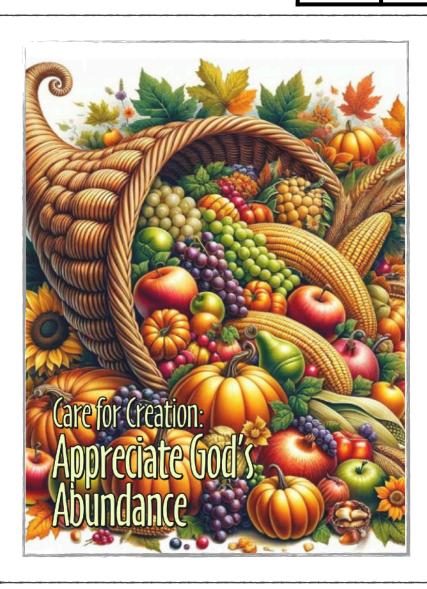


ONLINE

POSTED BY SAT. 5PM

IN-PERSON SUNDAYS @ 10AM & 6PM



Genesis 1:1-2:3; Leviticus 19:9-10 "Appreciate God's Abundance"

God provides more than we need from the start.

Care for Creation • Second Sunday in Easter • May 4, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

CEL=Celebration Hymnal GTG=Glory to God Hymnal

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Christ Has Arisen!"

by Daniel Mattix

Christ has arisen as our King.
Conquering death and sin's vile sting!
With all creation join to sing;
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Liturgy:

Christ has died! Christ has risen!

Christ will come again!

Praise be to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

He has given us new birth into a living hope by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Through faith, we are shielded by God's power ...

Until our salvation is fully revealed in heaven.

Alleluia!

Amen!

Christ has arisen from the grave, He rose to triumph and to save! New life to humankind he gave: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRELUDE

"To God Be the Glory"

arr. Cindy Berry

OPENING SENTENCE

Leviticus 19:10 (CEB)

Also do not pick your vineyard clean or gather up all the grapes that have fallen there. Leave these items for the poor and the immigrant; I am the LORD your God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF GATHERING

"This Is the Day"

CEL #209

This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This the day that Lord has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that
the Lord has made.

Let us begin with silent prayer...

SING

"This Is My Father's World"

CEL #143

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, it's not enough to say were created: we should live as though we know it. It's not enough to say we've been blessed: we should live as though we're blessings. It's not enough to say grace before our meals: we should live grace-filled lives. It's not enough to say we're forgiven: we need to be forgiving people. It's not enough to say you love us: love must become our way of life. And for all of our mistakes, all of our rebellions and rejections, you entrust gifts, talents, ideas, even life itself, to us anyway. May we come to reflect your generosity as enthusiastically as we receive it. Thank you for listening, God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's love can change everything, even the power of our sins over us. And it is God's will that we have this power:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

SING

"Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning. It is now and ever shall be world without end: Amen, amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Word of God doesn't just inform: it reveals. The Word of God doesn't just tell us the truth, it empowers us to live our true path. The Word of God, by God's own Spirit, teaches us to live. Let us be open to this gift of God and ask for help to understand. Let us pray...

PRAY/SING

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" GTG #232

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and our ongoing place in God's story...

READ: Genesis I:I-2:3 (CEB)

God creates the Heavens and the Earth.

When God began to create the heavens and the earth—2 the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters —3 God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. 4 God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God named the light Day and the darkness Night. There was evening and there was morning: the first day. 6 God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other." 7 God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way. 8 God named the dome Sky. There was evening and there was morning: the second day. 9 God said, "Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear." And that's what happened. 10 God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. God saw how good it was. 11 God said, "Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth." And that's what happened. 12 The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. 13 There was evening and there was morning: the third day. 14 God said,"Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. 15 They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth." And that's what happened. 16 God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. 17 God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was. 19 There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day. 20 God said, "Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky." 21 God created the great

sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. 22 Then God blessed them: "Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." 23 There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day. 24 God said, "Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife." And that's what happened. 25 God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. 26 Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth." 27 God created humanity in God's own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground." ²⁹ Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. 30 To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food." And that's what happened. 31 God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good. There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day. 2:1 The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. 2 On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. 3 God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation.

READ: Leviticus 19:9-10 (CEB)

God creates the Heavens and the Earth

⁹When you harvest your land's produce, you must not harvest all the way to the edge of your field; and don't gather up every remaining bit of your harvest. ¹⁰ Also do not pick your vineyard clean or gather up all the grapes that have fallen there. Leave these items for the poor and the immigrant; I am the LORD your God.

