

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 4, 2026



— GALATIANS 6:9-10 —

Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people,
especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

2027 Stewardship Campaign

First Presbyterian Church
508 West Davis Street
Burlington, North Carolina 27215
www.fpcburlington.org
336-228-1703

Gathering Around the Word

Gathering Music

Will Frazier

Prelude: Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)

Welcome

*Call to Worship

We gather with hope in our hearts,

for something happens here

that teaches us God is present.

We know this place is sacred,

for something happens here

that teaches us God is our center.

We gather with joyful praise,

for something happens here

that teaches us God is forever faithful.

***Processional Hymn — No. 311:** Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

TOKYO

*Call to Confession

*Corporate Prayer of Confession

Loving God, through Jesus Christ you taught us,

“where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Yet we continue to put our faith in earthly treasures,

hoarding up possessions that moth and rust will destroy,

clinging to power and privilege whenever we can.

Set us free from greed and fear.

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Teach us to trust in you alone;

through Jesus Christ, our true redeemer.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

When this symbol () precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

***Congregational Response: Lord, Have Mercy (*Kyrie eleison*)**

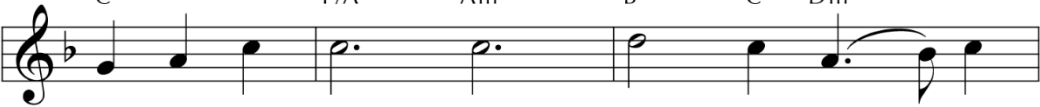
LAND OF REST

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
F C F B $\flat$ C F



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have

(A) (D/F $\sharp$) (F $\sharp$ m) (G) (A) (Bm)
C F/A Am B $\flat$ C Dm



mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy;

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B $\flat$ F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F



Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response: Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me**

GLORY TO GOD

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B $\flat$ F B $\flat$ F B $\flat$ F Gm F



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B $\flat$ E $\flat$ B $\flat$ Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F $\sharp$) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm) (A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

***Passing the Peace, Love and Joy of Christ to Others**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Listening for the Word

Story Telling

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

Holy wisdom, holy word.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem: Triune God, in Love Resplendent
Chancel Choir

Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)

Triune God, in love resplendent, wholly one yet fully three,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one divine community;
Move our hearts to wordless wonder, as the mysteries unfold;
Shadows of a greater story, never fully to be told!

Holy Spirit, rest upon us that the many may be one;
Hold us in the pure communion of the Father with the Son.
From the myriad lives and talents brought together in this place,
Make our worship and our living one kaleidoscope of grace.

Keep the life of church and city in the fellowship divine,
Joining many hands and voices, turning water into wine,
Till a just and free creation, splendid in diversity,
Sings as one your endless praises, ever blessed Trinity!
-Michael Forster (1946-2023)

Second Reading: Psalm 19

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Heavens are Telling

Dr. Jim Lunde

Responding to the Word

***Hymn of Response — No. 525:** Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

***Affirmation of Faith**

-The Apostles' Creed

**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.

Moment for Stewardship

Nora Fisher

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Music at the Offertory: O Taste and See
 Chancel Choir
 Ami Hill, soprano

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blest are they that trusteth in Him.
 -Psalm 34:8

*Scan this QR code (using your phone's camera) to make a secure online donation.
 Thank you for your generosity.*



*Congregational Response: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be -
 low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a-bove, ye heaven-ly
 host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy... Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every
time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

-from Hymn No. 1, *Glory to God*

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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Music During Communion:

Triptyque, Op. 58

II. Communion

Prayer after Communion

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Bearing the Word into the World

***Closing Hymn — No. 260:** Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

HYFRYDOL

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: Psalm XIX

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

James Lunde, D. Min., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
Dari Rowen, D. Min., Associate Pastor
W. Matt Brittain, D.M.A., Director of Music and Organist
Charlotte Nance-Allbright, M.A, C.C.E., Director of Faith Formation

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all who worship with us this Sunday. We hope in this service you will encounter the living Christ and experience the warmth of our caring family of faith. If you are visiting with us and in search of a church home, we invite you to become a part of our church family here at First Presbyterian Church. Please let us know of your interest by speaking to one of our ministers. If you are not receiving the weekly e-newsletter, please feel free to contact the church office at 336-228-1703 to be added to the weekly email list.

A PLACE FOR EVERY CHILD

In the warm embrace of our church community, there should be a place for every soul, a seat for every heart, and a space for every child to flourish. In the eyes of our Creator, every child is a masterpiece — deserving of love, acceptance, and a place to call home.

