First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



January 12, 2025

Service for the Lord's Day

Baptism of the Lord

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 — *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* — arr. Dale Wood

✞Call to Worship — Savannah Pinilla

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
The God of glory thunders over mighty waters.
The Lord sits enthroned as King forever.
The Lord gives strength to the people and blesses us with peace.
Come, let us worship the Lord, who claims us as beloved children.
Let us rejoice in the waters of our baptism and the grace of our Savior.

✞Hymn 475 — *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* — Nettleton

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Merciful God, in baptism you have claimed us as your own
and brought us into your family of faith.
Yet we confess that we have not always lived as those who belong to you.
We cling to old ways and resist the new life you offer.
We allow sin to separate us from you, from one another, and from your creation.
Forgive us, O God. Wash us clean in your grace.
Renew us by your Spirit so that we may delight in your will,
walk in your ways, and more faithfully reflect your love to the world.

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

Baptism of the Lord Sunday marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry when he was baptized by John in the Jordan River, affirming his identity as God's beloved Son and the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan. For Presbyterians, this day reminds us of our own baptism, calling us to live as Christ's disciples, claimed and empowered by God's grace.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

First Reading — Acts 8:14-17

Second Reading — Isaiah 43:1-7

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

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.

✠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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

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

✠Doxology

Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 297 — *In Christ Called to Baptize* — St. Denio

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response

Hymn 175, verse 1 — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Voluntary on ST. DENIO* — Michael Burkhard

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		Rev. L. Craig Foster
✞Song of Praise		*Living Water*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes and Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*The River*
First Reading	Acts 8:14-17	Caroline Lyerly
Second Reading	Isaiah 43:1-7	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*Come Thou Fount (I Will Sing)*
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 — *If With All Your Hearts* — Felix Mendelssohn

Acolyte — Elliot Summers

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
The God of glory thunders over mighty waters.
The Lord sits enthroned as King forever.
The Lord gives strength to the people and blesses us with peace.
Come, let us worship the Lord, who claims us as beloved children.
Let us rejoice in the waters of our baptism and the grace of our Savior.

✞Hymn 475 — *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* — Nettleton

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Merciful God,
in baptism you have claimed us as your own
and brought us into your family of faith.
Yet we confess that we have not always lived
as those who belong to you.
We cling to old ways and resist the new life you offer.
We allow sin to separate us from you,
from one another, and from your creation.
Forgive us, O God.
Wash us clean in your grace.
Renew us by your Spirit
so that we may delight in your will, walk in your ways,
and more faithfully reflect your love to the world.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✠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

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Prayer for Illumination *O Word of God Incarnate* Munich

First Reading Acts 8:14-17 Meakin Pack

Second Reading Isaiah 43:1-7

Sermon Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith Rev. Leslie A. Lang
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 — *See What Love* — Felix Medelssohn

See what love hath the Father bestowed on us,
in His goodness, that we may be called God's own children.

✠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.

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 297 — *In Christ Called to Baptize* — St. Denio

✠Charge and Benediction

What are you taking from worship? A new thought, a deep feeling, a glimpse of grace, a challenge? Where will you see God today? A hope or a prayer for the week?

✠Benediction Response

Hymn 175, verse 1 — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Voluntary on ST. DENIO* — Michael Burkhard

Life of the Church

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Discover FPC - Starting Today!

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 **today** at 10:00am in the Large Private Dining Room. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/discoverfpc for more information.

Ready to Join FPC?

Come to the Perrin Room **today**, at 10:30am for a brief meeting.

Wednesdays at First - January 15

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	FPC Weekday School: Today and Tomorrow
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, we will learn about an exciting vision of a **new playground for the FPC Weekday School,** our church, and the greater community. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/waf or scan the QR code.

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.

Shelter - January 26

Shelter is a unique service led by 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.

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)*

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.

