First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



March 30, 2025

Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth 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 — *Prelude in G Minor* — J.S. Bach

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Come, weary and restless ones, for God calls us to a quiet place.
In the wilderness, we listen for the still, small voice of God.
The world shouts, the storm rages, but God speaks in the silence.
Let us worship the One who meets us in the quiet
and renews our strength.

✞Hymn 81 — *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* — Austrian Hymn

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,
we confess that we are often too busy, too distracted,
too consumed by our fears to hear your voice.
We seek you in the grand and the spectacular,
but fail to recognize you in the stillness.
We grow impatient in our waiting,
doubting your presence when we do not see immediate signs.
Forgive us, O Lord. Quiet our hearts, open our ears,
and help us trust again in your unfailing love.

Silent Confession

Lent is a season of confession. As confession - admitting to God our brokenness - stands near the center of worship, so also confession stands near the center of our Lenten observances.

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

First Reading — Psalm 42:1-11

Second Reading — 1 Kings 19:9-13

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

Responding to the Word

This creed is called the Apostles' Creed not because it was produced by the apostles themselves but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It sets forth their doctrine "in sublime simplicity, in unsurpassable brevity, in beautiful order, and with liturgical solemnity." In its present form it is dated no later than the fourth century. More than any other Christian creed, it may justly be called an ecumenical symbol of faith.

✠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 — *Psalm 39* — Alan Pote

✠Doxology

Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 69 — *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky* — Here I Am

✠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 — *Prelude in F Major* — J.S. Bach

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. Leslie A. Lang
Instrumental Prayer		*I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)*
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*Who Am I*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Ansley B. Page
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes and Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Only a Holy God*
First Reading	Psalm 42:1-11	
Second Reading	1 Kings 19:9-13	
Sermon	*Field Notes for the Wilderness: Elijah*	Rev. Alan F. Dyer
✞Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*Your Name is Power*
✞Benediction		

Lent is a season of confession. As confession - admitting to God our brokenness - stands near the center of worship, so also confession stands near the center of our Lenten observances.

✞ *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.

Opening Voluntary — *Prelude in G Minor* — J.S. Bach

Acolyte — Juliet Berry

Introit — *Laudate Dominum* — Laudate Dominum

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Come, weary and restless ones, for God calls us to a quiet place.
In the wilderness, we listen for the still, small voice of God.
The world shouts, the storm rages, but God speaks in the silence.
Let us worship the One who meets us in the quiet and renews our strength.

✞Hymn 81 — *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken* — Austrian Hymn

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we confess that we are often too busy, too distracted,
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We seek you in the grand and the spectacular,
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Forgive us, O Lord. Quiet our hearts, open our ears,
and help us trust again in your unfailing love.

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✞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.

✞ *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

Sacrament of Baptism *James Laurence Grier*
Son of Haven and Harper Grier

Response *Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.* Jesus Loves Me
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Children ages three years to first grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship; those second grade and older will return to the pews.

Prayer for Illumination *If Thou But Trust In God to Guide Thee* Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott

First Reading Psalm 42:1-11

Second Reading 1 Kings 19:9-13

Sermon *Field Notes for the Wilderness: Elijah* 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.

This creed is called the Apostles' Creed not because it was produced by the apostles themselves but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It sets forth their doctrine "in sublime simplicity, in unsurpassable brevity, in beautiful order, and with liturgical solemnity." In its present form it is dated no later than the fourth century. More than any other Christian creed, it may justly be called an ecumenical symbol of faith.

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

The offering is a vital part of our response to God and God's Word. It helps us connect our adoration for God with our life of discipleship. The money given at the offering is a token and symbol of our desire to devote our whole selves to God's service in response to God's loving faithfulness in us.

Offertory — *You Have Searched Me* — Michael Joncas

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 69 — *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky* — Here I Am

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response

Hymn 543, v.1 — Green Tyler

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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 — *Prelude in F Major* — J.S. Bach

The Lenten Greens in the Sanctuary
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. C. Bertram Barre and Mrs. Sallie Barre James
by Mr. and Mrs. H. Walter Barre, Dr. and Mrs. William A. James, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Bert D. Barre.

Life of the Church
Sunday, March 30, 2025

Field Notes for the Wilderness
This Lent, we have stepped 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're exploring 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 Window
There are two prayer stations, one in the main hallway and one in the Family Life Center Lobby, where you can write a Lenten prayer on a piece of vellum and place it in the basket. Together we are creating a stained-glass reminder that there is always beauty and life in the midst of the wilderness.

Wednesdays at First - April 2
Full Schedule

5:00pm	Dinner Line Opens (Fogartie Hall)
6:15pm	Recreation for Children (Gym)
6:15pm	Younger Women's Bible Study (F207)
6:30pm	Spartanburg NOW: Laura Ringo (Social Hall)
6:30pm	Youth Fellowship and Bible Study
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.

