First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



October 18, 2026

Service for the Lord's Day

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

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! **All visitors are asked to sign their children in before Children's Worship using this QR code.**

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.

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 in 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. **For those who use compatible hearing aids or cochlear implants, you may connect to the hearing loop (T-coil) system in the Chapel, Fogartie Hall, and the Sanctuary by switching your hearing aid into "T" mode.**

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). *Questions? Contact Finance Director Lynise Clarke at (864) 208-2130/lclarke@fpcspartanburg.org.*

ShelbyNext (No login 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 — *Rhosymedre* — Ralph Vaughan Williams

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
We will bless God's name and tell of God's salvation.
Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.
Bring an offering and come into God's courts.
We will worship the Lord in holy splendor. Amen.

Today's Call to Worship is drawn from Psalm 96. The Psalms have long served as the prayer and songbook of God's people. Early Presbyterians sang only the Psalms in worship, trusting their words to guide faith and praise. When we begin worship with a psalm, we join in that stream of memory and continuity.

✞Hymn 620 — *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* — Lauda Anima

Prayer of Confession

Living God,
we confess that our songs of praise do not always match the lives we lead.
We give our hearts to things that cannot give life.
We speak of faith yet hesitate to act, of love yet hold back our care,
of hope yet let fear guide us.
Forgive us and turn our hearts toward you again.
By your Holy Spirit, renew our joy and give us courage to serve,
so that our lives may be a living testament to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✞Response: Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Call to Discipleship: Stewardship 2027 — Melissa Morehead

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

In 1983, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was formed by the reunion of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Integral to reunion was the preparation of a Brief Statement of Faith. While recognizing realities of diversity and disagreement in both the church and the world, members of the drafting committee sought to articulate Presbyterians' common identity.

✙Affirmation of Faith

From A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *If With All Your Hearts* — Felix Mendelssohn

✙Doxology — 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 295 — *Go to the World!* — Sine Nomine

✙Charge and Benediction

✙Benediction Response: Hymn 702, verse 1 — Bunessan

Christ be beside me; Christ be before me;
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me; Christ be below me;
Christ be above me, never to part.

Closing Voluntary — *Agincourt Hymn* — Charles Callahan

Contemporary Worship
9:00am | Fogartie Hall

Instrumental Prelude		*Here I Am to Worship*
Welcome		Rev. Ansley B. Page
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song(s) of Praise		*Evidence*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Because of Your Love*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Call to Discipleship: Stewardship 2027		Melissa Morehead
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Word of God Speak*
First Reading	Psalm 96:1-9	Betty Pearson
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith From A Brief Statement of Faith		
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*All the People Said Amen*
✞Benedication		

Today's Call to Worship is drawn from Psalm 96, which we will hear read later in the service. The Psalms have long served as the prayer and songbook of God's people. Early Presbyterians sang only the Psalms in worship, trusting their words to guide faith and praise. When we begin worship with a psalm, we join in that stream of memory and continuity.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Traditional Worship
11:00am | Sanctuary

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 — *Rhosymedre* — Ralph Vaughan Williams

Introit — *Sing Out, My Soul* — Magnificat
Acolyte — Ben Harrelson

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

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Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
We will bless God's name and tell of God's salvation.
Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.
Bring an offering and come into God's courts.
We will worship the Lord in holy splendor. Amen.

✞Hymn 620 — *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* — Lauda Anima

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Ansley B. Page

Living God,
we confess that our songs of praise do not always match the lives we lead.
We give our hearts to things that cannot give life.
We speak of faith yet hesitate to act, of love yet hold back our care,
of hope yet let fear guide us.
Forgive us and turn our hearts toward you again.
By your Holy Spirit, renew our joy and give us courage to serve,
so that our lives may be a living testament to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
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✞Response: Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Call to Discipleship: Stewardship 2027 — Melissa Morehead

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Children ages three to first grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship; those second grade and above will return to the pews. After the service, families are asked to pick their children up from Room 202 in the Clark Building.

Prayer for Illumination *Come and Fill Our Hearts* — Confitemini Domino

First Reading Psalm 96:1-9 — Grace Mitchell

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✞Affirmation of Faith

From A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
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and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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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 *Laudate Dominum* — W. A. Mozart

✞Doxology

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.

