First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



January 21, 2024

Service for the Lord's Day

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!

Blue 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, you may place your gift in the Offering Plate or you can scan this QR Code; it will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you may mail a check to the church office (address on back of bulletin). Thank you for your gifts. *Questions? Contact Church Financial Officer Lynise Clarke; 864-208-2130/lclarke@fpcspartanburg.org.*

Early Worship
8:30am
Chapel

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. L. Craig Foster

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

Opening Voluntary — *How Firm a Foundation* — Arr. Michael Burkhardt

✞Call to Worship — Dr. Lewis F. Galloway

For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.
(Psalm 62:5-8)

✞Hymn 463 — *How Firm a Foundation* — Foundation

Prayer of Confession

God our Creator,
we confess that we are broken, sinful creatures.
You call on us to change our lives, yet we do not heed your warning.
You give us good news to share, yet we remain stubborn and silent.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Help us to repent and follow you, bearing witness to the good news that your holy realm is near; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.
Amen! 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.

Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God's presence. Nevertheless, we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This turn from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God's grace, is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed tradition. *(Book of Common Worship,* 2018, p.5

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✠Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another as we share the love and peace of Christ.

Life of the Church

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — Mark 1:14-20

Sermon — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed — Hymnal Page 35

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Here I Am, Lord* — Allen Pote

✠Doxology

Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

In response to the word, we pray for the world God so loves—joining Christ's own ministry of intercession and the sighs of the Spirit, too deep for words. These prayers are not the work of a single leader, but an act of the whole congregation as Christ's royal priesthood. We affirm our participation in the prayer through our "amen" and other responses. (*Book of Common Worship,* 2018, p. 8)

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 720 — *Jesus Calls Us* — Galilee

✠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 — *How Firm a Foundation* — Claude E. Murphree

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
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*This is Our God*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*O Come To The Altar*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Come To The Table*
First Reading	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	
Second Reading	Mark 1:14-20	
Sermon		Rev. L. Craig Foster
Prayers of the People		
	The Lord's Prayer	
✞Closing Song		*Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King*
✞Benediction		

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✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Traditional Worship
11:00am
Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. L. Craig Foster

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

Opening Voluntary — *How Firm a Foundation* — Arr. Michael Burkhardt

Acolyte — Caroline Lyerly

Introit

Hymn 329 — *God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength* — Winchester Old

✙Call to Worship — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.
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we confess that we are broken, sinful creatures.
You call on us to change our lives, yet we do not heed your warning.
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Forgive us, God of grace.
Help us to repent and follow you, bearing witness to the good news that your holy realm is near; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.
Amen! 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.

Let us greet one another as we share the love and peace of Christ.

In the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." In the passing of the peace, as we celebrate our forgiveness in Christ, we get to forgive and extend grace to one another and to all who have done us harm.

Life of the Church Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 791 *For You, My God, I Wait* Springtime

First Reading Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Second Reading Mark 1:14-20

Sermon Rev. L. Craig Foster

Responding to the Word

✙Affirmation of Faith Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

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.

In response to the word, we pray for the world God so loves—joining Christ's own ministry of intercession and the sighs of the Spirit, too deep for words. These prayers are not the work of a single leader, but an act of the whole congregation as Christ's royal priesthood. We affirm our participation in the prayer through our "amen" and other responses. (*Book of Common Worship*, 2018, p. 8)

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 *Would I Have Answered When You Called* Roy Hopp

✠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 720 *Jesus Calls Us* Galilee

✠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 *How Firm a Foundation* Claude E. Murphree

The Flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Charles Eugene "Gene" Rickell, Arthur and Julia Rickell, and Thomas M. and Kathryn Shadoin
by the family.

Life of the Church

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Recreation Ministry Classes

There are several classes available with the Recreation Ministry. Yoga meets on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:15am. Bootcamp Classes are available Monday/Wednesday/Friday at 7:15am (Zoom) and at 9:15am (Track). Please contact Colleen Darrall with questions at cdarrall@fpcspartanburg.org or (864) 583-4531 ext 109.

100 Years of Scouting

Scout Sunday is February 4th. All scouts (past and present), scout leaders, families, and supporters of scouting are invited to a reception after 11:00am worship. If you have been a part of BSA Troop 2, we would love to see photos of your favorite scouting memories. Please visit fpcspartanburg.org/scouts or scan the QR code for more information.

Dominican Republic Wish List

As the DR Mission Trip approaches, we are collecting needed items for the Guest House. Please bring donations to the mission closet across from the library. Items Requested: Italian dressing seasoning, coffee filters (10-12 cup size), black trash bags (33 gallons), packaged snacks, cereal, nuts, dried fruit, liquid hand soap, chocolate chips, cake mix, vanilla frosting, gallon zip lock bags.

Wednesdays at First

Join us starting at 5:00pm for Wednesdays at First (WAF). Dinner reservations and more information can be found at fpcspartanburg.org/waf. Volunteer opportunities are available! This week, after-dinner Health Series program will teach us about end-of-life planning. Our panelists are Teri Morris, Michael Pack, and Reel Robertson.

Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 28, immediately following 11:00am Worship, we will elect at-large members to the Congregational Nominating Committee and to approve Pastors' Terms of Call for 2024, and a meeting of the Corporation for the purpose of electing the Session class of 2026 and Chair of the Diaconate to the Corporation's Board of Trustees.

Our Year in Review

Join us Wednesday, January 31, at 6:30pm in Fogartie Hall, to receive reports on the ministries of the church from the Clerk of Session, the Diaconate, and the Finance Committee.

New Year, New Studies

If you are looking for a Bible or book study group, First Presbyterian offers something for everyone. For a complete list, please visit fpcspartanburg.org/discipleship-groups.

