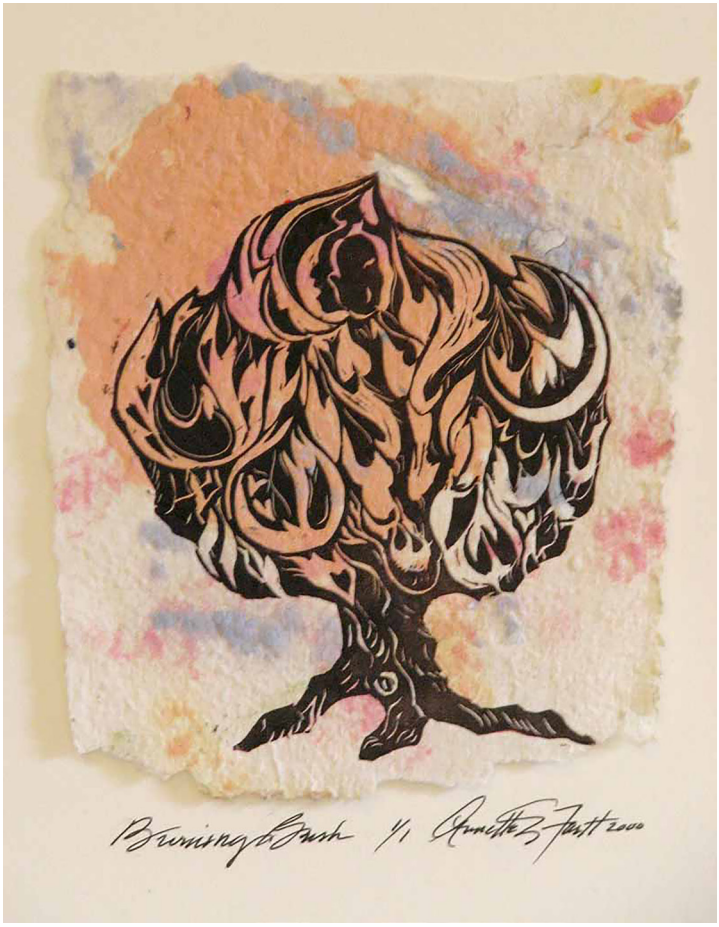
First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



March 23, 2025

Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday in Lent

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 — *Larghetto from Sonata IV* — G.F. Handel

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Come, all who stand on holy ground, for God is calling us.
We turn aside to see, to listen, and to follow.
Like Moses, we may feel unworthy, uncertain, or afraid.
Yet God equips those whom He calls and walks with us on the journey.
Let us worship the One who speaks from the fire and leads us forward!
Let us worship God together!

In the call to worship, we take the opportunity to center ourselves on God. We have so many distractions coming our way, thus we take the first opportunity in our corporate worship service to quiet those distractions. The call to worship places everything in the service, from preaching and worship music to various liturgies and the call to confession, before God in honor and praise.

✞Hymn 53 — *O God, Who Gives Us Life* — Noel

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
too often we resist your call,
doubting our abilities and shrinking from your purpose.
We turn away from the places where you are at work,
afraid of what you may ask of us.
We forget that you are our strength, our guide, our source of courage.
Forgive us, Lord. Set our hearts ablaze with your Spirit,
that we may once more walk boldly in your way.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✞Response

Hymn 799 — I Love The Lord

I love the Lord, who heard my cry
and pitied every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rise,
I'll hasten to God's throne.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading Exodus 3:1-12

Sermon *Field Notes for the Wilderness: Moses* Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

Today's Affirmation of Faith is taken from "A Declaration of Faith," which was written in the 1970s in a poetic style and emphasizes that God is compassionate and ineffable. Unlike some of the more ancient confessions of faith, this affirmation is intentionally written in a form to be easily used to worship.

