First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



January 5, 2025

Service for the Lord's Day

Celebration of Epiphany

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 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 — *In the Bleak Midwinter* — Gustav Holst

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Arise, shine, for your light has come!
We are called out of our darkness into light.
Lift up your eyes and look around.
We rejoice in the gift of light.
Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.
We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe, the light incarnate.

✞Hymn 150 — *As with Gladness Men of Old* — Dix

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Ansley B. Page

Living God, we hear the story of the Magi and tie it together
with the warmth of our Christmas celebrations.
It feels comfortable to us.
Break those bonds of comfort
and help us to realize the risk of witness and discipleship
for those who follow your light.
Shine brightly in us and through us. Forgive the blindness we so often offer to you.
Give us vision of what you would have us be and do in the Light of Your Love.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In 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

Epiphany of the Lord is celebrated 12 days after Christmas Day on January 6th and is the time when Christians celebrate the wise men (also sometimes called the magi or the three kings) journeying to find the Christ child. The word epiphany means manifestation of the divine. Especially on this day as we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, we are reminded that faith is a journey. Just as the wise men were called from a far off land to journey to nd the Christ child, so we are called to journey. We may be nearby, we may be far off, but God is always calling us to journey toward newness and possibility, as individuals and as communities.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *What Star is This?* arr. David Ashley White

✠Doxology
Hymn 606 Old Hundredth

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Sung Responsively)
The Lord's Prayer Hymnal Page 35

Sharing of the Elements
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God! *All communion bread is gluten free.*

Communion is derived from the Latin word communion, meaning "sharing in common." In New Testament Greek it is translated as koinonia, or "fellowship." Both meanings reflect the sacrament's relational nature.

Communion Music *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me* K. Lee Scott

Prayer After Communion

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 515 *I Come with Joy* Dove of Peace

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response
Hymn 547, verse 3 Ar Hyd Y Nos

"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

Closing Voluntary *While By My Sheep* arr. Gordon Young

Following the service, you are invited to a time of coffee and fellowship in The Perrin Room.

Contemporary Worship
9:00am
Fogartie Hall

Welcome		Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise
Instrumental Prayer		
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*Crown Him (Christmas)*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Leslie A. Lang
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*A Christmas Alleluia*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Scripture Reading	Matthew 2:1-12	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Communion		*All communion bread is gluten free.*
Communion Music		*Christmas Offering*
✞Closing Song		*He Shall Reign Forevermore*
✞Benediction		

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Traditional Worship
11:00am
Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

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Opening Voluntary — *In the Bleak Midwinter* — Gustav Holst

Introit — *Raise a Song of Gladness* — Jubilate Deo

Acolyte — Derham Cole

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

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We are called out of our darkness into light.
Lift up your eyes and look around.
We rejoice in the gift of light.
Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.
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✞Response

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Life of the Church

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

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

Scripture Reading — Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *What Star is This?* — arr. David Ashley White

✞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.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Sung Responsively)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up, lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us all give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who desire to follow Christ, remembering that access to the communion table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who has doubts or whose trust is wavering is invited to the table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Christ Jesus.

Communion is derived from the Latin word communion, meaning "sharing in common." In New Testament Greek it is translated as koinonia, or "fellowship." Both meanings reflect the sacrament's relational nature.

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.

Sharing of the Elements

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

All communion bread is gluten free.

Communion Music

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me — K. Lee Scott

Prayer After Communion

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 515

I Come with Joy — Dove of Peace

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Here my Spirit's power filled you;
here my tender comfort stilled you.
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Closing Voluntary

While By My Sheep — arr. Gordon Young

The Flowers in the Sanctuary

are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Henry Sanders

by his family.

Life of the Church
Sunday, January 5, 2025

Un-Deck the Halls
Join the Sanctuary Guild tomorrow, **January 6** at 10:00am in the Tower Room to remove all remaining Christmas decorations. Contact LeAnne Thurmond (leanne.thurmond@gmail.com) for details!

