First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



February 9, 2025

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!

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 the QR Codes. The ShelbyNext QR code will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you may give via Venmo or 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.*

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 — *Voluntary on "O Waly Waly"* — Robert Powell

✞Call to Worship — Savannah Pinilla

Let us gather to listen deeply.
Word of God, speak.
Let us gather with childlike faith.
Ageless wisdom, reveal.
Word of God, speak.
Your servants are listening.

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

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Loving God,
we confess that we often fail to love
as you have called us to love.
We are quick to anger, slow to forgive,
and hesitant to extend grace.
Forgive us, Lord, and teach us to love as you love —
patiently, selflessly, and enduringly.
Transform our hearts by your Spirit,
so that your love may once more
flow through us to a world in need.

Silent Confession

All things have their beginning and their end in the love of God. In the light of that truth, we are free to confess our weariness and our worry, knowing that God is with us.

Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

✞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: Witness Season 2025 — Stan Lummus

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

First Reading — Micah 6:6-8

Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Sermon — *On Christian Love: The Greatest Gift* — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✙Affirmation of Faith

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.
God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.
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

Scripture tells us that we are able to love ourselves and to love others because we have first been loved by God. So, too, we give of ourselves and our resources out of gratitude to God for what God has already graciously given to us. We give because God has first given to us.

Offertory — *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* — arr. Dan Forrest

✙Doxology: Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✙Hymn 693 — *Though I May Speak* — Gift of Love

✙Charge and Benediction

✙Benediction Response

Hymn 549 — Soon Ti

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.

Closing Voluntary — *Postlude on "Lauda Anima"* — Robert Powell

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		*Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Ansley B. Page
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes and Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church Call to Discipleship: Witness Season 2025		Stan Lummus
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Love People*
First Reading	Micah 6:6-8	Cooper Huang
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	
Sermon	*On Christian Love: The Greatest Gift*	Rev. L. Craig Foster
✞Affirmation of Faith Brief Statement of Faith		
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*One Thing Remains*
✞Benediction		

We pray for the world because God loves it. God created the world and cares for it. To abide in God's love is to share God's concern for the world. Our prayers should therefore be as wide as God's love, and as specific as God's tender compassion for the least ones among us.

✞ *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.

Introit — *I've Got Eyes* — Mark Burrows

✞Call to Worship — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

Let us gather to listen deeply.
Word of God, speak.
Let us gather with childlike faith.
Ageless wisdom, reveal.
Word of God, speak.
Your servants are listening.

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

Acolyte — Caroline Lyerly

All things have their beginning and their end in the love of God. In the light of that truth, we are free to confess our weariness and our worry, knowing that God is with us.

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Loving God,
we confess that we often fail to love
as you have called us to love.
We are quick to anger, slow to forgive,
and hesitant to extend grace.
Forgive us, Lord, and teach us to love as you love —
patiently, selflessly, and enduringly.
Transform our hearts by your Spirit,
so that your love may once more
flow through us to a world in need.

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.

✞ *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

Call to Discipleship: Witness Season 2025 — Stan Lummus

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Prayer for Illumination — *Be Still, My Soul* — Finlandia

First Reading — Micah 6:6-8 — Stewart Pack

Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Sermon — *On Christian Love: The Greatest Gift* — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✞Affirmation of Faith — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

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.
God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.
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.

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.

We pray for the world because God loves it. God created the world and cares for it. To abide in God's love is to share God's concern for the world. Our prayers should therefore be as wide as God's love, and as specific as God's tender compassion for the least ones among us.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Scripture tells us that we are able to love ourselves and to love others because we have first been loved by God. So, too, we give of ourselves and our resources out of gratitude to God for what God has already graciously given to us. We give because God has first given to us.

Offertory *When We Love* Elaine Hagenberg

✞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
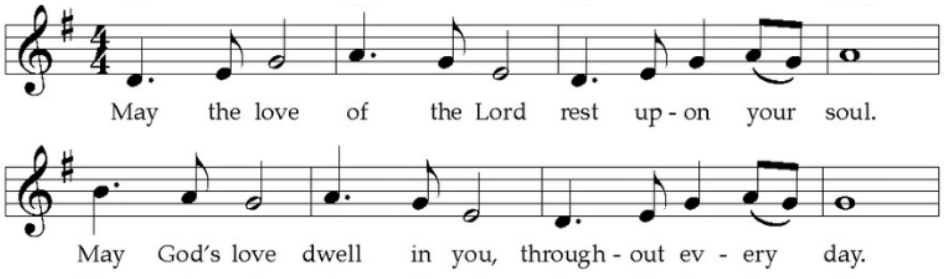
Bearing the Word to the World

✞Hymn 693 *Though I May Speak* Gift of Love

✞Charge and Benediction

✞Benediction Response

Hymn 549 Soon Ti



Closing Voluntary *Postlude on "Lauda Anima"* Robert Powell

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Hollis Blackwell Taylor
by Naomi Taylor and family.

Life of the Church

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Blood Drive - Today!

Did you know that every two seconds in America, someone urgently needs blood? Only 3% of eligible Americans currently donate blood, despite 65% of the population being eligible to do so. Help save lives by donating blood today, **February 9**, 8:00am-1:00pm.

Souper Bowl of Caring - Today!

Souper Bowl of Caring is an annual event where communities come together, inspired by the Big Game, to tackle hunger locally. Today, the offering will go to Valkyrie Supply, a basic needs hub designed to offer supplemental support to Converse University students. Valkyrie Supply is open to any Converse student who may need food, personal hygiene products, or professional clothing free of charge. Youth will be standing at the exits after the Contemporary and Traditional Services today ready to accept your donations!

