First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



March 29, 2026

Service for the Lord's Day
Palm Sunday

8:30am Early
9:00am Contemporary
11:00am Traditional

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg – we are delighted that you are joining us for worship today! First Presbyterian is a community of believers in the heart of Spartanburg seeking to know and share the transformative love of Jesus Christ with others. Here you will encounter people who come from all walks of life representing diverse beliefs and faith experiences. What binds us together is our common hope in Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship, and mission we seek to root our lives in scripture, nurture our unity in Christ, and serve our neighbors in faith! No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here.

Peace,

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, we are delighted that you are worshiping with us today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of our congregation, please be sure to speak with a pastor before or after today's worship or fill out the friendship register. We would love to get to know you better!

Pastoral Concern? Please let us know how we can be praying for you by visiting with a pastor before or after worship. If you need to contact a Minister, call 864-208-2142 day or night.

Children of All Ages Are Welcome in Worship!

Activity Bags located in the welcoming areas of each worship venue are available for your child to use during worship. After worship, please return the crayons and bags to the baskets. The activity sheet is for your child to keep.

Nursery is available for infants through age 3 in the Clark Building in Room 105.

After *The Word for Children* in the 11:00am Traditional Service, children 3K-1st grade may attend Children's Worship with Ms. Kara. After the service, families are asked to pick their children up from Room 202 of the Clark Building.

To Aid in Worship Advanced listening technology, large-print hymnals, and large-print bulletins are available upon request for the Chapel and Sanctuary. Please locate an usher for assistance.

Worship Online Livestreaming of the Contemporary and Traditional Worship Services is available at fpcspartanburg.org/worship. Additionally, sermons are on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, or wherever you find your podcasts!

Ways to Give There are many ways you can support the missions and ministries of First Presbyterian. During worship, place your gift in the Offering Plate or scan one of these QR Codes (you may give via **ShelbyNext** or via **Venmo**). Additionally, you may mail a check to the church office (address on back of bulletin). Thank you. *Questions? Contact Church Financial Officer Lynise Clarke; 864-208-2130/lclarke@fpcspartanburg.org.*

ShelbyNext (No log in required)

Venmo

Early Worship
8:30am | Chapel

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Voluntary — *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* — arr. Michael Burkhardt

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna! Save us, O Lord!
The Lord is our God, and He has given us light.
We lift our branches and raise our voices in praise.
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
His steadfast love endures forever!

✞Hymn 197 — *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* — Ellacombe

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we do not always walk the way you set before us.
You open the gates of righteousness and invite us to enter with thanksgiving,
yet we choose the easier paths of comfort, control, and self-interest.
Forgive us, O God. Turn our hearts again toward your vision for us.
Teach us to walk the way of Christ who teaches us mercy, calls us to courage,
and shows us the way of faithful obedience.
Open the gates once more, that we may enter with grateful hearts
and follow the One who comes in your name.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

✞Response

Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee. Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee.
For I'm not worthy of all these blessings. Give me a clean heart, Lord, and I'll follow thee.

✞Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Life of the Church

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most sacred time in the Christian year. On this day we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, when crowds lined the road waving palm branches and crying out, "Hosanna!" - a shout of praise and a plea for salvation. Yet the road before Jesus leads to the cross. Even as we lift our palms in celebration, Palm Sunday invites us to consider what it means to follow Christ on the path that lies ahead.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon — *God's Vision for Us: Walking the Way* — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Hosanna* — Edward Leinbach

This morning's offertory comes to us from our Moravian friends in Winston-Salem, N. C. The Moravians are known for integrating music into their daily lives, and multi-part singing in worship was often the norm rather than the exception. Composer Edward Leinbach (1821-1901) spent most of his life in Old Salem and one can easily imagine this joyful Advent or Palm Sunday piece being sung at church or any gathering of this wonderful Christian community.

✠Doxology, Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

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

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 196 — *All Glory, Laud and Honor* — Valet will ich dir geben

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response: Hymn 543 — Green Tyler

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Closing Voluntary — *Epilogue on "St. Theodulph"* — Healey Willan

Following the service, you are invited to the Social Hall for a Congregational Breakfast.

Contemporary Worship
9:00am | Fogartie Hall

Instrumental Prayer		*Here Comes the King*
Welcome		Landon Hammett
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song(s) of Praise		*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Leslie L. Denny
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*O Come To The Altar*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Children's Time		
Palm Procession		*Hosanna*

Please join the children and youth in waving palms during the processional music.

