First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



April 19, 2026

Service for the Lord's Day
Third Sunday of Easter

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 that is rooted in Christ and seeking to be bold in love. 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 — *O Hail, This Brightest Day of Days* — J.S. Bach

✞Call to Worship — Nora Biber

I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice.
Because God hears us, we will call on the Lord.
When our hearts are stirred and searching,
God meets us with mercy and new life.
What shall we return to the Lord for such goodness?
We will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
Let us gather in teaching, fellowship, and prayer.
With glad hearts, let us worship God!

✞Hymn 263, Verses 1 & 4 — *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* — Coronation

Prayer of Confession — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Gracious God, you hear us when we call and draw us into new life,
yet we do not always turn to you. When our hearts are stirred, we hesitate.
When truth confronts us, we resist.
We cling to what is familiar instead of trusting your call. Forgive us, O God.
In your mercy, meet us again - not with judgment,
but with grace that restores.
By your Spirit, lead us into lives of deeper devotion, service, and prayer.
Shape us into a people marked by grace, generosity, and joy,
so that our life together may bear witness to your love.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✞Response: Hymn 240 — Alleluia No. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

We gather in worship to attend to the presence of God in our lives. In worship we see the world in light of God's grace, and go forth with a vision and power for living in the world as God's people. The rhythm of the life of the believer moves from worship to ministry, from ministry to worship.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Sacrament of Baptism — Rev. Alan F. Dyer and Rev. Hudson Neely

Samuel Benjamin Harrelson, Jr. — Emily Neely, Elder
Emmylou Karis Harrelson — Ramsey Neely, Reader
Elizabeth Hope Harrelson
Children of Merianna and Sam Harrelson

Armour Kyle Milner, IV — Rev. Ansley B. Page
Son of Carmen and Armour Kyle Milner, III

In our baptism God has called and sealed us. Baptism is an important event not simply in the life of the child and family, but in the life of the whole church. We are baptized into a community, and not in abstraction from the community.

Scripture Reading — Acts 2:37-42

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed — Hymnal Page 35

Life of the Church

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Children of the Heavenly Father* — arr. Paul Christiansen

✠Doxology: Hymn 609 — Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 295 — *Go to the World* — Sine Nomine

✠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 — *Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* — Wilbur Held

Contemporary Worship
9:00am | Fogartie Hall

Instrumental Prayer		*Living Waters*
Welcome		Landon Hammett
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song(s) of Praise		*Living Waters*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Living Hope*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*The River*
First Reading	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Ella Jane Brown
Second Reading	Acts 2:37-42	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith		
The Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of the People		
The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*River of Life*
✞Benediction		

We gather in worship to attend to the presence of God in our lives. In worship we see the world in light of God's grace, and go forth with a vision and power for living in the world as God's people. The rhythm of the life of the believer moves from worship to ministry, from ministry to worship.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Traditional Worship
11:00am | Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

We gather in worship to attend to the presence of God in our lives. In worship we see the world in light of God's grace, and go forth with a vision and power for living in the world as God's people. The rhythm of the life of the believer moves from worship to ministry, from ministry to worship.

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 — *O Hail, This Brightest Day of Days* — J. S. Bach
Acolyte — Dorothy Hoy

Introit — *Jubilate Deo* — W. A. Mozart

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice.
Because God hears us, we will call on the Lord.
When our hearts are stirred and searching,
God meets us with mercy and new life.
What shall we return to the Lord for such goodness?
We will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
Let us gather in teaching, fellowship, and prayer.
With glad hearts, let us worship God!

✞Hymn 263 — *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* — Coronation

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Gracious God, you hear us when we call and draw us into new life,
yet we do not always turn to you. When our hearts are stirred, we hesitate.
When truth confronts us, we resist.
We cling to what is familiar instead of trusting your call. Forgive us, O God.
In your mercy, meet us again - not with judgment,
but with grace that restores.
By your Spirit, lead us into lives of deeper devotion, service, and prayer.
Shape us into a people marked by grace, generosity, and joy,
so that our life together may bear witness to your love.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✞Response: Hymn 240 — Alleluia No. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✠Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Children ages three years to first grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship; those second grade and older will return to the pews.

Prayer for Illumination — *Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord* — Tallis' Ordinal

First Reading — Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 — Catherine Jenkins

Second Reading — Acts 2:37-42

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith — Rev. Leslie L. Denny

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.

The Apostles' Creed may originally have been a baptismal creed. While it is stated in the singular, it is meant to be used corporately. In saying it together we are united with the faithful of the church from all ages.

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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Children of the Heavenly Father* arr. Paul Christiansen

As we offer our gifts, we praise God for letting us have use of all the resources the Lord has provided and the opportunity to serve on God's behalf. The Doxology is an ancient chorus of praise with a vision of join all the created beings of all times and places who forever sing praise to God.

✞Doxology

Hymn 609 Lasst Uns Erfreuen

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

✞Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing the Word to the World

✞Hymn 295 *Go to the World* Sine Nomine

✞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 *Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* Wilbur Held

The Flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of
Evan Elizabeth Gaubert and Andrew Echols Kayes.

Life of the Church

Sunday, April 19, 2026

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. The Vision Team will lead **a discussion during WAF on April 22**. We encourage you to attend to hear more about their findings, as well as the journey ahead! Scan the QR code to read the report.