✣Affirmation of Faith

Declaration of Faith

When Abraham's descendants were slaves in Egypt,
God heard their cries and prayers.
God remembered his promise and sent Moses
to free them from bondage.
We declare God's steadfast love and sovereign power.
The Lord can be trusted to keep promises.
The Lord still acts in the affairs of individuals and nations
to set oppressed and persecuted people free.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* arr. K. Lee Scott

✣Doxology

Hymn 606 Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✣Hymn 826 *Lift High the Cross* Crucifer

✣Charge and Benediction

✣Benediction Response

Hymn 543, v.1 Green Tyler

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Closing Voluntary *Sonata on the First Tone* Jose Lidon

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		*Egypt*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes and Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Same God*
First Reading	Jeremiah 1:4-10	
Second Reading	Exodus 3:1-12	
Sermon	*Field Notes for the Wilderness: Moses*	Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith Declaration of Faith		
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*My Lighthouse*
✞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. Alan F. Dyer

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

Introit — *As the Wind Song* — Swee Hong Lim

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Come, all who stand on holy ground, for God is calling us.
We turn aside to see, to listen, and to follow.
Like Moses, we may feel unworthy, uncertain, or afraid.
Yet God equips those whom He calls and walks with us on the journey.
Let us worship the One who speaks from the fire and leads us forward!
Let us worship God together!

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✞Hymn 53 — *Oh God, Who Gives Us Life* — Noel

Acolyte — Ella Jane Brown

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Holy God,
too often we resist your call,
doubting our abilities and shrinking from your purpose.
We turn away from the places where you are at work,
afraid of what you may ask of us.
We forget that you are our strength, our guide, our source of courage.
Forgive us, Lord. Set our hearts ablaze with your Spirit,
that we may once more walk boldly in your way.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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✞Response

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and pitied every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rise,
I'll hasten to God's throne.

✞ *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

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Prayer for Illumination *Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers* Nun Danket All' Und Bringet Ehr

First Reading Jeremiah 1:4-10

Second Reading Exodus 3:1-12

Sermon *Field Notes for the Wilderness: Moses* Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith Rev. L. Craig Foster

Declaration of Faith

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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 *Hear, O Israel* Ron Nelson

Offertory text can be found on the last page.

✙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 826 *Lift High the Cross* Crucifer

✙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 543, v.1 Green Tyler

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Closing Voluntary *Sonata on the First Tone* Jose Lidon

<u>The Lenten Greens in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Barbara Gean "Bobbie" Andrews
by her granddaughter Carrie and Travis Muthig.

Life of the Church
Sunday, March 23, 2025

Tonight! Chamber Singers Concert
The Chamber Singers' Spring concert will feature selected works from Felix Mendelssohn, including his beautiful *Hear My Prayer* and excerpts from his monumental oratorio *Elijah*. The singers will be joined by guest soloists Sarye Glenn, Paul and Valerie MacPhail, and Lillie Kimbrell, plus a 21-piece orchestra. All are welcome this evening, **March 23 at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary**.

Field Notes for the Wilderness
This Lent, we will step into the wilderness — a place of testing, transformation, and unexpected encounters with God. Through the stories of Miriam, Hagar, Moses, Elijah, Ezekiel, and Jesus we'll explore how God meets us in barren places and leads us toward hope. Come and walk this sacred path with us as we seek God's presence in the wilderness, and discover wisdom, resilience, and renewal for our own journeys.

Prayers for the Wilderness
Our Lenten devotion series, *Prayers for the Wilderness*, features a daily scripture reading and prayer written by a member or pastor of First Presbyterian Church. You may pick up a physical copy at the stations around the church and/or sign up to receive a daily devotion email at fpcspartanburg.org/lent or scan the QR code.

Lenten Prayer Windows
We invite you to add your wilderness prayers to our collective Lent 2025 testimony of the God who meets us there. There are two prayer stations, one in the main hallway and one in the Family Life Center Lobby, where you can write your prayer on a piece of vellum and place it in the basket as together we create a stained-glass reminder that there always beauty and life in the midst of it all.

Wednesdays at First - March 26
Full Schedule

5:00pm	Dinner Line Opens (Fogartie Hall)
5:00pm	Children's Choirs (Clark Building)
6:30pm	Children's Choir Concert (Sanctuary)
7:15pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Pre-register for dinner by 4:00pm each Monday. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/waf or scan the QR code.

Children's Choir Performs March 26
The smallest voices of First Presbyterian Church will perform a Spring Concert on Wednesday, **March 26 at 6:30pm**. Please join us in supporting both the Angel Chatter and LightShine Choirs as they feature songs and readings on the Fruit of the Spirit.