In a world that often measures success by achievements and milestones, it's easy to overlook the quiet strength and resilience that children with special needs bring into our lives. In their own way, they teach us the deeper meaning of unconditional love, patience, and simplicity. As a church family, it is our privilege to offer these children — and their families — a haven of love and understanding where they can truly flourish.

Please know that we are here for you. In your concerns, prayers, or needs, reach out to a pastor or the Director of Faith Formation in whatever way feels comfortable.

LITURGY TODAY IS from *Call to Worship* and Worship Resource for World Communion Sunday, PCUSA.

FISHIN (FAITH IN SMALL HEARTS): After Story Telling, children who are 1st grade and younger have an opportunity to go to a special time for faith formation and friendship building. They will return to the worship space during "Responding to the Word" to continue learning the how-to and why of worship alongside their church family.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY: Christians from around the world gather in worship today to partake of the elements of bread and wine in remembrance and celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is also the time to bear witness to the unity of Christians everywhere as we seek to live out Christ's command to work for justice and peace in a world that is deeply divided in conflict and war. A special offering will be received today to support peacemaking.

PASTOR ON-CALL INFORMATION: If you have a personal emergency, hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call the church office. If it is after office hours or on the weekend, you may contact the pastor on call by calling the church at 336-228-1703 and pressing 9. You will then be connected to the pastor on call.

JOHN KNOX FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Fall/Winter 2026

9:00 a.m. each Sunday in the John Knox Room

Roots of Wisdom: Our faith is rooted in Christ's words of wisdom, from which we hope to grow in understanding God's will for our lives.

October

4 The Hidden Treasure and Pearl of Great Price (Matt. 13:44-46) with teacher, Gail McGowen

11 The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) with teacher, Don Grady

18 The Great Banquet (Luke 14:15-24) with teacher, Bruce Shields

25 Lost Sheep, Coin and Son (Luke 15) with teacher, Nan Perkins

ENRICHMENT CLASS meets in Room 228 each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for lively discussions that are the hallmark of the Enrichment class as we strengthen our spiritual journeys. October 4, 11 & 18 the focus is "Mostly What God Does: Reflections on Seeking and Finding His Love Everywhere" by Savannah Guthrie.

TAKE ROOT meets in Room 227 each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. This fall, the focus will be on "Tending the Wild Garden: Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit" by Eugenia Anne Gamble. Drop off children and youth in their classes, grab a cup of coffee, and join the conversation. PreK in Room 223, K-2 in Room 224, and Jr. Youth (3rd-6th grade) in Room 229.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDIES: These three Bible studies meet in the Witherspoon Room and are led by Rev. Dr. Jim Lunde. The focus will be on the parables of Jesus.

Men's Study begins each Tuesday at 6:45 a. m.

Wednesday Study begins each week at 10:00 a.m.

Women's Study begins each Thursday at 7:45 a.m.

2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: The Gratitude and Generosity Team's 2027 Stewardship Campaign - *Together We Love, Together We Serve* (inspired by Galatians 6: 9-10) - continues through Dedication Sunday, October 25, 2026. Each member (or member family) will receive a campaign letter along with a 2027 pledge card. You will also hear a weekly "*Moment for Stewardship*" featuring a diverse group of speakers.

The annual Stewardship Campaign provides the budgetary basis for supporting our many and varied mission commitments, while simultaneously funding our ongoing, day-to-day church operations (staff salaries / benefits, spiritual development, supplies, utilities, cleaning & security services, and congregational gatherings, etc.).

Through September 27, we have received \$251,720 toward our 2027 pledge goal of \$1,250,000. Confidential pledges may be submitted by mail to FPC-B's Financial Administrator, Tori Stadler, or electronically through the "Pledge Online" application of the church website's home page, or by utilizing the QR code below. Those who prefer may present an in-person pledge during worship on Dedication Sunday (October 27). Additional pledge cards are available in the narthex. We sincerely appreciate for your generous commitment to the continuation of God's work.



YOUTH MINISTRY OCTOBER

4 5:25 p.m. worship experience - drive to Hawfields Pres for 6 p.m. Faith@Night

11 5:00 p.m. - (Dinner) Pastor Dari in the hot seat - ask anything! Games.

18 2:30-5:00 p.m. Feed the Hunger pack-a-thon - meet at Front St. UMC

25 4:00-6:00 p.m. Craft Axe Throwing in Graham - \$20 per person payable to First Presbyterian Church

Contact Charlotte Nance-Allbright for more info about FPCB Youth Ministry (callbright@fpcburlington.org)

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR: To access the activities calendar, please visit the website at www.fpcburlington.org or scan this QR



Moment's Meditation

The value of persistent prayer is not that He will hear us
but that we will finally hear Him.

1- William McGill