First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



July 26, 2026

Service for the Lord's Day

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Summer Worship

10:00am | Sanctuary

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10:00am | Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

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

Prelude — *Jesus, Hold My Hand* — arr. Albert E. Brumley

Two of today's songs, "Jesus, Hold My Hand" and "I'll Fly Away," were written by Albert E. Brumley during the Great Depression. Though his music was shaped by hardship and poverty, his lyrics also reflect a deep trust in God's faithfulness and the comfort of relying on Him in times of trouble.

✞Call to Worship — Holt Andrews

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7

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 God is our God
and we are the people of God's pasture, the flock under his care.

✞Opening Song — *I Saw the Light/I'll Fly Away* — arr. Hank Williams, Sr. & Albert E. Brumley

Please sing along using the projected lyrics.

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Leslie L. Denny

Psalm 139:1-4, 7, 23-24

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.
Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✞ *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 fourth grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship.

Anthem — *I Shall Not Be Moved* — arr. Ackley & Leatherman

Please sing along using the projected lyrics.

Scripture Reading — Psalm 139

Sermon — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Selah: When You Need Comfort

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.

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.

Bluegrass Sunday gives us the joy of singing familiar hymns in a fresh style while welcoming additional musicians into our extended band family. This year's group spans an age range of more than 55 years and includes a father-daughter duo, seasoned players with more than 50 years of experience, and others who have been playing for fewer than five years. No matter their age or experience, each musician shares a love for bluegrass and the joy of worshiping together.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Just Over In the Gloryland* arr. Emmett Dean and James Acuff

As the final notes of Bluegrass Sunday fade, we are sent out with the same joy, hope, and faith we have sung together. May the music remain in our hearts as we carry God's love into the week ahead.

✞Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing the Word to the World

✞Closing Song *Victory In Jesus* arr. Eugene M. Bartlett

Please sing along using the projected lyrics.

✞Charge and Benediction

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Ann M. and Noel M. Hurley, Sr.
by Mark and Janet Cann.

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!

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

After *The Word for Children* in the 10:00am Summer Worship Service, children 3K-4th 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.

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 login required) Venmo

Life of the Church

Sunday, July 26, 2026

Summer Sermon Series: Selah

This summer we have considered the invitation from "Selah" to pause, reflect, and take in what the Psalms have to offer us. We have listened to this soundtrack for the soul, giving voice to joy and grief, gratitude and anger, hope and praise. We hope your hearts has been tuned to hear these songs in your own lives and that they will continue to speak honestly and beautifully in every season.

Regular Worship Schedule: Resumes Next Sunday, August 2

As summer begins to draw to a close and we prepare for a new season of church life, **our regular worship schedule will resume next Sunday, August 2.** We invite you to join us at any of our worship opportunities:

8:30a.m. | Chapel Service

9:00a.m. | Contemporary Worship in Fogartie

10:00a.m. | Sunday School

11:00a.m. | Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Each gathering offers a meaningful opportunity to gather in community, hear God's Word, and worship together.

Lemonade on the Lawn: Today!

Join us after worship today by the playground for our final Lemonade on the Lawn of the summer! Following worship, gather outside for a refreshing drink, conversation, and time with our church family. It is a simple and joyful way to connect with friends, welcome someone new, and enjoy fellowship together. These gatherings have offered a wonderful opportunity to slow down and share in the warmth of our church community. We hope you will stay and help us close out this favorite summer tradition!

A Way Home Volunteer Sign-Up

First Presbyterian will host A Way Home families the **week of August 23-30**. 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.

Pantry Drive for St. Luke's

Next Sunday, August 2, we will be collecting non-perishable donations for St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic, a Spartanburg nonprofit providing quality health care to low-income, uninsured residents. This is a meaningful way to care for the whole person and support neighbors facing health and financial challenges. Together, we can help extend compassion, dignity, and encouragement to members of our community. Scan the QR code for the full list of needed items.

Tickled Pink Pop-Up Party

Tickled Pink Women's Bible Study invites all women to a cheerful mid-summer Pop-Up Party on **Tuesday, August 4 at 9:15am in Fogartie Hall.** Join us for a time filled with nibbles, friendship, fun, and faith. Wear pink, bring a friend, and join us for a relaxed gathering designed to help everyone reconnect, enjoy a brief devotion, and receive a spirit boost in the middle of the summer season. No signup is required! This is a great opportunity to try out the format, jump back in, beat the summer heat, and enjoy time together in community. Also, mark your calendars for our fall kickoff on September 22!

Prayers for our Youth

Please pray for our High School youth and youth staff as they retreat to Montreat this week. May they deepen their connection to God and each other at the Montreat Youth Conference!