Last Chance to Volunteer!
TOMORROW, **March 31** from 8:00-11:00am will be Cleveland Academy's Literacy Day for all first graders. Today is the final day to sign up for a volunteer spot. Volunteers are needed to help with art, writing, and movement stations. Sign up at fpcspartanburg.org/literacy or scan the QR code.

Spartanburg NOW: Laura Ringo
Laura Ringo is the executive director of PAL: Play. Advocate. Live Well., an organization that improves health and wellness throughout Spartanburg County by promoting physical activity and healthy eating. If you've ever walked The Dan or ordered from the PAL Food Hub, you know they are doing great things! Laura will update us on several current PAL projects Wednesday, **April 2 at 6:30pm** in the Social Hall.

VBS - Register Now!
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.

Faith Family Connection
First Presbyterian will be joining other churches in the community to provide a safe place for homeless children and their families to stay in a rotational model. FPC will be hosting July 6-13, and we need volunteers! If you feel led to help with this ministry or need more information, please contact Rhonda Dickerson at rhonda032856@gmail.com or Pastor Leslie at llang@fpcspartanburg.org.

Palm Cross Workshop

All are welcome to prepare for Palm Sunday and enjoy fellowship, door prizes, and refreshments at the Palm Cross Workshop on Thursday, **April 10** at 9:30am in the Large Private Dining Room (right off of Fogartie Hall). Bring a pair of scissors, and we will provide the rest! Please RSVP to Mary Cannon at clairemac2@bellsouth.net by Tuesday, April 8 if you plan to attend.

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. 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.

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 Greeters

If you have 20 minutes and like to meet new people on Sunday mornings, we need you! Anyone is welcome. Please sign up at fpcspartanburg.org/greeters or scan the QR code.

Become a Member Easter Morning

Church membership is an expression of our commitment to God and our faith. In the ancient church, people would often be baptized and officially join the church on Easter morning. Following in that tradition, we are inviting all those interested in joining First Presbyterian to consider doing so on Easter morning, **April 20** at 10:30am. We would love to have you add your gifts, energy, and love to the body of Christ that is FPC! Please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org if you are interested in joining that day. To learn more about membership and how to join, visit fpcspartanburg.org/membership or scan the QR code.

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.

Calendar

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 21
All Church Facilities Closed

April 27
Confirmation Sunday

Looking Forward

May 18
Baccalaureate Sunday

May 21
Scotland Bon Voyage Concert

May 25
Worship as One (through July 27)

June 2-5
Vacation Bible School

June 8
Ordination & Installation of New Officers

June 14/July 19
Montreat Play Dates

June 26
Fellowship Night at Spartanburgers Game

August 6
FPC Variety Show

August 8-10
Women's Connection at Montreat

August 24
Rally Day

September 10
Wednesdays at First Resumes

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

Front Cover
"Elijah Under the Juniper Tree," School of Rembrandt van Rijn

Offertory

You Have Searched Me
Michael Joncas

You have searched me and you know me,
when I sit and when I stand,
rising, resting, waking, sleeping:
all my life is in your hand.

Before, behind, you ring me round;
you know my thoughts before I speak.
Your wisdom is too wonderful,
beyond my grasp, so high, so deep.

How could I flee your Spirit,
hope to escape your gaze,
Presence as high as heaven,
deep as the deepest grave?

If I take the wings of morning,
dwell beyond the farthest sea—
even there your hand would guide me,
you would overshadow me.

If I say, "Let darkness hide me:
let day's splendor fade away"
Darkness is not dark for you,
and night itself is clear as day.

You who filled the word with wonders,
brough the desert into bloom,
you it was who gave me being,
knit me in my mother's womb.

From the first you held my hear,
you know the secrets of my birth,
fashioned me in hidden ways,
and molded me in depths of earth.

All my deeds are in your keeping,
all my acts within your sight,
all my days be you decreed
before they ever come to light.

Each of your thoughts a mystery,
more than the ocean's sand,
Widom beyond all measure,
how could I understand?

Search me God, and know my heart,
before your glance reveal my mind.
Do not let me stray from you,
but keep me on the path of life.

Today's Musicians

Early Worship
Erica Pauly, Kevin Marsh

Contemporary Worship
Kolby Carrouth, drums; Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals; Elise Deberry, vocals; Landon Hammett, vocals/keyboard; Anna Harkey, violin; Jeff Key, electric guitar

Traditional Worship
Janet Kuntz, Erica Pauly, Debbie Keiser, Paul MacPhail, Chancel Choir

To Ponder Prayerfully

"We look for God in the spectacular,
but often God is in the stillness."

- Richard Rohr

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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