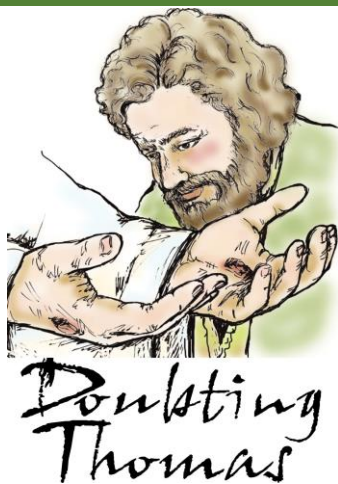


# First Presbyterian Church

Whiteville,  
North Carolina  
"To be a light in our  
community reflecting  
Christ's love and  
compassion..."

*Second Sunday of  
Easter*  
April 8, 2018



Guest Minister  
Reverend Jeremy Simmons

Worship Assistants  
Butch and Peggy Blanchard

## *Gathering Around the Word* Prelude *The Humphreys*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We are here today because the weeping Mary of Magdala once said: "I have seen the Lord!"

We are here because Jesus still comes into our locked spaces and says: "Peace be with you. Receive the Holy Spirit."

We are here today like doubting Thomas who finally cried: "My Lord and my God."

We are here like Peter, tempted to forget the call of Jesus: "I'm going fishing."

We're here this morning because of Jesus, who asks us face-to-face: "Do you truly love me?"

We gather here to whisper timidly.

"Yes, Lord, you know that we love you."

We are here as a congregation only because many faithful disciples have listened to Jesus' words: ***"Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid! Go and tell, 'Jesus has been raised!'"***

\*Hymn of Praise

233

**"The Day of Resurrection!"**

\*Call to Confession

*Let us confess first in self-searching silence.*

\*A Litany of Thanksgiving

By God's great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through Christ's resurrection from the dead.

**This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses.**

We have an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.

**This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses.**

By God's power we are guarded through faith for a salvation to be revealed in the last time.

**This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses.**

The trials you may suffer are so that your faith may prove itself worthy of all praise, glory, and honor when Christ is revealed.

**This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses.**

As the outcome of your faith you obtain the salvation of your souls.

**This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses.**

\*Choral Response

544

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.**

**Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

Anyone who believes in Jesus Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone, and a new life has become.

**We believe in the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, and, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\*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.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

35

\*Passing of the Peace

### *Proclaiming the Word*

Time with the Children

Rev. Jeremy Simmons

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Lesson

John 20:24-29

This is the Word of the Lord;

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"The Proof is in the Pudding"

Rev. Jeremy Simmons

### *Responding to the Word*

\*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

35

Call for the Offering

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

Choir, 817

\*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise Him, above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and  
Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Hymn of Commitment                      **“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”**                      **234**

\*Charge and Benediction

Music in Preparation for Service to the World

**WELCOME!** We welcome you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! May today’s worship open you to God. *Your entire family is welcome*, but we do offer a nursery for children birth to 3 years of age located in the education building behind the sanctuary.

**Prayer Concerns:** Geraldine Becker; Mark Bannerman; Kathryn Clark; John Hall; Dolores Harris; Bob High; Rita & R. L. Lewis; Grace Palmer; Rhonda Scott; Mike Spivey; Walter Strickland; Nancy Thurston.

**Assisted Care:** Arlene Blaha; Anna Jane Collier; Charlene Hinnant; Ellen Thurston.

**Friends:** Pat Allen; Sara and Rob Armstrong; Annette Caldwell; Penny Carmean; Mary Cherry; Eli Clark; Billie Joe Conrad; Hilda Dorsett; Shari Dutton; Jerry Ford; **Dale Gipple**; Robert Gurkin; Rick Hedgecock; Shelby Hodge; Barry Housend; Roger Kennedy; Benny McBride; Daphne McLeod; Jerome McPherson; Helen Dasher Millman; Don Morrison; Gail Moye; Donna Parker; Angie Pinkston; Floyd Pridgen; Theresa Rappa; Hollis Salyer; Barbara Shepherd; Scott Short; Ken Smith; Ronnie Thayer; Gail Townsend; Frank Youngblood; Joe Youngblood.

**Please notify the office when names can be removed.**

Nursery Team:	April 8: Janet Royal	April 15: Suzanne Blackmon
Sound Team:	April 8: Josh Horne	April 15: Jonathan Medford
Backpack Ministry:	April 8: Young Adult Sunday School	April 15: Youth
Head Usher:	April: Donald Hester	

### CHURCH CALENDAR:

Sunday, April 8:	Guest Minister: Rev. Jeremy Simmons Youth Meeting - 6:30 pm
Monday, April 9:	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall - 6:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, April 10:	Morning Circle, Conference Room - 11:00 am Session Meeting, Conference Room - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, April 11:	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room - 6:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Thursday, April 12:	Chicks with Sticks, Parlor - 10:30 am Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Sunday, April 15:	Confirmation Class, "Studying and Knowing the Bible" - 5:30 pm

**Contact the church office: 910-642-2253**      OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, M-F  
**Pastor Joe:** [pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org](mailto:pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org)      **Karen:** [karen@fpcwhiteville.org](mailto:karen@fpcwhiteville.org)  
**Cell: 910-625-8023**      **Website:** [www.fpcwhiteville.org](http://www.fpcwhiteville.org)  
**Live-Stream of Service:** [www.facebook.com/fpcwhiteville](https://www.facebook.com/fpcwhiteville) or Channel 1304 (Spectrum)

Pastor Jeremy Simmons is a North Carolina native and has lived in different areas of North Carolina his entire life. He was born in Charlotte, NC to parents that embraced education, valued family and simply believed in treating all people with love. Jeremy learned at an early age that it was important to work hard in every area of life to become successful at whatever he desired. At the age of eighteen, Jeremy was licensed as a minister of the Gospel in the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association and was ordained as an Elder of the Full-Gospel Baptist Church fellowship in 2010.



Jeremy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Religious Studies from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. Jeremy also attended Duke University Divinity School where he received a Master of Divinity in 2013. Jeremy has served as Chaplain at C.A. Dillon Youth Development Center in Butner, NC where he was able to inspire inmates who were imprisoned to move forward after making mistakes. He also served as Student Pastor at Union Missionary Baptist Church and Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church here in Wilmington alongside the leadership of prolific Pastors in the Wilmington community. Jeremy currently serves as Associate Pastor at Sanctuary Charlotte Church in Charlotte North Carolina and as Chaplain at Columbus Regional Healthcare System in Whiteville North Carolina. Jeremy is married to Jamila Simmons and they have three children, Jeremiah, Josiah and Jaila. Jeremy enjoys playing basketball, reading, and spending time with his family.

Most importantly, Jeremy loves God wholeheartedly and believes that he has been gifted and called to show forth God's glory in the earth, and to encourage people to *fully* live out their lives to the glory of God! He has a heart for ministry and a passion to serve God's people.