Tending the Fire: Marriage Retreat

All couples are invited to join us for a Marriage Enrichment Retreat **February 28-March 1** in Fogartie Hall. We will consider how to enjoy the blessings of love while also navigating the inevitable challenges of an abiding relationship. Jeannie DuBose, M.S. and Rev. Keith Grogg will lead us by engaging scripture, reflection exercises, and observations from their own respective marriages. Details and registration information can be found at fpcspartanburg.org/marriage.

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.

New Year, New Weekday Studies

If you are looking for a Bible or book study group, First Presbyterian has something for everyone. Below is a list of all new studies for 2025. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/studies for a full list of weekday Bible and book studies. Contact Craig Foster at cfoster@fpcspartanburg.org with questions.

God, Improv, and the Art of Living
by MaryAnn McKibben Dana
Mondays at 6:00-7:00pm in the Church Library
January 27 – March 17
Led by Craig Foster
Join this 8-week study to find an invigorating approach to life and discipleship.

Tickled Pink (Women's Study)
Walk in Beauty with Jesus
Tuesdays at 9:15am in Fogartie Hall
and 5:30pm in the Middle School Room
Starting January 21
Led by Susan Oldham and Ansley Page

The Challenge of Acts **by N.T. Wright**
Tuesdays at 12:30pm in the Purnell Room / Zoom
January 21-March 25
Led by Craig Foster
The book of Acts tells the story of the gospel of Jesus Christ encountering the world in new and powerful ways. N.T. Wright's book provides a framework for understanding Acts, looking at the major themes and ideas while also delving deeply into the chapters that help bring specificity and focus.

Christians in the Making (Women's Study)
Witness at the Cross **by Amy-Jill Levine**
Wednesdays at 10:00am in the Purnell Room/Zoom
Starting January 8
Led by Jennifer Biber

Strength to Love **by Martin Luther King, Jr.**
Thursdays at noon in the Purnell Room/Zoom
January 9– April 24
Led by Craig Foster, Nan McDaniel, and Tom McDaniel
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*."

Sunday with Dr. Andrew Root

Dr. Andrew (Andy) Root is a professor, author, and preeminent scholar of church and contemporary culture. On **February 23**, Andy will lead a **combined Adult Sunday School** class at 10:00am in Fogartie Hall teaching about themes in his recent book *When Church Stops Working*. All adults are welcome! After 11:00am worship, Andy will also lead **Faith-full Parenting, a lunch and learn in the Social Hall** for parents of 4th through 12th graders. We look forward to gaining insights into the cultural and generational shifts of parenting and youth ministry in general. Preregistration is required for the lunch and learn. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/faithfullparenting for details and to register or scan the QR code.

African American Museum Trip

Are you interested in visiting the International African American Museum in Charleston, taking a historical tour, and discussing what you've experienced? Rev. Leslie Lang will take a group on this trip **March 20-21**. The cost would be approximately $250 total (with 20 participants) and would include transportation, hotel, and two lunches. Contact Leslie at llang@fpcspartanburg.org for details and to sign-up by **February 25**.

Pig 'n Pickle

On Saturday, **March 8**, our Youth and Recreation ministries will host FPC's first Pig 'N Pickle, a barbecue contest and pickleball tournament. All funds raised through this event will go directly to the high school mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Register your pickleball team or compete in the barbecue competition...and plan to come for fun and fellowship! Details and registration links can be found at fpcspartanburg.org/pignpickle or scan the QR code.

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!

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

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Matias Mariani

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

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Matias Mariani, Chancel Choir

Calendar

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

January 24
Confirmation Opening Retreat

January 26
Shelter Service (Chapel)

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 8
Pig 'N Pickle

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

Front Cover:
"Nature's Cathedral" by Judy Rentner

To Ponder Prayerfully

"God's love, like water, descends to the lowest point,
filling the deepest cavity with the flood of his infinite compassion."

- Rev. Bradley Gray

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 for
Youth and Campus Ministries

Rev. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor for
Discipleship

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care

Rev. Leslie A. Lang
Associate Pastor for
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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