Wednesdays at First - January 8
Full Schedule

5:00pm	Dinner Line Opens (Fogartie Hall)
5:00pm	Children's Choirs (Clark Building)
6:15pm	Recreation for Children (Gym)
6:15pm	Younger Women's Bible Study (F207, FLC)
6:30pm	Spartanburg Now: Dr. Russell Booker
6:30pm	Youth Fellowship and Bible Study
7:15pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Pre-register for dinner by 4:00pm each Monday. This week, **Dr. Russell Booker** will join us to discuss the work at Spartanburg Academic Movement and how we all can become involved in student success in our community. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/waf or scan the QR code.

Thursday Book Study
Coretta Scott King says, "If there is one book Martin Luther King, Jr. has written that people consistently tell me has changed their lives, it is Strength to Love." Join in this study of Dr. King's classic text Thursdays beginning **January 9** at noon in the Purnell Room and on Zoom. More weekday studies will be announced in the coming weeks.

Discover FPC
Discover FPC classes are offered for visitors and new members to learn more and ask questions about the church, our values, mission, and programs. These classes are open to anyone! The next class begins **January 12** at 10:00am in the Large Private Dining Room. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/discoverfpc for more information.

28-Day Challenge Returns
If you're ready to shed some extra pounds, please join Beth Cecil for a journey through Haylie Pomroy's *The Fast Metabolism Diet*. An information session will be held in the Large Private Dining Room on **January 14** at 4:00pm.

Unity Week Celebration
Thursday, January 16 at 6pm
Art Contest Reception
Chapman Cultural Center

Friday, January 17 All Day
Kindness Day
On this day, make an extra effort to be kind.

Saturday, January 18 at 9am
Walk as One
Cleveland Park Event Center

Sunday, January 19 at 3pm
MLK Community Celebration
Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium
Guest Speaker: Ruby Bridges, Civil Rights Icon

Monday, January 20
United Way Day of Service *(Church Facilities Closed)*

Tickled Pink Returns January 21
Tickled Pink, a women's Bible study led by Susan Oldham and Ansley Page, returns Tuesday, **January 21**! All women are invited to join each week at 9:15am in Fogartie Hall or 5:30pm in the Middle School Room. Bring a friend and wear pink if you'd like!

Shelter - January 26
Shelter is a unique worship opportunity led by an emphasis on music, scripture, and prayer. Our winter Shelter service, will be held on **January 26** at 6:00pm. Make plans to join us for this impactful and meaningful time of worship.

Children's Music in 2025

Children's Choirs, for singers in 4k-5th grade, return on Wednesday, January 8 at 5:00pm. First Steps in Music classes also resume this month! If you have already been part of our classes this past fall, there's no need to register again. Our Wednesday class (FPC members only, currently full) begins January 15, and our Sunday class (open to anyone) begins January 19. If you would like to be put on the waiting list for the Wednesday class, or if you have any questions about First Steps, email Marcia Andrews at mandrews@fpcspartanburg.org. For more information about Children's Music at First Presbyterian, visit fpcspartanburg.org/childrensmusic or scan the QR code.

Looking Back, Looking Forward: Annual Meeting

Join us Wednesday, **February 5** at 6:30pm in Fogartie Hall to learn about First Presbyterian Church's ministry over the past year and how you can get connected in the life of the church.

Ready to Join FPC?

Are you interested in joining First Presbyterian Church? Come to the Perrin Room Sunday, **January 12** at 10:30am for a brief meeting. Please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org if you plan to attend.

Are you Receiving The eNews?

Receive the latest FPC news and events every Friday in your inbox! Sign up by using the QR code or visit to fpcspartanburg.org/enews. Never miss out on the life of our church!

Chapel Open

The Chapel is open for prayer Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm. You may place prayer needs in the designated box and our staff will pray over your requests. If you need to contact a minister, call 864-208-2142.

Save the Date: Pig 'n Pickle

Save the date for **March 8**! Our Youth department will host FPC's first Pig 'N Pickle, a barbecue contest and pickleball tournament. All funds raised throught this event will help fund youth summer programs and trips. It'll be a delicious and competitive day! Look for more information coming soon in emails and other announcements.

Pickleball!

On **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, 1:00-3:00pm, the Gym Floor is set up for Pickleball. Equipment available at the FLC Desk.

Offertory

What Star is This?
arr. David Ashley White

What star is this, with beams so bright,
more beauteous than the noonday light?
It shines to herald forth the King,
and Gentiles to his crib to bring.