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us...

All: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

"More than Enough"

ANTHEM

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" arr. Tom Fettke

SERMON "Appreciat

"Appreciate God's Abundance" Elder Brody Cameron

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SING

"For the Beauty of the Earth" GTG #14

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

"This Is My Father's World" arr. Mark Hayes

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God above ye heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you. All: and also with you.

Let us pray...

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" GTG #240

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name. (2 X)

...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.

SONG OF SENDING

"Count Your Blessings"

CEL #786

SENDING & BENEDICTION

Let us say together the Benediction...

God provides more than we need from the start.

SING

"Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!" GTG #390

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!
Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!
Praise God's holy name, alleluia!
Praise God's holy name! Alleluia!
Praise God's holy name! Alleluia!
Praise God's holy name! Alleluia!
Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!
Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Jesus Saves" arr. Cindy Berry



PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

The following are prayer concerns & celebrations given to us through email, Prayer Notebook at the entrance, by phone or word of mouth. Please use this list in your prayers through the week.

- Staff of the month: Danny Way
- Dana Albright—lung cancer
- Baby Dawson—at home & doing well
- Henry Crisp—health concerns
- Joann Jordan—at Liberty Commons with deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism
- Harold Noell—recovering from surgery
- Kenon McCollum— undergoing tests at UNC for tonsil infection and meeting oncologists; diagnosis will be confirmed following the removal of tonsils (Grandson of Wes & Brenda Hair)
- Tom Rich—Praise! No surgery is needed; treatment with medication
- Helen Thomas—heart procedure on 5/6
- Carol Thompson—needs new port installed and starting dialysis
- Erin Westbrook—health concerns (Nanette's nephew's wife)

Our prayers continue for:

Cindy Atkins, Ron & Pat Baugus, Rose Boderck (Liberty Commons, Rm #103), Harriett Covington (under hospice care), Susan Loy (Alamance House), Joe McAdams, Josephine Minor, Kevin Monroe (White Oak Manor), Betty Sykes & Carol Thompson (Compass Health Room, #A-9), and Pat Webster

THE 2025 SESSION



ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVERYTHING'S GRANTED

Sometimes there is nothing worse than feeling someone's taken advantage of you. That feeling that you've been duped or someone just doesn't appreciate you. They've taken you and what you've done for them for granted. So you can probably imagine, then, how God feels when it comes to all of Creation, even our very lives. How often do you make a specific and deliberate effort (even if small) to thank God, to show your appreciation for Creation and for being created? Would anyone be able to tell, looking at your life, that you are grateful to God for all that has been granted? We often use the phrase "taken for granted" in a negative sense. Change that. Realize that every blessing did not have to be given. Every breath, every sight, every meal, every moment, did not HAVE to be: they were all given. Start saying "everything's granted" and thank God accordingly, every day.

QUESTIONS AS YOU WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- Thinking broadly, why do you take things for granted?
- What's the best way for people to show YOU appreciation?
- How much of a priority for you is thanking people?
- What do you imagine is the best way to show your appreciation to God for Creation this week?

WE WELCOME ELDER BRODY CAMERON!

While our Pastor is away, we welcome to the pulpit this weekend Elder Brody Cameron! Elder Cameron served on our Session last year and is rapidly-working toward the end of his Senior Year at Western High School.

CARING FOR CREATION

The truth is as daunting as it is grace-filled: we are partners with God in Creation. God has seen fit to give us authority over the majesty, variety, and riches of Creation. The question is what kind of partner does God want us to be? We will be exploring Scripture's take on our role in several ways throughout this series. Look for the study materials on our website and Facebook page.

NEW MEMBERS RECEPTION

Presbyterian Women invite you to a reception honoring our new members today, **May 4th**,

immediately following the 10 AM service in the fellowship hall.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

Applications for the following scholarships are available in the church office:

- Henry A. & Margaret W. Scott Education Scholarship
- George S., Sr. & Ruth McPherson Bason Education Scholarship
- Paul H. Smith, Jr. Scholarship
- R.A. Jr. and Jean White Evans ACC Scholarship

Please return completed application to the church office no later than **May 8th.** For more information, contact Eva Covington or Jimmy Evans.

CHURCH WORKDAY

We are looking for volunteers to help beautify the church grounds. We will be planting summer flowers at church on Saturday, **May 10th**, starting at 9 AM. Please contact Kim Ragland (<u>Ikimter I@gmail.com</u>) if you can help.