Anthem		*Here Comes the King*
Scripture Reading	Matthew 21:1-11	
Sermon	*God's Vision for Us: Walking the Way*	Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith		
Prayers of the People		
The Lord's Prayer		Hymnal Page 35
✞Closing Song		*By Our Love*
✞Benediction		

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✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Traditional Worship
11:00am | Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

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Palm Procession *Mantos y Palmas (Filled with Excitement)* Ruben Ruiz Avila

Acolyte Kennedy Patty

The congregation is invited to remain seated and wave their palms during the Palm Processional.

✞Call to Worship Rev. L. Craig Foster

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna! Save us, O Lord!
The Lord is our God, and He has given us light.
We lift our branches and raise our voices in praise.
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
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Prayer of Confession Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

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✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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And also with you.

Life of the Church — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Prayer for Illumination — *O Blest are They Who in Their Love* — Guilsborough

First Reading — Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 — Karlie Patty

Second Reading — Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon — *God's Vision for Us: Walking the Way* — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✞Affirmation of Faith — Rev. Leslie L. Denny

The Apostles' Creed

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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

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.

We don't just pray the Lord's Prayer for ourselves, we pray it on behalf of the world—those who don't have their daily bread and those who are burdened by debt. We are called to be God's answer to this prayer.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

This morning's offertory comes to us from our Moravian friends in Winston-Salem, N. C. The Moravians are known for integrating music into their daily lives, and multi-part singing in worship was often the norm rather than the exception. Composer Edward Leinbach (1821-1901) spent most of his life in Old Salem and one can easily imagine this joyful Advent or Palm Sunday piece being sung at church or any gathering of this wonderful Christian community.

Offertory *Hosanna* Edward Leinbach

✣Doxology

Hymn 606 Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
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✣Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing the Word to the World

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✣Charge and Benediction

✣Benediction Response:

Hymn 543 Green Tyler

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Closing Voluntary *Epilogue on "St. Theodulph"* Healey Willan

<u>The Palms in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Betty and J.D. Trout
by the family.

<u>The Flowers in the Tower Room</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Charles Barry Boyce
by the family.

Life of the Church

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Lenten Sermon Series

As we come to the final week of our Lenten series "God's Vision for Us", we are invited to step more fully into the vision God has placed before us. In Jesus Christ, we glimpse the heart of God—full of mercy, mystery, and transformation—and as that heart begins to echo in us, we are drawn into deeper love, courageous discipleship, and generous care. May this final week not be an ending, but a sending, as we begin to live more fully into God's hopes for our lives and our community.

Join FPC on Easter Morning

Church membership is an expression of our commitment to God and our faith. In the ancient church, people would often be baptized and officially join the church on Easter morning. Following in that tradition, we are inviting all those interested in joining FPC to consider doing so on **Easter morning, April 5.** We would love to have you add your gifts, energy, and love to the body of Christ that is FPC! Please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org if you are interested in joining. To learn more about membership and how to join, visit fpcspartanburg.org/membership or scan the QR code.

Vision Team Report 2026

The Session has formally received and affirmed the Vision Team's final report as the vision for First Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg. Shaped by more than a year of prayer, study, and listening across our congregation, this report reflects a shared calling toward deeper discipleship, stronger connection, and a life of faith expressed in love and service. Scan the QR code to read the report. The Vision Team will lead **a two-week discussion during WAF on April 15 & 22**. We encourage you to attend to hear more about their findings, as well as the journey ahead!

Holy Week Schedule

at First Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday - March 29

8:30am
Early Worship (Chapel)

9:00am
Contemporary Worship (Fogartie)
Children will participate in a palm procession.

10:00am
Congregational Breakfast (Social Hall)

11:00am
Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
10:45am - Palm procession with donkeys by playground.

Maundy Thursday - April 2

5:30pm
Dinner (Fogartie)
Register with QR Code.

6:30pm
Maundy Thursday Worship (Fogartie)

Good Friday - April 3

9:00am-5:00pm
Chapel Open for Prayer

7:00pm
Tenebrae Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Easter Sunday - April 5

6:30am
Sunrise Service (Columbarium)

8:30am
Early Worship (Sanctuary)

9:00am
Contemporary Worship (Fogartie)

10:00am
Fellowship on the Front Lawn

10:30am
New Members Received (Parlor)

11:00am
Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

Discover FPC

Learn more about First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg at the next Discover FPC Class on **Sunday, April 12** immediately following Traditional Service. We will meet in the Large Private Dining Room and lunch will be served. Scan the QR code to learn more or visit fpcspartanburg.org/discoverfpc. Questions? Contact Cathy Bagwell (cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org).