Wednesdays at First- April 22

5:00pm	Dinner Line Opens (Fogartie)
6:15pm	Recreation for Children (Gym)
6:30pm	Vision Team Update Part 2 (Fogartie)
6:30pm	Youth Fellowship (Gameroom)
7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Pre-register for dinner by 4:30pm on Mondays. Use the QR code to make a reservation for this week.

April 22 Menu - Salad, Fried Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Sweet Potato Crunch, Bread and Dessert. Kid's Menu: Chicken Tenders & Sauces, Mac & Cheese, Fruit, & Dessert.

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation is an opportunity where youth and mentors consider faith and what it means to be church. Together they explore big ideas, eternal promises, and all things church including the people and the building itself. As they grow in understanding and in community, they live into baptism promises of following Jesus and embracing faith as their own. On **Sunday, April 26 at the 11:00am Traditional Worship service**, we will celebrate with this year's Confirmands as they take their vows for membership in the church.

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).

Young Adult Spring Fiesta

All young adults and parents (20s, 30s, and 40s) are invited to the home of Luke and Ivey Allen for a Mexican Fiesta on **Sunday, May 3 from 5:00-7:00pm**. This event will be adults only, so get a sitter and join us! Food will be provided along with a festive beverage. Please RSVP using the QR code to ensure we have enough!

JOY Fellowship Spring Lunch

JOY (Just Older Youth) Fellowship invites you to a spring luncheon featuring a BBQ meal and live music with the Saggy Bottom Boys on **Wednesday, May 6 at 11:30am in Fogartie Hall**. Enjoy a relaxed time of fellowship, good food, and great music with friends old and new. Scan the QR code to RSVP!

Church Family Baseball Night

Join your church family for a fun night at the ballpark as we cheer on the Spartanburgers! We'll gather on **May 6 at 6:35pm at Fifth Third Park**, with 120 seats reserved together on the 3rd base side in Section 119. Tickets are discounted for a group rate—come enjoy great fellowship, ballpark classics, and a relaxed evening with friends of all ages.

G.A.P.S. Monthly Support Group

Join us on **Tuesday, April 21 from 4:30–6:00pm at the Arthur Center at FPC** (410 Kennedy St) for our April GAPS support group meeting. Dr. John Pilch, neurologist, will lead a timely and encouraging session, "Sing Your Parkinson's Disease Blues Away," with a focus on speech. Come for an informative and supportive time together. For more information, please contact Beth Cecil at bcecil@fpcspartanburg.org or 864-641-8772. RSVP using the QR code.

Help with "A Way Home" Guests

First Presbyterian will host A Way Home families the **week of May 17-24**. A Way Home provides on-site housing and hospitality for unhoused families. Use this QR Code to connect to the sign-up form to help. If you are interested in hosting and have not received training, contact Rhonda Dickerson at rhonda032856@gmail.com or 843-407-8065. It is a quick and easy process.

Vacation Bible School

Get ready for the 2026 VBS Winter Olympics 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 mountaintop experience filled with laughter, life lessons, and lasting faith! **Registration closes April 30!** Scan the QR code to sign up! If you are interested in volunteering, contact Kara Clark at kclark@fpcspartanburg.org.

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.

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

Gym Hours

Our gym is open Monday-Thursday from 7:00am-8:00pm; Friday from 7:00am-2:00pm; and Saturday from 8:00am-12noon. If you plan to access the fitness area/walking track, please bring your keycard.

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

Rev. Ansley B. Page
Pastoral Associate
Engagement

Sunday School | 10:00am

Children and Youth

Nursery – Room C105 (Clark Building)
Preschool (3K-5K) – Room C110 (Clark Building)
1st & 2nd Grade - Room C202
3rd Grade - Room C203
4th & 5th Grade - Room C206
Youth - Second Floor of the Family Life Center

Adult Sunday School

Bible Alive – Room 2215 & Zoom
An extensive book-by-book study of the Bible

Emmaus – Purnell Room
A journey with eyes open towards Jesus, with fellowship and a fresh new scripture-based lesson each week.

Faith Forum – Large Private Dining Room
All ages are welcome to the Faith Forum!

April 12 - May 3 | 2026: An AI Odyssey
led by Dr. A.K. Anderson and Dr. Kimberly Hall

April 19 Topic: Changing definitions of intelligence and consciousness and the dynamics of relationships (with machines and with one another).

Today's Musicians

Early Worship
Marcia Andrews, Holt Andrews,
Tweetie Bowman, Kevin Marsh,
Kellie Pifer

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

Traditional Worship
Marcia Andrews
Holt Andrews
Chancel Choir

Front Cover: ***"Baptism" by David Ingram***

Offertory

Children of the Heavenly Father
safely in his bosom gather:
Nesting bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
And their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh,
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

Calendar

April 26
Confirmation Sunday

May 3
Chamber Singers' Concert
Young Adult Fiesta

May 6
JOY Fellowship Spring Lunch
Church Family Night: Spartanburgers' Game

May 17
Baccalaureate Sunday

May 17-24
A Way Home

Looking Ahead

June 1-4
Vacation Bible School

August 14-16
Montreat Women's Connection

November 13-15
Congregational Retreat

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Baptism points back to the work of God, and forward to the life of faith."

- J. Alex Motyer

First Presbyterian Church
393 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302
(864) 583-4531
www.fpcspartanburg.org

Rooted in Christ, Bold in Love.