGY 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God Sends Us Forth

*HYMN 157 *I Danced in the Morning* LORD OF THE DANCE

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*BLESSING
HYMN 748 *Go with Us, Lord* TALLIS' CANON

POSTLUDE

Visiting today? Welcome!

Please tell us a little about yourself!
You can scan this QR code with your
smartphone to fill out our online form.
We would love to get to know you better!



This Week

Wed., May 1 @ 6:30pm - Choir Practice

Thur., May 2 @ 4:00pm - Spiritual Formation Meeting

Fri., May 3 @ 7:30am - Men's Breakfast @ Bob Evan's Restaurant

Worship Assistants Next Week

Liturgist.....Brenda Wesley

Ushers.....Paula Burlew, Marshall Judy, & Mary Beth Waller

Audio.....Paul Guffey

Video.....Jon Burlew

Coffee Plus.....Linda Bonardel

First Reading—Psalm 22:25-31

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
 my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
 26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
 those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
 May your hearts live forever!
 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
 and turn to the Lord,
 and all the families of the nations
 shall worship before him.
 28 For dominion belongs to the Lord,
 and he rules over the nations.
 29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
 before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
 and I shall live for him.
 30 Posterity will serve him;
 future generations will be told about the Lord
 31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
 saying that he has done it.

Second Reading—John 15:1-8

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.



Prayers for Comfort, Concern, and Healing

Ada and Brooks Pitman, JB's parents; Rollin Bacon, Brenda Wesley's uncle; Tommy Brence; Jane Evans; Georgia Chrisman, Todd Chrisman's mother; Lynn Cain; Ed & Joyce Mick; Barbie Cooper; Autumn Brock's mom, Marie; Jennifer Williams; Glenda Wilson; Pat Carpenter; Bill House; Leslie Phillips

Current Giving

	Rec'd month of March	Needed Monthly	Received YTD	Needed YTD
Pledged Offering	\$21,100	\$11,985	\$39,578	\$35,956
Non-Pledged	\$4,700	\$3,289	\$14,039	\$9,866

Blessing Box Attendant

This Week.....Carol Wade
Next Week.....Marshall Judy

Assisting In Worship Today

Ministers.....Every Member
Liturgist.....Nina Wilhelm
Ushers.....Jo & Jimmy Salmon
Audio.....Mary Beth Waller
Video.....Jon Burlew
Coffee Plus.....Erin Stephens
Director of Music.....Theresa Jean Kibby
Piano & Organ.....Debby McDonald
Interim Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Tim Noel

Deacons:

Paula Burlew	Eileen Stockham	Carol Prater
Cindy Fountain	Mary Beth Waller	Sue Guffey
Marshall Judy	Marci Randall	

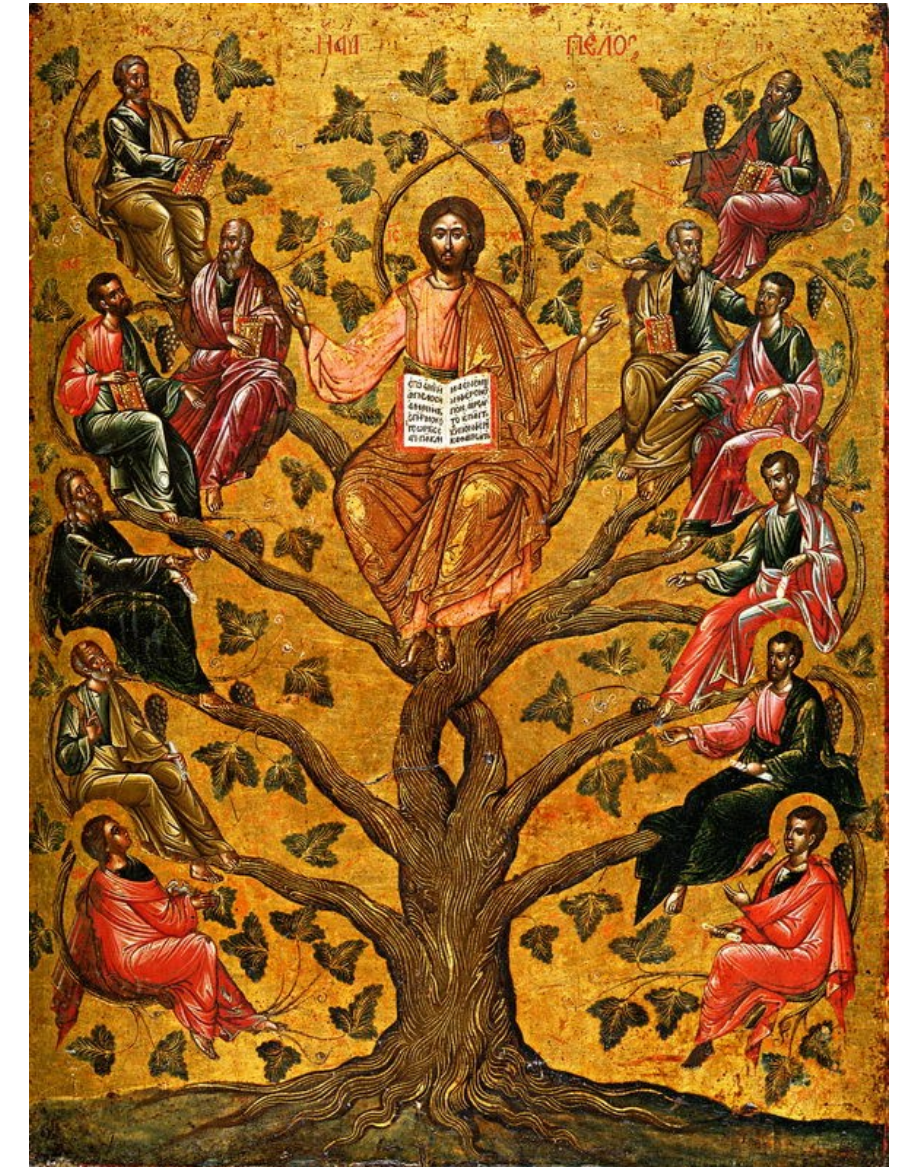
Elders:

<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>
Charles Leveridge	Sharon Mandt	Jo Salmon
Zack Vaught	Perry Waller	Laura Wright
John Wright		

First Presbyterian Church

April 28th, 2024

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Eastern Orthodox icon of Jesus Christ as the True Vine, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55553> [retrieved April 25, 2024]. Original source: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_the_True_Vine_icon_\(Athens,_16th_century\).jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_the_True_Vine_icon_(Athens,_16th_century).jpg).

People of God, Welcome Home!

May Christ's peace and presence fill your heart as you worship this day, and may you go forth with the light and love of God shining within you.

We welcome you to worship, and ask that any electronic devices be placed on silent so that all may hear what God has to say.