

First Presbyterian Church

110 S. Ray Street
Post Office Box 397
Carthage, North Carolina 28327
(910) 947-2924
www.fpccarthage.com
infofpc397@gmail.com



May 3rd, 2026

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

May 3rd, 2026

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

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

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

CHORAL INTROIT

Donald Fishel

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: When all we have hoped for and trusted in has let us down;

People: *There is Christ who reaches out to us.*

Leader: When the world seems dark and despair threatens to close in upon us;

People: *There is Christ, reaching out for us.*

Leader: Come and let us worship the Lord who is always ready to reach out to us.

People: *We humbly come before the Lord in hope and faith. AMEN.*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN OF ADORATION # 321

“The Church’s One Foundation”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Patient Lord, we find it easy to blame others and other circumstances for the things which happen in our lives. We hear the words “if only” and wonder why things didn’t happen differently for us. Too often we want you to be a “magic” presence which will, with the wave of a wand, cure our ills, give us success and happiness; but we don’t necessarily want to take responsibility for our attitudes and actions. Life is. Things happen which we didn’t plan for and events swirl around us over which we have no control. But to place blame and not to find ways in which we can work through the situations is detrimental to everyone, especially ourselves. Forgive us when we are so busy placing blame that we don’t recognize your presence and love for us. Free us from placing our own desires first and foremost. Help us to look at the many ways in which you are working in the world for peace and justice and enable us to be part of that ministry. In Jesus’ name, we pray... (silent confession) ... 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

*HYMN OF PREPARATION # 353

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

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.*

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 31: 1-5, 21-22, Page 505

ANTHEM

Jaroslav J. Vajda

“God of the Sparrow”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 14: 1-14, page 108

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

The Rev. Elizabeth Pope

“Our Funeral Service”

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 35

“Apostles' Creed”

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Lina Sandell-Berg

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn # 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT # 465

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

John S. B. Monsell

“Christ is Risen, Alleluia”

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if able.*

Opportunities for the Week of May 3rd – May 10th

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service / 2 Cents a Meal / Rev. Elizabeth Pope
3:00 p.m. Session Meeting
5:00 p.m. Youth Group
Tuesday: 6:15 p.m. Men's Group
Wednesday: 5:45 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday:

Happy Mother's Day

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service / Chaplain Robert Wilson

Announcements

Please take a moment and welcome Rev. Elizabeth Pope. Rev. Pope attended UNCG at Greensboro in which she attained a teaching degree and was hired by the Baltimore County Schools in Baltimore, Maryland. She also received a Master of Theology and her certification of education of PCUSA. Rev. Pope is married and has identical twin daughters. She has served as Sunday School teacher, Superintendent and has also held positions on the Board of Deacons with the Presbytery of Baltimore. She has traveled with a group of Presbytery youth to Merida, Yucatan in Mexico and with the Presbytery of Donegal to the Holy Land. In 2018, Rev. Pope completed the requirements for the CRE and have filled the pulpit of many churches all over this presbytery. Her goals continue to be to love God and love her neighbors each and every day.

Happy Mother's Day: Next Sunday, May 10th, we will be having "Muffins for Mom" before and after services. So please, invite all mom's, grandmom's and great grandmom's for this very special day.

The session will meet this afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

On Sunday, May 17th we will be collecting the PW Birthday Offering. Grant recipients are: Haywood Christian Ministry in Waynesville, NC and City of Mission of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio. More information posted in the narthex and Family Life Center.

The flowers in the church are given in the Glory of God by Ann Key.