First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



April 26, 2026

Service for the Lord's Day
Confirmation 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 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 — *Voluntary on Old 100th Psalm Tune* — Henry Purcell

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster
from Psalm 95

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.
Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.

The book of Psalms is the earliest compiled hymnbook of the worshiping people of God. They are "worship words," which is to say that they belong to a community gathered. What we say in worship shapes and forms us as the people God uses in the world. --Calvin Institute of Christian Worship

✞Hymn 267 — *Come Christians, Join to Sing* — Madrid

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.
But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconstant,
our obedience incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness.
In your tender love, forgive us and draw us back to you.

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

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — Psalm 23

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Sacrament of Baptism — *Moon Bok Park* — Cathy Bagwell, Elder

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed — Hymnal Page 35

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Like Him We Rise* — Tom Trenney

✠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!

As we offer our gifts, we praise God for the resources the Lord has provided and the opportunity to serve others on God's behalf. The Doxology is an ancient chorus of praise; with a vision of heaven – all the created beings of all times and places joining together and forever singing praise to God.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 269 — *Lead On, O King Eternal!* — Lancashire

✠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 — *Fanfare* — Jacques Lemmens

Contemporary Worship
9:00am | Fogartie Hall

Instrumental Prayer		*Psalm 23*
Welcome		Landon Hammett
✞Call to Worship		Rev. Leslie L. Denny
✞Song(s) of Praise		*All the Way My Savior Leads Me*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*All the Way My Savior Leads Me*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Thy Mercy, My God*
Scripture Reading	Psalm 23	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith		
The Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of the People		
The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*God So Loved*
✞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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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 — *Voluntary on Old 100th Psalm Tune* — Henry Purcell
Acolyte — Moshe Darrall

Introit — *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* — Mfurahini, Haleluya

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Ansley B. Page
from Psalm 95

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let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.
Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.

✞Hymn 267 — *Come Christians, Join to Sing* — Madrid

Prayer of Confession — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Merciful God,
you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
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But our knowledge is imperfect,
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✞ *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

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children — Rev. Leslie L. Denny

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 — *Take Us As We Are, O God* — Endless Feast

Scripture Reading — Psalm 23

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Confirmation

Words of Introduction — Rev. Ansley B. Page

Confirmands

Lettie McCaskill Brown	John Ormond Fairey III	Katherine Baines Lancaster
Malcolm Joseph Cleland*	Marianna Cook Hallenbeck	Cooper Bronaig Martsberger*
Abigail Grace Clementson	Addyson Paige Hammett	Armour Kyle Milner IV
Benjamin Alexander Curtis	Eloise Richards Hammett	Anne Rhodes Neely
Earl Patrick Cutler III	Martha Ann Holmes	Madison Elizabeth Raynor
Greer Elizabeth Elliott	Elizabeth Roser Jones*	Loren Richard Roos
David Sloan Evans	Bryson Anthony Kiehl	Charles Scott Wilson II

Covenant Group Leaders - Cathy Bagwell, Logan Camp, Jerry Palmer, Steve Richards

Confirmation is a journey and process which builds upon the faith formation of childhood. Confirmation isn't the finish line. Rather, it is the catalyzer of a new beginning, where the Confirmands take responsibility of their faith in Christ.

Confirmation of Baptismal Covenant and Baptism*

Sacrament of Baptism — *Malcolm Joseph Cleland*, *Elizabeth Roser Jones*, *Cooper Bronaig Martsberger*

Presentation of Stoles

Congregational Prayer for Confirmands

O Lord, uphold these your disciples by your Holy Spirit.
Daily increase in them your gifts of grace:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the awe of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. Amen.

Responding to the Word

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 *God of Grace and God of Glory* Paul Langston

As we offer our gifts, we praise God for the resources the Lord has provided and the opportunity to serve others on God's behalf. The Doxology is an ancient chorus of praise; with a vision of heaven – all the created beings of all times and places joining together and forever singing praise to God.

✠Doxology

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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 269 *Lead On, O King Eternal!* Lancashire

✠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 *Fanfare* Jacques Lemmens

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Elizabeth Chapman Quantz McMeekin
by Thomas, Winn, Tom, Sarah, Mae, Evans, Ann Tolly and Henry.

Life of the Church

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Confirmation Sunday

Today is 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. Today, we will celebrate with this year's Confirmands as they take their vows for membership in the church.

Final Wednesday at First Outdoor Fellowship - April 29

Join us for our final WAF dinner for the season! Come fellowship and enjoy the spring air as we dine together outdoors. Dinners and programs will return this fall.

5:00pm	Dinner Line Opens
5:00pm	Outdoor Fellowship
7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

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

April 29 Menu - Slaw, Hamburgers, Hotdogs with Homemade Chili, Baked Beans, Chips, Dessert & Beverage.

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!

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).

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. Cost is $7.00 per person. Scan the QR code to RSVP and pay online. Or call the office to RSVP and pay with cash or check.

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.

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.

Fifth Grade Calling Up

Calling all Rising 6th Grade Parents and Rising 6th Graders! We can't wait to welcome you to the Youth Group. Join us **Sunday, May 31st** for a rising 6th grade parent meeting at 5:30pm in the large private dining room. After the meeting, rising 6th graders will have their first youth group..

Youth Carowinds Day Trip

Join FPC Youth for a day of fun at Carowinds on **Wednesday, June 25**! For current 5th-current 12th graders. We'll depart from the Family Life Center at 8:00 am and return by 6:00 pm. Cost is $80 and includes admission to Carowinds Amusement Park and Carolina Harbor Water Park, as well as transportation. Friends are welcome! Scan the QR code to register!

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

Photos on Church Grounds?

Our beautiful campus is a great place to capture Christmas cards, weddings, proms, and other special moments. Before you do, please review our photo guidelines located on the church website (campus/policies) and contact Cathy Rush (crush@fpcspartanburg.org) to let us know you're planning to be on campus with your photographer. This helps ensure there will be no conflicts with worship services or other events.

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. 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

Today's Topic: How AI is impacting the environment, education, & the economy. What are the choices individuals & communities are facing in these domains?

Today's Musicians

Early Worship
Marcia Andrews
Holt Andrews

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: ***"Confirmation 2025" by Budge Bean***

Offertory

God of Grace and God of Glory
on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story
Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
Scorn Thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us,
Free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days!

Set our feet on lofty places:
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christlike graces
in the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage,
That we fail not man nor thee. Amen!

Calendar

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

"Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life."

- Marty Haugen (Psalm 23 *paraphrase*)

First Presbyterian Church
393 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302
(864) 583-4531
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Rooted in Christ, Bold in Love.