

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Rick T. Martindale
110 S. Ray Street
Post Office Box 397
Carthage, North Carolina 28327



April 28th, 2024

We welcome you not as strangers but as a part of God's family! We are a community of faith that gathers to praise our Lord and Savior, serve others, search for answers, and enjoy the fellowship of one another. We hope today you will be challenged and discover encouragement. The peace of Christ be with you!

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

5th Sunday of Easter

April 28th, 2024

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

*Worship begins with the Prelude. Please use this time for **silent** preparation.*

PRELUDE

Graham / Levland

"You Raise Me Up"

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

“I’m Forever Grateful”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Let us turn toward God for direction and guidance.
 People: *We will worship God and proclaim God’s good news.*
 Leader: We are called to love one another.
 People: *Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*
 Leader: We seek to let God’s love be perfected in us.
 People: *God claims us and has high hopes for us.*
 Unison: *Jesus Christ is love fulfilled. We are to be love fulfilled, too.*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN OF ADORATION # 828

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, we struggle in our attempts to love one another. People do things we do not like. We do things we do not like. Yet we do not hate our sins as much as we hate the sins of others. We are repulsed or afraid to love those different than us. We are afraid to challenge those who do not speak in love. O God, grant us courage to walk in the love of Your Son. Forgive our sins and forgive the sins of those who struggle to live lives of love. Amen.

*DECLARATION 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, amen.*

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF PREPARATION # 697

“Take My Life”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 19:1-6, Page 65

ANTHEM

Dottie Rambo

“If That Isn’t Love”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 John 4:7-21, Page 240

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
 People: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Rev. Rick Martindale

“We are Polarized and It Needs to Change”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Hymn Book, Page 35

“The Apostles’ Creed”

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

David Foster

“The Prayer”

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn # 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT # 286

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL AMEN

Traditional

“Danish Amen”

*POSTLUDE

John Hughes

“Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

**Please stand if able.*

Opportunities for the Week of April 28th – May 5th, 2024

Today: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
3:00 p.m. Presbytery Session Minutes Meeting
4:00 p.m. Sunday Funday ages 4 – 6th grade
5:00 p.m. Youth Group – Grades 7th – 12th

Tuesday: Distribute Church Mouse / Newsletter

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Saturday: 7:30 a.m. Robbins’ Food Bank
8:00 a.m. Church Clean-Up Day

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Christian Education Committee Meeting
9:30 a.m. Coffee in the Kitchen
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service / 2 Cents a Meal - Children
4:00 p.m. Sunday Funday ages 4 – 6th grade (Last Day)
5:00 p.m. Youth Group – Grades 7th - 12th (Last Day)

Announcements

The Men's Group is collecting paper towels and feminine products for Friend to Friend. All donations may be left in the Family Life Center. Please contact Keith Hardin with any questions at 910-603-0837. Monetary donations are accepted. Thank you for your support.

Rev. Martindale will lead a new Bible Study based on the popular series, "The Chosen." Sign up in the narthex today. We will start on Wednesday, May 8th at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, May 4th, we will have our annual church clean-up day (outside and inside). It will start at 8:00 a.m. and finish by noon.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Susan & Benny Cole.