✞Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing the Word to the World

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

Congregational Meeting

✠Charge and Benediction

The charge is the preacher's parting exhortation to the congregation to live God's will as we have experienced it in worship; the benediction (Latin: "speak well" or "good word") is a blessing as we leave to live out the charge.

✠Benediction Response: Hymn 702, verse 1 Bunessan

Christ be beside me; Christ be before me; Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me; Christ be below me; Christ be above me, never to part.

Closing Voluntary *Agincourt Hymn* Charles Callahan

The Flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Samuel B. Shackelford, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Joy Glenn
by the family.

Slate of Nominees for the 2026-2027 Associate Pastor Nominating Committee



Sloan Evans
co-chair



Donna Pulliam
co-chair



Vic Bailey, IV



Brooksie Berry



Jane Breeden



Patrick Cutler



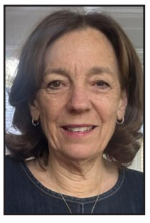
Len Reed



Claudia Ruffin



Sally White



Elizabeth Young

Life of the Church

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for **today at the conclusion of the 11:00am traditional service.** The purpose of the Congregational Meeting is to elect members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) and approve the updated Terms of Call for Rev. Rachel Klompmaker.

Winter Warmth Needs You!

Help local children find a warm coat and a welcoming smile at **Winter Warmth on Saturday, October 24.** More volunteers are needed! Here's how you can help:

- **Volunteer:** Help with setup, greet families, assist children as they choose coats, or help with parking. Translators for Spanish and Eastern Slavic languages are also needed.
- **Give a coat:** A $35 donation provides a new winter coat for a child.
- **Donate accessories:** Give new or newly handmade hats, gloves, and scarves, or purchase items through the online wish list.

Sign up today by scanning the QR code or visiting *fpcspartanburg.org/winterwarmth*. You'll find donation options and the wish list there!

Trunk or Treat

Grab your family or team up with friends for First Presbyterian's annual Trunk or Treat on **Wednesday, October 28, from 6:15–7:15 p.m.** We're looking for volunteers to decorate trunks, paint faces, and hand out candy! Pick a playful theme, keep it simple, and make decorating part of the family fun. Scan the QR code to sign up and help fill the evening with treats and smiles!

Wednesdays at First - Oct 21

5:00-6:15pm | Dinner Line Open (Fogartie Hall)
5:00-5:40pm | Children's Choirs (Clark Building)
6:00-6:15pm | Gathering for Children (Gym)
6:15-7:00pm | Children's Recreation (Gym)
6:30-7:00pm | WAF Programming
- Youth Mission Update (Fogartie) - *See below.*

7:15-8:45pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Pre-register for dinner by 4:30pm each Monday. Visit *fpcspartanburg.org/waf* or scan the QR code.

Menu for All: Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Mac & Cheese, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, Dessert, and Beverage.

Youth Mission Update

Come and hear our youth share about their mission trips this summer during a special WAF program on **Wednesday October 21, from 6:30-7:00pm in Fogartie Hall!** You will learn about Middle School Mission Week, Thornwell Day of Mission, and the Mayo Block Party. God was truly at work as our youth put their faith into action, and they are excited to share their experience with you!

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

On **Sunday, October 25**, at 9:00am and 11:00am, we will worship together in the Sanctuary for our Kirkin' o' the Tartans service. Each fall, First Presbyterian holds this powerful historic service, a remembrance of Presbyterianism's Scottish roots through special music and a procession of bagpipes and tartans.

If you are a Tartan Banner owner and would like to participate in the 9:00am or 11:00am Kirkin' o' the Tartans service, please scan the QR code to let us know by TODAY. **A mandatory rehearsal will be held in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, October 21, at 5:30pm.**

Stewardship 2027

Your generosity helps children and youth grow in faith, supports worship and care for our church family, and extends Christ's love to our neighbors in Spartanburg and beyond. As we prepare for 2027, we invite you to **prayerfully consider your pledge** and the ministry we can make possible together. Every pledge matters. Pick up a Generosity Report around the church to see your gifts at work. Scan the QR code or visit *fpcspartanburg.org/stewardship* to submit your pledge online. We will dedicate our pledges together on **Stewardship Sunday, October 25.**

Volunteer for A Way Home

First Presbyterian will host A Way Home families **November 15-22**. 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.

