First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



April 7, 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!

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. Leslie A. Lang

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

Opening Voluntary — *Duke Street* — Michael Burkhardt

✞Call to Worship — Rev. L. Craig Foster

We declare to you what was from the beginning,
What we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with our hands.
This life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it,
We declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father
and that was revealed to us.
We tell of these things so that our joy may be complete.
This is the message we proclaim: that God is light and in him
there is no darkness at all. Let us worship the Lord! — John 1:1-5

✞Hymn 267 — *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* — Madrid

Prayer of Confession

God of new life, the Easter hymns have faded,
and so has our assurance of your salvation.
Just like the disciples, we struggle with fear.
Just like the disciples, we experience moments of joy
and forget that it comes from you.
Just like the disciples, we wrestle with doubts.
In the midst of all these things, you tell us, "Peace be with you."
O Lord, forgive us when we falter, and bring us that peace
that surpasses all understanding.
In the name of Christ our Lord we pray…

Silent Confession

Every journey begins with a time of figuring out what to take along and what to leave behind. Similarly, the confession of sin is an opportunity to reflect on those things we're carrying around with us (anxiety, guilt, shame) that, with God's grace, we can safely leave behind.

Assurance of Pardon

God's grace flows freely and abundantly; God's mercies are new every morning.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

✞Response: Hymn 447 — We Are Forgiven

✞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

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading John 20:19-31

Sermon *Wounded and Resurrected* Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Responding to the Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus* Dan Forrest

✙Doxology
Hymn 606 Old Hundredth

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord's Supper is not just the celebration of an event that happened long ago and far away— the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Supper also looks to the future in hope because the Christ who died and was raised also promises to come again and to gather all creation around his messianic table. Our participation in this sacrament is a foretaste of what is yet to be.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Sung Responsively) Hymnal Page 9
The Lord's Prayer Hymnal Page 35

Sharing of the Elements *All communion bread and wafers are gluten free.*
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Communion Music *Holy Manna* arr. Kenneth Lowenberg

Prayer After Communion

Bearing the Word to the World

✙Hymn 504 *We Come as Guests Invited* Wie Lieblick Ist Der Maien

✙Charge and Benediction

✙Benediction Response
Hymn 547, verse 3 Ar Hyd Y Nos

"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you;
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

Closing Voluntary *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* Wilbur Held

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. Alan F. Dyer
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*This Is Our God*
Prayer of Confession		Dr. Lewis F. Galloway
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes and Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
First Reading	Isaiah 65:17-25	
Second Reading	John 20:19-31	
Sermon	*When the Impossible Becomes Possible!*	Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr.
Communion		*All communion bread and wafers are gluten free.*
Communion Music		*Always*
✞Closing Song		*This I Believe*
✞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.

Opening Voluntary — *Duke Street* — Michael Burkhardt

Acolyte — Savannah Pinilla

Introit — *Be Not Afraid* — Be Not Afraid

✞Call to Worship — Dr. Lewis F. Galloway

We declare to you what was from the beginning,
What we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with our hands.
This life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it,
We declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father
and that was revealed to us.
We tell of these things so that our joy may be complete.
This is the message we proclaim: that God is light and in him
there is no darkness at all. Let us worship the Lord! — John 1:1-5

✞Hymn 267 — *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* — Madrid

Every journey begins with a time of figuring out what to take along and what to leave behind. Similarly, the confession of sin is an opportunity to reflect on those things we're carrying around with us (anxiety, guilt, shame) that, with God's grace, we can safely leave behind.

Prayer of Confession

God of new life, the Easter hymns have faded,
and so has our assurance of your salvation.
Just like the disciples, we struggle with fear.
Just like the disciples, we experience moments of joy
and forget that it comes from you.
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In the midst of all these things, you tell us, "Peace be with you."
O Lord, forgive us when we falter, and bring us that peace
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God's mercies are new every morning.
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✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✞Response: Hymn 447 — We Are Forgiven

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

✞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

The Word for Children

Prayer for Illumination — *We Walk By Faith* — Dunlap's Creek

First Reading — Isaiah 65:17-25 — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Second Reading — John 20:19-31

Sermon — *When the Impossible Becomes Possible!* — Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr.