Why Jesus? Study

Will Willimon has been a leading pastor, author, professor, and bishop in the United Methodist Church for decades. His book *Why Jesus?* explores the life of the fascinating preacher from Nazareth and how He continues to challenge us, invite us into service for God, and shows us the true meaning of our lives. Join Pastor Craig on Tuesdays or Thursdays through March 14 from 12:00-1:00pm in the Purnell Room and via Zoom to study Willimon's book *Why Jesus?* Willimon will be with us on Wednesday, February 21 and again in March for Sunday worship. Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/whyjesus for more information and to purchase your copy of the book. There are also copies available for purchase at the church for $15.

Younger Women's Bible Study

Younger Women's Bible Study meets Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00pm or Thursdays from 9:15-10:15am. Contact Rev. Leslie Lang (llang@fpcspartanburg.org), Donna Pulliam, or Carter Smith for details.

Christians in the Making

All are welcome to join Wednesdays from 10:00-11:30am in the Purnell Room or by Zoom to study Amy Jill Levine's *Entering the Passion of Jesus, A Beginners Guide to Holy Week*.

Tickled Pink

Our 2024 study *Better Together: Jesus Leads the Way* will explore how Jesus teaches us to strengthen our ties with one another whether family, friend, or unlikely stranger, and how our faith grows in the process. Come for fun and faith! Tuesdays at 9:15am in Fogartie Hall or 5:30pm in the Middle School Room (#F201). Please contact Ansley Page at apage@fpcspartanburg.org with questions.

Acts 2 Fellowship

Spend time around the table, breaking bread with friends and serving others! February's Acts 2 Fellowship will include a service project along with lunch/dinner to honor Witness Season. Scan the QR Code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/acts2 to register by February 12.

God's Trombones

Sweet Gilliard Productions and New Day Baptist Church proudly present James Weldon Johnson's God's Trombones: Seven Sermons in Verse on February 17 at 6:00pm at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. We invite you to this production of James Weldon Johnson's iconic work, which will include eight local pastors preaching through each of the seven sermons. Tickets are $50, and can be purchased using the QR code or by visiting fpcspartanburg.org/gods-trombones.

News from Shepherd's Center

The Shepherd's Center of Spartanburg now partners with Medicare Advantage plans; Silver Sneakers, Renew Active, Active & Fit, and Silver & Fit! If you have any of these plans, you can now sign up and your monthly membership fee will be paid for you!

Congregational Retreat

Join your church family in beautiful Montreat, NC for a weekend of relaxation, fun, and spiritual growth May 3-5. There will be programming for all ages (including nursery) and plenty of free time to hike and explore Black Mountain, play games, or take a nap.

Accommodations will be in Assembly Inn and Winsborough, with single rooms and two-room suites available in each. Visit montreat.org/accommodations to get information on each lodge and choose the right one for you and your family. Comprehensive costs for each room can be found on the website listed below. Please note that room sharing is possible and scholarships are available.

For complete information and to register by March 15, visit fpcspartanburg.org/retreat.

Churchwide Day of Service

On Saturday, April 13, we will be holding our Second Annual Churchwide Day of Service! We will gather at the church at 8:30am for coffee and a brief devotion. From 9:00am-12:00pm, people will serve in various local organizations around Spartanburg. Come back at noon for lunch and a debrief together, and we will finish by 1:00pm. $20/person or $75 for families of four or more. Price includes lunch, supplies, and a Day of Service t-shirt. (Scholarships available - contact Pastor Leslie for more info). Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/dayofservice to register by March 30. There will be service projects for all ages. Childcare available upon request for ages 6 and younger.

Discover First Presbyterian

If you would like to learn more about becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, please make your way to the **Church Parlor at 10:30am Sunday, February 11**. Ministers and members of the Session will be there to greet you and welcome you into the membership of the church. Questions? Contact Cathy Bagwell, Visitor and New Member Coordinator, at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org.

Gym Hours

Mondays-Thursdays: 7am-8pm; Fridays: 7am-2pm; Saturdays: 8am-12noon

Chapel Open

The Chapel is open for Prayer Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, for you to come and sit and pray in the stillness of God. You may place any personal prayer needs in the Chapel prayer box and a member of our staff will pray over your requests.

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

Abide – *Room 2200*
Bible Alive – *Room 2208*
Emmaus – *Room 2207*
Glory Days – *Purnell Room*
L.I.F.T. – *Room 2201*

Today's Musicians

Early Worship: Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews; Olivia Marsh

Contemporary Worship: Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals; Kolby Carrouth, drums; Cooper Cecil, electric guitar; Landon Hammett, keyboard/vocals; Anna Harkey, violin; Matthew Kelly, guitar/vocals; Corey McDaniels, bass guitar

Traditional Worship: Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews; Chancel Choir

Calendar

January 21
A Conversation with Jeffrey Blount

January 28
Congregational Meeting

January 31
Annual Meeting

Looking Forward

February 4
Scout Sunday

February 11
Youth Sunday

February 14
Ash Wednesday

February 25
Acts 2 Dinners: Supper and Service

March 24
Palm Sunday

March 28
Maundy Thursday

March 31
Easter

April 21
Confirmation Sunday

May 12
Mother's Day

May 19
Day of Pentecost

May 3-5
Congregational Retreat at Montreat

June 3-6
Vacation Bible School

Front Cover: "Christ Calling the Apostles James and John" by Edward Armitage

Parts of today's liturgy are from the Call To Worship v. 48.1

To Ponder Prayerfully

"To repent is to come to your senses.
It is not so much something you do as something that happens.
True repentance spends less time looking at the past and saying,
'I'm sorry,' than to the future and saying, 'Wow!'"

- Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*

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

Dr. Lewis F. Galloway
Interim Associate Pastor
for 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

Pano Stathakis
Director of Hospitality

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

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