Basketball Registration Open!

It's that time again! Church basketball season is just around the corner! We are excited for a great year ahead and invite all First Presbyterian Church families to participate in our basketball leagues, as well as non-members. Church basketball is open to boys and girls in grades 1-12, and the registration fee is $90/player. **The deadline to register is Monday, October 26,** so don't wait! Visit *fpcspartanburg.org/basketball* for details and registration or scan the QR code.

Care Ministries Fair

The Care Ministries Fair will be held on **Sunday, November 1, before and after the 11:00am worship service.** Stop by the courtyard to discover the many ministries that support our church family through every season of life. Learn how you can receive care, connect someone with support, or use your gifts to serve alongside others.

All Saints' Sunday

Join us **Sunday, November 1,** as we observe All Saints' Day. At all of our morning services we will honor members who have joined the Church Triumphant with the reading of names and tolling of bells. At a special **Evensong in the Columbarium at 5:30pm**, all are welcome to remember any loved one who has died, no matter how long ago or where they are buried. This service of Scripture and song will be accompanied by a string quartet.

Veterans Day Recognition

As Veterans Day approaches, we give thanks for the men and women in our church family who have served or are currently serving in the military. We will recognize these current church members in the bulletin on **Sunday, November 8.** To include your name or that of another member, please scan the QR code to complete the form or email Kerri Singletary at *ksingletary@fpcspartanburg.org* by **Monday, November 2.**

Offertory

Praise the Lord, all ye nations.
Praise the Lord, all ye peoples.
For God has bestowed mercy upon us,
And God's truth endureth forever.

Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Now and forevermore. Amen.

Participating in Worship

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Executive Pastor

Rev. Ansley B. Page
Interim Pastoral Associate
Christian Formation

Sunday School | 10:00AM

Children and Youth

(Children–Clark Building | Youth–FLC 2nd Floor)

- **Nursery** – Room C105
- **Preschool (3K-5K)** – Room C110
- **1st-5th Grade** – Drop-off: C201/Pick-up: C107
- **Youth** – Youth Room

Adult Sunday School

- **Bible Alive** – Room 2215 & Zoom
- **Emmaus** – Purnell Room
- **Horizons** – Room 2208
- **These Days** – Room 2217
- **20s & 30s Class** – Room 2207

Visit ***fpcspartanburg.org/groups*** to learn more about each Sunday School class.

Today's Musicians

Early Worship

Marcia Andrews

Matias Mariani

Contemporary Worship

Kolby Carrouth, drums

Landon Hammett, piano/vocals

Anna Harkey, violin

Matt Kelly, guitar/vocals

Corey McDaniels, bass guitar

John Phillips, electric guitar

Traditional Worship

Marcia Andrews

Holt Andrews

Valerie MacPhail

Chancel Choir

Front Cover:
"Autumn Foliage"
by Thomas John Thomson (1915)

Calendar

October 18
Young Adult Fall Social

October 24
Winter Warmth

October 25
Kirkin' o' the Tartans (9:00 & 11:00am)
Stewardship Sunday

October 28
Trunk or Treat

Looking Ahead

November 1
All Saints' Day & Evensong Service
Care Ministries Fair

November 6-8
Middle School Fall Retreat

November 13–15
Congregational Retreat in Montreat
"Entering God's Gates with Gratitude"

November 15-22
A Way Home Rotation

November 17
JOY Fellowship Outing to Foster's Tavern

November 22
Youth Sunday
Advent Painting Class (3rd-5th Grade)
Youth DR Fundraiser: 3-on-3 Basketball Tourney

December 2
Advent Family Workshop

December 6
Chamber Singers' Concert

December 9
Celebration of Giving Service

December 24
Christmas Eve Family Service (4:00pm)
Candlelight Services (6:00 & 9:00pm)

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Faith is like an empty, open hand stretched out towards God, with nothing to offer and everything to receive."

- John Calvin

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

Rooted in Christ, Bold in Love.