On Christian Love Sermon Series

This five-week sermon series explores the timeless wisdom of Paul's teachings on the nature of Christian love found in 1 Corinthians. In a world marked by uncertainty and division, we explore the characteristics of God's love in Jesus Christ that unites, heals, and endures. From the selfless nature of Christ himself to love's role as the greatest spiritual gift, we'll uncover how these truths empower and root us in a Grace so great that it is capable of transforming both our hearts and our world.

Witness Season

Hurricane Helene caused significant damage to Montreat Camp and Conference Center, a place that is near and dear to many of our hearts. For Witness Season this year, our goal is to raise $25,000 to rebuild the damaged bridge to Robert Lake Park and an additional $7,000 to be used for a proposed mural along the boardwalk. You may give to this project any time by scanning the QR code or visiting fpcspartanburg.org/witnessseason.

Wednesdays at First - February 12

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: Chris Story/Mitch Kennedy
6:30pm	Youth Fellowship and Bible Study
7:15pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Pre-register for dinner by 4:00pm each Monday. Join us after dinner in the Social Hall for Spartanburg NOW with City Manager Chris Story and Deputy City Manager Mitch Kennedy. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/waf or scan the QR code.

African American Museum Trip

There are limited spots left for the International African American Museum trip in Charleston! Rev. Leslie Lang will take a group on this trip **March 20-21** and the cost is $250 which includes transportation, lodging, and two meals. Contact Leslie at llang@fpcspartanburg.org to sign-up by **February 25**.

Tending the Fire: Marriage Retreat

Love month is the perfect time to invest in your marriage. All couples are invited to a Marriage Enrichment Retreat February 28-March 1 in Fogartie Hall. Enjoy a delicious meal, engage in scripture, reflect on the blessings of love, and learn some new tools for navigating life's transitions together. Retreat leaders Jeannie DuBose, M.S. and Rev. Keith Grogg will share wisdom and encouragement from their own marriages and counseling experience. Only $60 per couple! Register by February 19 at fpcspartanburg.org/marriage or scan the QR code.

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.

Sunday with Dr. Andy Root

Dr. Andy Root is a professor, author, and engaging teacher of church and contemporary culture. On **February 23**, we will have the privilege of learning from Andy as he leads a **combined Adult Sunday School** class at 10:00am in Fogartie Hall about themes in his recent book *When Church Stops Working*. All adults are welcome and no registration is required!

After 11:00am Traditional Worship, Andy will also lead **Faith-full Parenting, a lunch and learn in the Social Hall** for parents of 4th through 12th graders. Enjoy lunch with your entire family. Children will be able to have fun in the gym and nursery, if needed. We look forward to gaining insights into the cultural and generational shifts of parenting and youth ministry in general.

Pre-registration is required for the lunch and learn. Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/faithfullparenting for details and to register.

Pig 'n Pickle - Youth Fundraiser

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.

Concordia Choir Concert @ FPC

The Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota has a reputation as one of America's finest choirs. The 72-voice choir has performed in nearly every major hall including Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center as well as numerous international tours. On **March 4,** the Concordia Choir will offer a free concert at First Presbyterian Church at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. A freewill offering will be collected to cover the college's travel costs. This is a rare opportunity for our community and is open to the public.

Play and Grow Together

Thank you to all who have supported the vision of a new playground at FPC thus far. Please join us in supporting this project that will provide a safer, more accessible, and visible playground for the children of our church, Weekday School, and community. Give online by scanning the QR code or visiting fpcspartanburg.org/playground, mail a check, or stop by the church financial office.

Ready to Join FPC?

Come to the Perrin Room today, **February 9** at 10:30am for a brief meeting. Please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org if you plan to attend.

Sunday Greeters Needed!

Sunday morning Greeters are one important way we live out our commitment to show Christian Hospitality to visitors, new members, and regular attenders alike! Volunteers are needed each Sunday, and anyone is welcome! Please sign up at fpcspartanburg.org/greeter or scan the QR code and help us welcome all people to First Presbyterian Church.

Offertory

When We Love
Elaine Hagenberg

The towering tree spreads his greening canopy
—A veil between the soil and sky—
Not in selfish vanity,
But the gentle thrush to shade and shelter.
So it is with love.

For when we love, Simply love,
Even as we are loved,
Our weary world can be transformed.

The busy thrush builds her nest below
—A fortnight's work to weave and set—
Not for herself alone,
But her tender brood to shield and cherish.
And so it is with love.

For when we love, Simply love,
Even as we are loved,
Our weary world can be transformed
Into the Kingdom of God!

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

Contemporary Worship

Jerry Bruno, drums;
Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals;
Elise Deberry, vocals;
Landon Hammett, vocals/keyboard;
Anna Harkey, violin;
Jeff Key, electric guitar;
Corey McDaniels, bass guitar

Traditional Worship

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Angel Chatter Choir,
Chancel Choir

Front Cover: "Heartstrings" by Adam Collier Noel

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

Calendar

February 12
Spartanburg NOW: Chris Story and Mitch Kennedy

February 14
Youth Ski Retreat

February 16
Witness Season Sunday

February 23
Special Guest: Dr. Andy Root

February 28 - March 1
Tending the Fire: Marriage Retreat

Looking Forward

March 2
Youth Sunday

March 4
Concordia College Choir Concert

March 5
Ash Wednesday

March 8
Pig 'N Pickle Youth Fundraiser

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

April 27
Confirmation Sunday

June 2-5
Vacation Bible School

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"You will find as you look back upon your life that the moments that stand out,
the moments when you have really lived,
are the moments when you have done things in a spirit of love."

- Henry Drummond

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