Chamber Singers' Concert

Join the Chamber Singers **May 3 at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary** for their spring concert, featuring Dan Forrest's beautiful work "Lux" for choir and orchestra, a brand new piece by our own John Moody, and Gregorio Allegri's Miserere Mei (once kept under lock and key at the Vatican).

Vacation Bible School

Get ready for the 2026 VBS Winter Games coming **June 1-4**! Children will become "Challengers" in a fun-filled week of frosty games, snowy surprises, and faith-building lessons centered on Philippians 4:13. We hope you will join us for this mountain-top experience filled with laughter, life lessons, and lasting faith! **Registration is open!** Scan the QR code to sign up! If you are interested in volunteering, contact Kara Clark at kclark@fpcspartanburg.org.

Montreat Play Dates

Children (rising 4K through rising 6th grade) are invited to join us for a fun-filled day in Montreat on **June 13 or July 18 from 10:00am–2:00pm**. We'll spend the day rock-hopping in the creek, playing on the playground, enjoying games and sharing lunch together. Drop-off and pick-up will take place at the Bill Wilde Youth Center (BWYC) in Montreat, NC. The cost is $10 per child, per date. Scan the QR code to register for either date.

Week 1: June 13

Week 2: July 18

Montreat Women's Connection

Join us **August 14–16, 2026**, for the Women's Connection Conference at Montreat! Gather with women from across the region to worship, reflect, and renew your hope in God's faithful presence, with keynote speaker Dr. Kristin Kobes Du Mez. FPC has secured 20 registrations with housing and meals at Assembly Inn. Scan the QR code to learn more and register.

Pastoral Counselor

At any given time, you may be navigating health concerns, grief, loss, or difficult life transitions. You are not alone. Our Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Heidi Campbell-Robinson, is available to meet for confidential, supportive conversation and care. If you would like to schedule a time to talk, we encourage you to reach out. It is a meaningful way to receive guidance, find encouragement, and be supported through whatever season you are facing. Please email Heidi at hcrobinson@fpcspartanburg.org to set up an appointment.

Participating in Worship

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

Rev. Leslie L. Denny
Associate Pastor
Young Adults and Missions

Rev. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor
Discipleship

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Associate Pastor
Congregational Care

Sunday School | 10:00 AM

No Sunday School on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday.

You are invited to join us in the Social Hall for our Palm Sunday Congregational Breakfast!

Today's Musicians

Early Worship

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Kay Maddox, Tweetie Bowman,
Kevin Marsh, Sarye Glenn,
Inaya Rivas, Jared Rosen

Contemporary Worship

Kolby Carrouth, drums
Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals
Landon Hammett, vocals
Anna Harkey, violin
Matt Kelly, guitar/vocals
Jeff Key, electric guitar

Traditional Worship

Holt Andrews
Marcia Andrews
Chancel Choir

Front Cover:

"Entry of Christ into Jerusalem" by Anthony Van Dyck (1617)

In Entry of Christ into Jerusalem, Anthony Van Dyck renders the scene with a heightened sense of movement and drama, yet Christ remains a calm center, his hand lifted in blessing amid the energy of the crowd. The tension between celebration and the road ahead feels immediate, drawing us into the moment where devotion must become decision. In this season of Lent, we are called not only to witness but to follow–to carry that same courage into our lives, embodying faith through both our words and our actions, even when the path before us is uncertain.

Offertory

Hosanna.
Blessed is he that comes in
the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Calendar

April 2
Maundy Thursday
Dinner (5:30pm) & Service (6:30pm)

April 3
Good Friday Tenebrae Service (7:00pm)

April 5
Easter Sunday

April 6
Church Facilities Closed

Looking Ahead

April 12
Discover FPC Class

April 26
Confirmation Sunday

May 3
Chamber Singers' Concert

May 17
Baccalaureate Sunday

May 17-24
A Way Home

June 1-4
Vacation Bible School

June 13 & July 18
Montreat Play Dates

Keep up with all Life of the Church events at fpcspartanburg.org.

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Despair and hope. They travel the road to Jerusalem together, as together they travel every road we take - despair at what in our madness we are bringing down on our own heads and hope in him who travels the road with us and for us and who is the only one of us all who is not mad. Hope in the King who approaches every human heart like a city. And it is a very great hope as hopes go and well worth all our singing and dancing and sad little palms because not even death can prevail against this King and not even the end of the world, when end it does, will be the end of him and of the mystery and majesty of his love."

- Frederick Buechner

First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpcspartanburg.org