Responding to the Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Give God the Glory* — Heinrich Scheutz

✞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.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord's Supper is not just the celebration of an event that happened long ago and far away— the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Supper also looks to the future in hope because the Christ who died and was raised also promises to come again and to gather all creation around his messianic table. Our participation in this sacrament is a foretaste of what is yet to be.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Sung Responsively)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up, lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us all give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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.

Sharing of the Elements

All communion bread and wafers are gluten free.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Communion Music

Holy Manna — arr. Kenneth Lowenberg

Prayer After Communion

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 504

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✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response

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"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins; we depart to be the church in the world!

Closing Voluntary

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain — Wilbur Held

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. Thomas Rudolph (Tommy) Young, III
by his family.

Life of the Church

Sunday, April 7, 2024

About Dr. Victor Aloyo

The Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo currently serves as the eleventh President of Columbia Theological Seminary. Previously he served as the Associate Dean of Institutional Diversity and Community Engagement at Princeton Theological Seminary and as Organizing/Lead Pastor of Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras in North Plainfield, NJ. Victor received a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and Sociology from the College of New Rochelle, a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Doctorate in Executive Higher Education Administration from the University of Pennsylvania, focusing his dissertation on navigating diversity and inclusion within a framework of social justice.

Please welcome Dr. Aloyo as our guest preacher during today's Contemporary Worship and Traditional Worship!

Surprised by Hope

The Easter story is one of surprise. The women go to the tomb expecting to find one thing, but instead find something very different. The tomb is empty, Christ is risen! This Easter Season, we invite you to join us as we explore how the resurrection continues to surprise us with God's hopeful vision for our future and our present.

Wednesdays at First

Join us starting at 5:00pm for Wednesdays at First (WAF). This week for after-dinner programming, we will conclude our study of Will Willimon's book *Why Jesus?* at 6:30pm in Fogartie Hall. Please make dinner reservations by Monday at 4:00pm. More information can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting fpcspartanburg.org/waf.

Joy Fellowship Tour and Lunch

Join the JOY (Just Older Youth, 55+) Fellowship on April 18 for lunch and a tour of Hatcher Garden ($12 per person). Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/joytour to register by April 15!

Confirmation Sunday - April 21

Confirmation is a safe space where youth and mentors embrace questions and explore the depths of spiritual wonderings, cultivating a mindset of imagination and resilience as they grow in faith and understanding. On April 21, we invite everyone to celebrate with 25 Confirmands who will take their vows for membership in the church.

Young Adult Fiesta Night

Come join us at the Morehead's home for fajitas and festive beverages on Sunday, April 21 starting at 5:30pm. Book a sitter and enjoy a night out! All young adults (22-45ish) are invited! Please scan the QR code for more details and to RSVP. Please contact Leslie Lang at llang@fpcspartanburg.org if you have any questions.

Chamber Singers Concert

Please join the First Presbyterian Chambers Singers on Thursday, May 2 at 7:00pm as they present their spring concert, *A Day in the Life*. The program will take you on a journey through the joys, sorrows and wonder of the everyday, beginning at dawn and concluding at bedtime. There will be time in the outdoors, a little romance, sorrow but also hope, the warmth of a summer evening and more. All the music is from living composers, with soloists from the group and a guest string quintet to help accompany several of the pieces.

Register for VBS!

It's nearly time for a summer camp adventure with God at Camp Firelight! VBS will be June 3-6 from 9:00am-12:00pm for rising 4k through 6th grade. Registration is now open at fpcspartanburg.org/vbs or scan the QR code. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Kara Clark, Director of Children's Ministry, at kclark@fpcspartanburg.org.

