

First Presbyterian Church

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



March 17th, 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 in Lent

March 17, 2024

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

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

PRELUDE

"The Old Rugged Cross"

George Bennard

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Nancy Carter

“Praise to the Lord”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: The intention of God is clear. God loves us so much that God humbled Himself and took human form.
People: *We have seen God’s love and power through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*
Leader: God wants us to be together for all eternity.
People: *We are challenged to see the writing upon our hearts and become Jesus’ disciples.*
Leader: Our challenge includes the realization that following Jesus is difficult.
People: *Jesus knows that following Him is difficult.*
Unison: *He is lighting a path for us to follow.*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN OF ADORATION # 833

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Loving God, just as the time for Christ came, so has ours. It’s time for us to admit that we are not worthy of Your love. We crave the very things we shouldn’t. We avoid loving one another. It’s time for us to change our ways and take our journey with our Lord and Savior to the next level. This road is difficult, but You have provided the Holy Spirit to guide us. Forgive our many sins, O God. Our journey will be challenging but You will be with us. May we walk in the light of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. 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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34, page 735

ANTHEM

Pepper Choplin

“Once Upon a Tree”

GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:20-36a, page 107

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

MEDITATION

The Rev. Rick Martindale

“It’s Time to Drink the Cup of Jesus”

*COMMUNION HYMN # 498

“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.*

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Chisolm / Lowden

"Living for Jesus"

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn #606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT # 724

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Isaac Watts

"Come, We That Love the Lord"

**Please stand if able.*

Opportunities for the Week of March 17th – 24th, 2024

Today:	Happy St. Patrick's Day
	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Worship Service / Communion
	4:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt/Youth Group
Tuesday:	6:15 p.m. Men's Group
Wednesday:	Deadline for Church Mouse / Newsletter
	12:00 p.m. Community Lenten Service (John Hall Presbyterian Church)
	5:30 p.m. Choir Practice (During Lenten Season)
Sunday:	Palm Sunday
	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship Service
	6:00 p.m. RACM Palm Service (Smyrna United Methodist Church)

Announcements

Changes for Holy Week:

On Maundy Thursday, March 28th, we will come together for a meal with one another. Please sign the chart in the upper narthex or call the church office at 910-947-2924 with your preference for being a dinner guest or dinner host. Deadline is Sunday, the 24th.

We will have a Good Friday Service, March 29th at 6:30 p.m. It will be a very meaningful and impactful service. Please come and invite your friends.

We will continue with our Easter Sunrise service at 7 a.m. followed by breakfast on March 31st. Don't forget we will decorate the cross with flowers on Easter morning.

RACM's Palm Sunday service will be next Sunday, the 24th at 6:00 p.m. at Smyrna United Methodist Church.

Please bring your Lily on Easter morning and place it beside the pulpit. If you wish to honor someone, please call the church office by Wednesday, March 28th and provide the name(s).

The final Community Lenten Series will be held at John Hall Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday, March 20th at noon. A lunch and time of fellowship will follow the service.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Ann & Joe Lynch.