Blessing of the Backpacks

On **Sunday, August 9**, children, youth, and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks and/or laptops to either the Contemporary or Traditional Worship services for a special Blessing of the Backpacks. Together, we will pray for students, teachers, school staff, and families as they begin a new year of learning, growth, and discovery. This meaningful tradition is a wonderful way to remind our children and youth that their church family loves them, supports them, and sends them into the school year with God's blessing. No signup is required!

Medicare 101

Approaching Medicare eligibility within the next few years or months? Come enjoy lemonade and cookies and join Wendy Flemming-Bailey, a Medicare Market Specialist, on **Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 2:00pm in the Large Private Dining Room.** Wendy will provide information on Medicare Parts A and B, Medigap and Advantage coverage, and annual enrollment (Oct. 15-Dec. 7). Bring ALL your questions as we learn more about Medicare options. Contact Beth Cecil (bcecil@fpcspartanburg.org) for more details and to RSVP.

Rally Day: Save the Date!

Fall at First Presbyterian begins with Rally Day! Everyone is invited to gather on **Sunday, August 30 at 10:00am in the FLC Gym** as we celebrate the start of a new season of church life together. Bring the whole family to learn about upcoming discipleship opportunities, connect with ministries and programs, and enjoy refreshments, children's activities, and fellowship. Please dress in whatever makes you and your children feel most comfortable as we gather for this fun and welcoming kickoff to the fall season.

Welcome Back WAF: August 19

Wednesdays at First (WAF) returns on **Wednesday, August 19** with a special "Welcome Back WAF" dinner! Join us in Fogartie Hall from 5:00 to 7:00pm for an evening of good food, fellowship, and reconnecting with our church family. This first gathering will include dinner only, with no additional programming. Open play in the gym will be available for children from 5:45-7:00pm. Be on the lookout for details and ways to sign up in the coming week.

Join FPC: Sunday, August 9

Are you ready to take the next step in your life at First Presbyterian Church? Church membership fosters deeper connections with fellow believers, creating a sense of belonging and shared purpose; it is an expression of our commitment to God and our faith. We invite anyone interested in becoming a member to join us on **Sunday, August 9, at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor.** You will meet with pastors and members of Session to officially join the FPC family. We would be delighted to welcome you and celebrate the gifts, energy, and love you bring to the body of Christ. If you plan to join that day, please email our Visitor and New Member Coordinator, Cathy Bagwell, at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org.

Participating in Worship

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Executive Pastor

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

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

Holt Andrews
Pastoral Musician

Sunday School (8/2) Returns to 10:00am

Children and Youth

Nursery – Room C105 (Clark Building)
Preschool (3K-5K) – Room C110 (Clark Building)
1st-5th Grade - C201 (Red Door)
Youth - Youth Room

Combined Adult Sunday School

Psalms and the Art of Faith – Purnell Room
(8/2): "Needlepoint: Worship Art" led by
Robin New and Kaye Pack

Today's Musicians

Summer Worship

Gordon Cooper - banjo
Lisa Cunningham - guitar/vocals
Landon Hammett - vocals
Anna Harkey - fiddle
Luke Harkey - mandolin
Matthew Kelly - guitar/mandolin/vocals
Corey McDaniels - acoustic bass
Foster Neely - banjo/vocals
Jerry Palmer - guitar/vocals

Front Cover:
"Calm Morning" by Fairfield Porter (1961)

Fairfield Porter's *Calm Morning* invites us into the quiet stillness of a new day, where the vast expanse of water offers not uncertainty but a deep sense of peace and rest. In its gentle light and unhurried rhythm, the landscape reminds us that true comfort is often found in moments of stillness, where we can pause long enough to recognize God's presence. Like the promise of Psalm 139, the painting assures us that Christ's love surrounds us with both infinite depth and gentle calm, inviting us to rest in the steadfast care of the God who knows us completely and loves us unconditionally.

Selected by Abby Henthorn

Calendar

July 26
Lemonade on the Lawn

July 26-August 1
Montreat Youth Conference

August 2
Regular Worship Schedule Resumes
Pantry Drive for St. Luke's

August 4
Tickled Pink Pop-Up Party

August 9
Blessing of the Backpacks

Looking Ahead

August 13
Medicare 101

August 14-16
Montreat Women's Connection

August 16
Youth Kick-Off & Volunteer Training

August 19
Wednesdays at First Dinner Resumes

August 23-30
A Way Home

August 23
Sunday School with Rev. Dr. Thomas K. Tewell

August 30
Rally Day

September 13
Ecumenical Blood Drive

September 22
JOY Fellowship Ladies' Tea

November 13-15
Congregational Retreat

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen."

- Book of Common Prayer

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Rooted in Christ, Bold in Love.