True spake the prophet from afar
who told the rise of Jacob's star;
and eastern sages with amaze
upon the wondrous token gaze.

The guiding star above is bright;
within them shines a clearer light,
and leads them on with power benign
to seek the Giver of the sign.

O Jesus while the star of grace
impels us on to seek thy face,
let not our slothful hearts
refuse the guidance of thy light to use.

To God, our Maker, heavenly Light, to Christ,
revealed in earthly night, to God the Holy Ghost
we raise our equal and unceasing praise.

Sunday School - 10am
(Gathering Time - 9:45am)

Children and Youth

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

Adult Sunday School

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

Emmaus – Room 2217
A journey with eyes open towards Jesus, with fellowship and a fresh new scripture-based lesson each week.

Abide - Room 2207
For younger adults and parents of preschool/elementary children to gather for a time of fellowship and learning.

L.I.F.T. - Room 2208
Faithful and energetic disciples who love growing deeper in faith through Bible study and trusting Jesus.

Glory Days - Purnell Room
Parents of youth & collegiates, come strengthen your faith and friendship with condensed stand-alone Bible lessons from dynamic teachers.

Today's Musicians

Early Worship

Janet Kuntz, Erica Pauly,
Genesis Choir

Contemporary Worship

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

Traditional Worship

Janet Kuntz, Erica Pauly,
Chancel Choir

Front Cover: "Wise Women Also Came" by Jan Richardson

Parts of today's liturgy are from the Abingdon Worship Annual.

Calendar

January 10
High School Winter Retreat

January 12
Discover FPC Begins

January 20
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Church Facilities Closed)

January 24
Confirmation Opening Retreat

January 26
Shelter Service (Sanctuary)

Looking Forward

February 2
Boy Scout Sunday / Congregational Meeting

February 5
Looking Back, Looking Forward: Annual Meeting

February 14
Youth Ski Retreat

February 23
Special Guest: Dr. Andrew Root

February 28 - March 1
Tending the Fire: Marriage Retreat

March 4
Concordia College Choir Concert

March 5
Ash Wednesday

March 20-21
African American Museum Trip

March 26
Children's Choir Concert

March 29
Churchwide Day of Service

April 13
Palm Sunday

April 17
Maundy Thursday Service

April 18
Good Friday Service

April 20
Easter

For details on all church events, visit fpcspartanburg.org/calendar

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Infants wield a kind of power. Muscular men with calloused hands become gentle as pillows when handed a baby; potent people with gruff voices adopt a falsetto and coo to an infant. God came down, not to thrash evildoers or crush the Romans, but as an infant, to elicit love, to nurture tenderness."

- James C. Howell

Ministers: All Members of the Church

We are a community of believers committed to "Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together through Word and Deed."

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise
Associate Pastor
Youth and Campus Ministries

Rev. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor
Discipleship

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Associate Pastor
Congregational Care

Rev. Leslie A. Lang
Associate Pastor
Young Adults and Missions

Rev. Ansley B. Page
Pastoral Associate for Engagement

Holt Andrews
Pastoral Musician

Marcia Andrews
Associate Director of Music;
Organist

Kara Clark
Director of Children's Ministries

Carrie Coleman
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Grace deMaine
Associate Director, Youth Ministry

Beth Cecil
Parish Nurse

Colleen Darrall
Director of Recreation

Jane Mullins
Director of Hospitality

Pano Stathakis
Kitchen Assistant

Kris Graham
Director of the Weekday School

Lisa Cunningham
Contemporary Worship Music Leader

Lee Raines
Facilities Administrator

Jim Pitts
Campus Safety and Services Manager

Lynise Clarke
Church Financial Officer

Monteigne Campbell
Office Manager and
Admin to the Senior Pastor

Cathy Bagwell
Visitor and New Member Coordinator

Caroline Goodman
Communications Director

Ian Ritchings
Communications Coordinator

Shannon Hutcheson
Administrative Assistant
Children's and Adult Discipleship

Cathy Rush
Receptionist and Admin
to Music and Mission

Joanie Shackleton
Administrative Assistant
Congregational Care and Deacons

Andy Mayfield
Grounds Manager

Judith Holbert
Tiffany Long
William Massey
Custodians

First Presbyterian Church

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