HONOR YOUR MOTHERS!

It is hard to overstate how much we need and count on those who mother us. Those folks who help make sure we're fed and ask us uncomfortable questions. Those who mentor us and those who work ahead of us. Those who want the best for us and those who love taking care of us. While next weekend is an arbitrarily set holiday, the task of honoring those who mother us is not arbitrary. Find ways to show honor year round.

HOMECOMING 2025: MUSIC FESTIVAL

The third Sunday in May is the traditional celebration of the founding of our congregation and our church family reunion! This year, as we celebrate on **May 18th**, we invite everyone to come ready to reminisce and reconnect. This year, we plan on worshipping together in song! Also, as always, we will have our potluck following the service. Bring Lemonade or Tea and your favorite dish to share and be ready for our group picture. Everyone is welcome to join in, whether or not they're

a member or friend or visitor! Let's make this a grand celebration of 270 years!

IT'S TIME TO BUILD!

Once again we have the opportunity to participate in a community Habitat for Humanity build! We have 8 available slots for hands on work. The available dates for the build will be **May 20-23 and**May 27-31. Please let Carol Phillips know if you'd like to be on the list. Also, the Community Life Community once again is sponsoring a matching campaign. They will match donations from the congregation toward Habitat up to \$500. This is an important and timely ministry, especially with affordable housing being a particular challenge these days. Let's get building!

GAME NIGHT!

Friday, **May 23rd**, starting at 7pm, is once again Game Night! Bring your favorite card or board game to share as well as a snack. We will break out at tables throughout the Fellowship Hall (and if need be, the Education Building). Come and join in and let's learn a thing or two about each other!

HYMNAL CAMPAIGN

A big thank you to all the folks who've donated hymnals to our campaign! We've have received 16 hymnals, which means we need 4 more to fill the pews, especially for services like funerals when the overhead projectors aren't working. If you or a group (like a committee or choir) want to honor or remember someone, one hymnal costs \$30. It includes a bookplate in the inside cover with all the details about the donation. To make your payment, you can do it online, place in the offering plate, or bring to the office. Our goal is to buy 20 books and wrap up the campaign by May31st Let's make this a memorable campaign!

- Who is presenting the gift.....?
- Who is being honored or memorialized (can be more than one person).....?
- Who is presenting the gift.....?
- Who is being honored or memorialized (can be more than one person).....?

MANNA MARKET NEEDS

The following are the non-perishable items needed for Manna Market: mixed veggies, canned potatoes, canned corn, pork & beans, diced tomatoes, canned tomato sauce, pasta noodles, jar spaghetti sauce, canned kidney

beans, canned black beans, peanut butter, oatmeal, grits, mac and cheese, jam/jellies, canned tuna, canned chicken, Jiffy corn bread, pancake mix and syrup, Raman noodles, poptarts, and saltines. Your donations are greatly appreciated!



THE WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, MAY 4

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School
9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall)
10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service
11:00 AMYouth—Golfing
11:00 AMReception for New Members
6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

MONDAY, MAY 5

7:00 PM "The Chosen" Bible Study

TUESDAY, MAY 6

11:00 AMStaff Meeting & Prayer 7:00 PMBoy Scout Meeting (F. Hall)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

10:00 AMBusy Bees Workshop 1:30 PMHawfields Dulcimers (F. Hall) 6:30 PMChoir Rehearsal

6:30 PMNarcotics Anonymous (Fleming)

THURSDAY, MAY 8

6:30 PMAA Meeting (Fleming Room)

SATURDAY, MAY 10

9:00 AM.......Church Workday 9:00 AM......Walking Group (church track) 5:00 PM......Scout Court of Honor

SUNDAY, MAY 11

9:00 AM	Youth Sunday School
9:15 AM	Coffee & Tréats (F. Hall)
10:00 AM	Traditional Worship Service
1:30 PM	Communion @ Compass Health
6:00 PM	Faith @ Night Service

BY THE NUMBERS	4/28/25
Giving Budget 2025	\$346,202.00
Gen. Fund YTD	\$75,966.93
Needed monthly	\$28,850.17
G.F. Month to date	
Needed weekly	\$6,657.73
Last week	\$5,161.71
Building Fund	\$0.00
Youth	\$0.00
Helping Hands Balance	\$1,197.01

Leadership & Staff

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Mon.-Thurs. 8:00AM-3:00PM

TOM BOWDEN

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Morning Music Director

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