First Presbyterian Church
Spartanburg



Service for the Lord's Day

July 28, 2024
11:00am - Fogartie Hall

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.

Gathering Song — *Just Over In The Gloryland* — Emmett S. Dean and James W. Acuff

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Ansley B. Page

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
Yet their voice goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.

Psalm 19:1-4

✞Song of Praise — *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* — arr. The Purple Hulls

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" is a Christian hymn originally written by preacher Joseph M. Scriven as a poem in 1855 to comfort his mother, who was living in Ireland while he was in Canada. Scriven originally published the poem anonymously, and only received full credit for it in the 1880s. The tune to the hymn was composed by Charles Crozat Converse in 1868.

Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Silent Confession

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Assurance of Pardon

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

✠Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Proclaiming the Word

Word for Children

Children ages 3 years to 1st grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship; those 2nd grade and older may return to their seats.

Song	*Daddy Sang Bass*	Carl Perkins
First Reading	Psalm 121	Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Second Reading	Job 38-39 (Selected Verses)	
Sermon		Rev. L. Craig Foster

"Daddy Sang Bass" is a song written by Carl Perkins in 1967, with lines from the chorus of "Will the Circle Be Unbroken?", and recorded by American country music singer Johnny Cash. According to Johnny Cash's book, The Man in Black, the singer overcame his amphetamine addiction by finding God and then helped his friend and frequent tour-mate Carl Perkins to overcome his alcoholism.

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 26

What do you believe when you say,
"I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

**That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them,
who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence,
is my God and Father because of Christ the Son.**

**I trust God so much that I do not doubt
he will provide whatever I need for body and soul,
and will turn to my good whatever adversity
he sends upon me in this sad world.**

**God is able to do this because he is almighty God
and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

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 *I'll Wear a White Robe* Luther G. Presley

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our Prayer of Thanksgiving is just one place we say thank you to God in our worship services. Gratitude is at the heart of the Christian life. We seek to live in God's ways not to earn the new life God freely gives us, but in thanksgiving for what God has done and is doing in our lives and world. For what are you thankful this morning?

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Closing Song *I Saw The Light* Hank Williams

✠Charge and Benediction

Sending Music *Just Over In The Gloryland* Emmett S. Dean and James W. Acuff

Rhythms of Faith

Bluegrass

The origin of bluegrass music can be traced to the people who came to America in the 1600s from Ireland, Scotland, and England and brought with them basic styles of music that are generally considered to be the roots of modern bluegrass music. As the settlers began to move out into North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia, they wrote songs about daily life in the new land. Since most of these people lived in remote areas, many of the songs reflected life on the farm or in the hills. This music was often referred to as country, hillbilly, or mountain music. Its development included the blending of elements from gospel music and the blues music that was prominent among people of African origin who lived in the Mississippi Delta region. The invention of the phonograph and the onset of radio in the early-to-mid 1900s brought this music out of the hills and into the homes of people all over the United States. (Bluegrass History Foundation)

Between 1935 and 1955, the term "Bluegrass" began to be associated with the driving beats of the banjo, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, and bass fiddle, and almost entirely with acoustic instruments. Vocal harmonies also became recognizable as "Bluegrass", most notably with the "high lonesome" tenor or alto harmony. Sometimes the instruments are the focal point, but sometimes it's just the a cappella harmonies. Bill Monroe's band, the Bluegrass Boys, and the popularity of their music has led to Monroe being called the "father" of Bluegrass, but the history goes back much further.

The songs selected today are generally from the gospel influence and range from the well-known hymn "What a Friend we have in Jesus"(1855) to the more modern-day "Daddy Sang Bass"(1967). "Just over in the Gloryland" was written in 1906, by James Acuff and "I'll Wear a White Robe" was written in 1941, in Arkansas, by Luther Presley. Our final song, this morning, will be "I saw the Light", written in 1948 by Hank Williams during the height of his popularity.

We hope you will join in and sing along with us as we celebrate our Bluegrass heritage.

The Flowers in Fogartie Hall
are given to the Glory of God and
in honor of ***Ann M. Hurley*** *and in memory of* ***Noel M. Hurley, Sr.***
by Mark and Janet Cann.

Life of the Church
Sunday, July 28, 2024

Next Sunday
Next Sunday, we will return to our regularly scheduled worship services: 8:30am Early Service in the Chapel, 9:00am Contemporary Worship in Fogartie Hall, and 11:00am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary. Combined Adult Sunday School will continue through August 25 at 10:00am in Fogartie Hall.

Laptop Ministry
If you have laptops that you would like to donate to the First Presbyterian Laptop Ministry, please drop them by the church financial office. You may also donate funds for the ministry by check, cash, or online at fpcspartanburg.org/laptop or scan the QR code. Donated funds will be reflected in your statement of giving. Donated laptops are considered a non-cash contribution, for which you will receive a letter. These laptops will be reset and all personal information will be removed. They will be donated to both local and international ministries and affiliated organizations of the church.

Family Bingo Night
Enjoy a delicious dinner and a fun game of bingo on Wednesday, August 28 begining at 5:30pm. Register at fpcspartanburg.org/bingo or scan the QR code.

Winter Warmth
Winter Warmth is a reflection of Christ's love for the world. On October 26, approximately 1,000 children will receive a warm winter coat as well as hats, scarves, and gloves thanks to the generosity of First Presbyterian's members. If you knit or sew, or if you like to shop, Winter Warmth would love your donations of hats, scarves, gloves, and blankets. Please drop them off in the mission closet across the hall from the library (just inside the Chestnut Street entrance). Contact winterwarmthfpc@gmail.com with questions. Thank you for your support of this ministry!

Pastoral Concern?
If you need to contact a Minister for a Pastoral Concern, call 864-208-2142 day or night. The minister-on-call will answer your call as soon as possible.

Bereavement Meal Ministry
Did you know that when a church member passes away, there is a team that takes a home-cooked meal to the family? This ministry needs you! We need six teams to serve two months out of the year and commit to providing a meal when needed. If you're interested, please contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org.

Ready to Join FPC?
Are you interested in joining First Presbyterian Church? Come to the Church Parlor on Sunday, August 11at 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.

The Flowers in the Family Life Center Lobby
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Ross Hawthorne Bayard
by his family.

Looking Ahead
August 9-11
Montreat Women's Conference

August 11
Blessing of the Backpacks

August 28
Family Bingo Night

September 8
Rally Day

Keep up with all Life of the Church events at fpcspartanburg.org.

Today's Musicians
Lisa Cunningham, guitar/vocals;
Kolby Carrouth, drums;
Gordon Cooper, banjo;
Landon Hammett, keyboard/vocals;
Anna Harkey, violin; Leigha Keller, vocals;
Matthew Kelly, mandolin/vocals;
Jeff Key, electric guitar; Paul MacPhail, vocals;
Corey McDaniels, bass guitar;
Jerry Palmer, guitar/vocals

Front Image: "Bluegrass Band" by Mordecai Colodner

Parts of today's liturgy are adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion.

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