Women's Connection

Women's Connection 2024 will be held in Montreat August 9-11 and will be a time to connect with old and new friends, a time to care for yourself, and a time for space and Sabbath. This year's keynote speaker is Becca Stevens, founder/president of Thistle Farms. The cost of $425 includes housing and registration. Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/womensconnection for details!

Montreat Play dates

Spend the day rock-hopping in the creek, playing on the playground, and enjoying games in the Youth Center during our Montreat Play Dates on June 22 and July 20! This is for families with children ages 4k-6th grade. Registration is open! Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/montreatplaydate.

Join the Audio/Video Team!

The Audio/Video Team currently needs camera operators, and no experience is necessary! Contact Caroline Goodman at cgoodman@fpcspartanburg.org for more information!

Stephen Ministry Needs You!

If you are looking for a way to serve First Presbyterian that allows you a flexible schedule and once-a-week interaction with someone who is desperately in need of some Christian caring, this is the place for you! Contact Dana Halliday at danahalliday1@charter.net or (864) 237-0330.

Do You Knit or Crochet?

We're already preparing for FPC's Winter Warmth, where we distribute brand-new coats to children in need across Spartanburg County. In addition to coats, children will also be receiving hats and scarves, handmade or purchased by members of the church. Winter Warmth will take place on October 26. If you have questions, please email winterwarmthfpc@gmail.com.

Pickleball!

On **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, 1:00-3:00pm, the Gym Floor is set up for Pickleball. Equipment available at the FLC Desk.

Share Your Smile on Sundays!

Share your smile and a kind word with others on Sunday mornings! Join the team of Sunday greeters to welcome members and visitors to First Presbyterian Church! Sign up at fpcspartanburg.org/ministry-finder.

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 fpcspartanburg.org/enews.

Today's Musicians

Early Worship

Bruce Campbell, guest organist;
Janet Kuntz, guest conductor;
Genesis Choir

Contemporary Worship

Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals;
Kolby Carrouth, drums;
Anna Harkey, violin;
Matt Kelly, guitar/vocals;
Cooper Cecil, electric guitar;
Jeff Key, bass guitar

Traditional Worship

Bruce Campbell, guest organist;
Janet Kuntz, guest conductor;
Chancel Choir

Ready to Join FPC?

Are you interested in joining First Presbyterian Church? Come to the Church Parlor on Sunday, April 14 at 10:30am. There will be a brief meeting to welcome new members. Please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org if you plan to attend.

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

Combined Adult Sunday School will be in Fogartie Hall today, April 7.
Dr. Victor Aloyo will be leading our time together.

Next Sunday

Bible Alive – *Room 2208*
An extensive book-by-book study of the Bible

Emmaus – *Room 2207*
A journey with eyes open towards Jesus, with fellowship and a fresh new scripture-based lesson each week.

Abide - *Room 2200*
For younger adults and parents of preschool/elementary children to gather for a time of fellowship and learning.

L.I.F.T. - *Room 2201*
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 13
Churchwide Day of Service

April 21
Confirmation Sunday
Young Adult Social

Looking Forward

May 2
Chamber Singers Concert

May 3-5
Congregational Retreat at Montreat

May 12
Mother's Day

May 19
Day of Pentecost

June 3-6
Vacation Bible School

June 9
Acts 2 Lunches & Dinners

June 9-15
High School Mission Trip

June 16
Father's Day

June 22 and July 20
Montreat Play Dates

July 8-11
Middle School Mission Week

July 20-27
Montreat Youth Conference

August 9-11
Montreat Women's Conference

September 8
Rally Day

October 26
Winter Warmth

October 27
Kirkin' o' the Tartans

Front Cover: "Christ shows himself to Thomas"
by Rowan and Irene LeCompte
Resurrection Chapel, Washington Cathedral

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"For many people in our world, the opposite of faith is doubt.
But faith and doubt aren't opposites.
Doubt is often a sign that your faith has a pulse,
that it's alive and well and exploring and searching.
Faith and doubt aren't opposites;
they are, it turns out, excellent dance partners."

- Rob Bell

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

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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