



WELCOME to FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Spartanburg, SC

First Presbyterian Church
is a community of believers committed to
“Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together
through Word and Deed.”

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

JANUARY 10, 2021

11:00AM

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Max Drischner

WELCOME AND INVITATION

INTROIT

O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright

Puer Nobis Nascitur

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away.

All: **They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion;
they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord.**

One: I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.

All: **For thus says the Lord: proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.”**

One: Let us worship God!

✠ *Please Stand*

Hymn printed at end of bulletin

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- One: Gracious God, you chose us in Christ
before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless,
All: yet we do not love our brothers and sisters as he taught.
- One: You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ,
**All: yet we take our status for granted
and fail to obey Christ when he calls us to follow.**
- One: With all wisdom and insight you have made known to us the mystery of your will,
All: yet we stubbornly refuse to study your Word.
- One: Forgive our sin, O God,
**All: and help us set our hope on Christ
that we may live for the praise of his glory.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- One: In Christ, we heard the word of truth,
the gospel of our salvation, and believed in him.
All: We were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.
- One: This is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption
as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.
**All: In this promise lies our assurance,
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

RESPONSE

NETTLETON

*Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

- One: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness, love, and peace through Christ,
let us share that grace with each other. Peace be with you.
All: And also with you.
- One: Let us greet each other as we share the peace of Christ.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-9

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *O Word of God Incarnate*

MUNICH

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:10-18

SERMON

The Word Became Flesh - My Word!

Dr. J. Lewis Johnson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Unison)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

The Glory of the Father

Egil Hovland

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDRETH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise Christ, all people here below;
 praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BEARING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

HYMN 634

To God Be the Glory
Hymn printed at end of bulletin

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

In Thee is Gladness

J.S. Bach

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Dr. J. Lewis Johnson
Rev. L. Craig Foster
Rev. Joanne R. Hull
Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Holt Andrews, Director
Marcia Andrews, Organist

Additional Musicians

Valerie MacPhail
Lisa Cunningham
Reel Robertson
Paul MacPhail

The Flowers in the Sanctuary

*are given to the Glory of God,
in celebration of the marriage of Livia Cantrell and Steve Jones,
in honor of Carolyn S. Wilson, mother of the bride,
and in memory of Lewis Eugene Wilson, father of the bride,
and Ruth and Norman Jones, parents of the groom.*

667 When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing
 2 Does sad - ness fill my mind? A so - lace here I
 3 Let earth's wide cir - cle round in joy - ful notes re -
 4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di -

cries: may Je - sus Christ be praised! A -
 find: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Or
 sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let
 vine: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be

like at work and prayer to Je - sus I re -
 fades my earth - ly bliss? My com - fort still is
 air and sea and sky from depth to height re -
 this the e - ter - nal song through all the a - ges

pair: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 this: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 ply: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This is not just a morning hymn, though this excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different kinds of time throughout the day. The tune was composed as a setting for this English text.

634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and ties. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with chords and single notes.

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a mix of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass staff maintains a consistent harmonic support.

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

The third system of music follows the same musical structure. The lyrics continue to praise God's sacrifice and the superiority of Jesus.

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

The final system of music concludes the piece. The melody and bass line end with a final chord, providing a sense of resolution.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

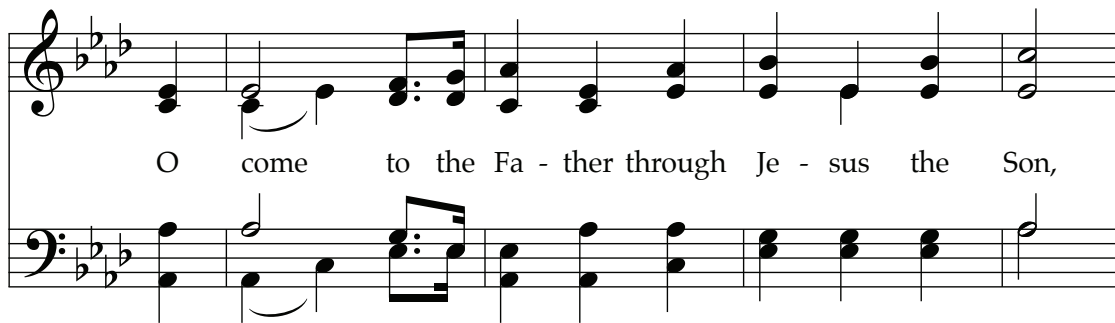
Refrain



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!



O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,



and give him the glory: great things he has done!

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

CHECK IN TO WORSHIP! We would love to have a record of your attendance. Please check in at fpcspartanburg.org/worship/worship-guestbook.

GIVEN THE CURRENT SERIOUS SPIKE IN COVID-19 case numbers nationally, in South Carolina, and in Spartanburg County, and given the prospect of further increases following the Christmas and New Year holidays, we feel that the only prudent course of action for First Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg, is to alter our worship schedule in the following way: For the month of January, we will worship via Livestream only (both MorningSong and Traditional Sanctuary services). After discussion with the Health Cabinet and church staff, and with the support of the Worship Committee, these changes were approved.

Additionally, we are dialing back our office/onsite hours. Staff that can work from home will be doing so. The Church Office phone will be answered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9am-1pm. Outside of these days/hours, please leave a voicemail and we will contact you as soon as possible (most of your staff can access their voicemails from home). As always, please feel free to contact us via email. All email addresses and phone extensions can be found here: <https://fpcspartanburg.org/discover/pastors-staff>. We apologize for any inconvenience. If you need to contact a minister for a Pastoral Concern, please call 864-208-2142, day or night. The minister on-call will answer your call as soon as possible.

Pray for our country, state, and local communities; those suffering the effects of COVID and those on the front line.

ECHOES (Elder Caregivers Helping Others and Encouraging Self) Caring for a loved one who is aging or sick is a special ministry. If you are engaged in this and would appreciate Christian encouragement, please join Rev. Ansley Page and Parish Nurse Beth Cecil on **Thursday, January 14 at 7:00pm via Zoom**. From the comfort of your home, you can enjoy this time of devotion, prayer, and sharing with folks in similar circumstance. Let your church family help you in this sacred work. Contact Joanie Shackleton for the Zoom link (jshackleton@fpcspartanburg.org).

WITNESS SEASON 2021 will be here soon (February)! We are looking for volunteers for the Witness Season Committee to help coordinate our response and prayerful giving to Ministry of Hope Lesotho, a mission we have supported for a long time (www.ministryofhopelesotho.org). We need men, women, and youth who want to help for two months on this project! If you would like to volunteer to be part of this committee, please reach out to Pastor Leslie at llang@fpcspartanburg.org or 2021 Witness Season Chair, Holly Hoenig at hollycaustin@hotmail.com.

RECREATION AT FPC

Zoom Workout Classes are free and open to all ages. Group Classes Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 7:15 and 9:15am. Classes are 30-45 minutes in length and can be completed in your living room!

Contact **Colleen Darrall**, Recreation Director, For More Information (cdarrall@fpcspartanburg.org)



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LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

Check out www.fpcspartanburg.org/ministry-finder.