Sunday Greeters Needed
Would you like to serve in the church, but don't know where to start? Greeting on Sunday morning is a great way to show Christian Hospitality and to meet people at First Presbyterian. Anyone is welcome! Please sign up at fpcspartanburg.org/greeter or scan the QR code.

Faith Initiative Quarterly Meeting
The Faith Initiative to End Child Poverty will hold their quarterly meeting on Tuesday, **March 25**, 12:00pm at Episcopal Church of the Advent. The meeting will include a discussion and training on how to build a better system of early childhood care and learning in Spartanburg, along with presentations from guest speakers including Rita Allison, Chair of the SC State Board of Education and former member of the SC House of Representatives. This will be a major opportunity to learn what you can do to improve early childhood education in our community. Please RSVP to Scott Neely at scott@faithinitiativespartanburg.org.

VBS - Register Now!

Road trips are a great way to build strong relationships and create lasting memories. This year's Vacation Bible School, *Road Trip! On the Go with God,* will help us discover that God's presence is everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together. Register your child(ren) now for engaging activities, interactive games, and meaningful lessons **June 2-5** from 9:00am-12:00pm. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/vbs or scan the QR code.

JOY Fellowship Spring Luncheon

You are invited to join your JOY Fellowship friends for the annual Spring Luncheon on Thursday, **April 3** at 11:30am in Fogartie Hall. Enjoy a delicious meal and a special "Art to Heart" chalk art presentation by Bill Cox. This event is free, but reservations are required. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/joylunch or scan the QR code to sign up by Monday, March 31. Bring a friend!

Cleveland Academy Literacy Day

Join us for Cleveland Academy Literacy Day on Monday, **March 31** from 8:00-11:00am. It will be a fun morning or all the first graders in the school, with the theme "Today is going to be a GREAT day!" Volunteers will be needed in blocks to help with art, writing, and movement stations. Sign up at fpcspartanburg.org/literacy or scan the QR code.

Gym Hours

Our gym is open Monday-Thursday from 7:00am-8:00pm; Friday from 7:00am-2:00pm; and Saturday from 8:00am-12noon. If you plan to access the fitness area/walking track, please bring your keycard. Please note that children under 13 years of age must have parent/guardian supervision to use the basketball court, and you must be over the age of 13 to use the walking track/fitness area. Thank you!

Volunteer with Angels Charge

Angels Charge Ministry (ACM) helps women of all ages successfully reenter society after incarceration. ACM provides transitional housing and comprehensive, faith-based support to women in their program for a year or more. ACM needs more volunteers to serve one to two hours per week or two to three hours per month in the following capacities: driving women to necessary appointments; sending notes of encouragement once a month, and for holidays and birthdays; helping guide practical life applications; bring clothes, hygiene, and food for ACM women. Please contact Theresa Bowles at manntheresa@aol.com or 864-680-1420 if you want to help women served by Angels Charge Ministry.

Women's Connection - Aug. 8-10

Save the date for the Women's Connection conference at Montreat, **August 8-10**, featuring Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. The church has reserved 20 registrations and rooms in Assembly Inn. Learn more about Amy-Jill Levine and the schedule for the weekend at montreat.org/events/wc-2025 or scan the QR code. Watch for information about how to register through the church soon!

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.

Ready to Join FPC?

Come to the Parlor on Easter, **April 20** at 10:30am for a brief meeting. Please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org with any questions and if you plan to attend.

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, Janet Kuntz

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;
LightShine Choir; Bruce Campbell, piano;
March Moody, violin; Chancel Choir

Front Cover
"Burning Bush" by Annette Gandy Fortt

Offertory

Hear, O Israel
Ron Nelson

Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God, the Lord is One.
Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God,
with all thy heart, and with all thy soul,
and with all thy might.

Praise be his Name, whose kingdom is forever.

And these words which I command thee,
shall live in your house and be on your heart.

Calendar

March 23
Chamber Singers: Mendelssohn in the Wilderness

March 26
Children's Choir Concert

March 29
Churchwide Day of Service

Looking Forward

April 3
JOY Fellowship Spring Luncheon

April 13
Palm Sunday

April 17
Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service

April 18
Good Friday Service

April 20
Easter

April 27
Confirmation Sunday

May 18
Baccalaureate Sunday

June 2-5
Vacation Bible School

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Courage is fear that has said its prayers."

- Karl Barth

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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