First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



September 15, 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. Alan F. Dyer

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

Opening Voluntary — *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me* — Stephen F. Folkemer

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Come, people of God,
let us offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and lift up his name in the presence of his people.
For God is gracious and merciful, full of compassion and love.
While we were still helpless, God came to save us.
Let us worship our Lord!

Worship begins best with a prayerful spirit. Use the prelude time to center yourself and open your heart and mind to the worship of God.

✞Hymn 33 — *Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show* — Llanfair

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, in the face of sin, our gravest enemy, we call to you for help.
You know our fault before we speak.
Forgive us for what we have done in opposition to your will.
Forgive us for those things we have not undertaken
and for those things we know are wrong.
We have not loved you and our neighbors as we ought.
We have denied our dependence on you.
Lead us away from this grief and sorrow.
Give us your grace, that we may harvest righteousness and peace,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, we pray.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In the name of 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.

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and chased my grief away.
O let my heart no more despair while I have breath to pray.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Celebration of Ministry: Weekday School 80th Anniversary — Kristin Hamilton

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — James 3:1-12

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

A 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.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
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

As we offer our gifts, we praise God for letting us have use of all the resources the Lord has provided and the opportunity to serve on God's behalf. The Doxology is an ancient chorus of praise with a vision of join all the created beings of all times and places who forever sing praise to God..

Offertory — *Whoever Would Be Great Among You* — Ronald A. Nelson

✞Doxology
Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✞Hymn 753 — *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* — Prayer of St. Francis

✞Charge and Benediction

✞Benediction Response
Hymn 175, verse 1 — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Trumpet Tune* — David German

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. L. Craig Foster
Instrumental Prayer		
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*Come Thou Fount (I Will Sing)*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes And Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church Celebration of Ministry: Weekday School 80th Anniversary		Kristin Hamilton
Children's Time		
Anthem		*A Thousand Tongues (Awake My Soul)*
First Reading	Psalm 116:1-9	Bryson Kiehl
Second Reading	James 3:1-12	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Affirmation of Faith A Brief Statement of Faith		
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*He Reigns*
✞Benedication		

The letter of James was accepted as scripture by the church in Alexandria in the third century CE, by the Western church in the fourth century, and by the Syrian church in the fifth century. Thereafter it has remained in the canon of all churches, though at the time of the Reformation Martin Luther questioned its status because it appeared to contradict Paul's teaching on justification by faith, which Luther held to be of central importance. More recent interpreters have come to appreciate James's distinctive theological perspective and impassioned practical concern.

✞ *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.

Worship begins best with a prayerful spirit. Use the prelude time to center yourself and open your heart and mind to the worship of God.

Opening Voluntary — *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me* — Stephen F. Folkemer

Acolyte — Sadie Moore

Introit — *We Praise You, O God* — Kremser

✙Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

Come, people of God,
let us offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and lift up his name in the presence of his people.
For God is gracious and merciful, full of compassion and love.
While we were still helpless,
God came to save us.
Let us worship our Lord!

✙Hymn 33 — *Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show* — Llanfair

Prayer of Confession — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Holy God, in the face of sin, our gravest enemy,
we call to you for help.
You know our fault before we speak.
Forgive us for what we have done in opposition to your will.
Forgive us for those things we have not undertaken
and for those things we know are wrong.
We have not loved you and our neighbors as we ought.
We have denied our dependence on you.
Lead us away from this grief and sorrow.
Give us your grace,
that we may harvest righteousness and peace,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, we pray.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✙ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✞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.

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and chased my grief away.
O let my heart no more despair while I have breath to pray.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Celebration of Ministry: Weekday School 80th Anniversary — Kristin Hamilton

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

Children ages 3 years to 1st grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship; those 2nd grade and older will return to the pews.

Prayer for Illumination — *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* — Canonbury

First Reading — Psalm 116:1-9 — Kate Lancaster

Second Reading — James 3:1-12

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✞Affirmation of Faith

A 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.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
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.

The letter of James was accepted as scripture by the church in Alexandria in the third century CE, by the Western church in the fourth century, and by the Syrian church in the fifth century. Thereafter it has remained in the canon of all churches, though at the time of the Reformation Martin Luther questioned its status because it appeared to contradict Paul's teaching on justification by faith, which Luther held to be of central importance. More recent interpreters have come to appreciate James's distinctive theological perspective and impassioned practical concern.

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 anthem *Gentle Words* is from the Shaker tradition and was first transmitted orally before being written down in the early 20th century. This arrangement was taken from a manuscript that was rediscovered in 1974 at the Shaker Historical Society in Ohio..

Offertory — *Gentle Words* — Kevin Siegfried

Offertory text can be found on the last page of the bulletin.

✠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 753 — *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* — Prayer of St. Francis

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response

Hymn 175, verse 1 — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Trumpet Tune* — David German

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin R. Pickens, Sr. and Mr. Benjamin R. Pickens, Jr.
by their family.

Life of the Church

Sunday, September 15, 2024

Celebrating 80 Years of WDS!

Today and Wednesday we celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Weekday School. The Weekday School officially opened on September 18, 1944 with Mrs. Mary Ellerbe, Miss Margaret Macomson, and Mrs. W.W. Cooke as teachers. Families, past and present, are invited to a reception after the 11:00am service today.

Continue Celebrating at WAF

We invite everyone, especially our Weekday School families to WAF (Wednesday at First), on September 18. The adult program will celebrate the history of the Weekday School, while children will have fun in the gym. Dinner begins at 5:00pm. Programs for all ages will begin at 6:30pm. Register and pay for dinner at fpcspartanburg.org/waf or scan the QR code by Monday, September 16 at 4:30pm.

Discover First Presbyterian

Learn more about First Presbyterian Church at the Discover FPC Class **September 15, 22, and 29** at 10:00am in the Large Private Dining Room in the Family Life Center. Contact Cathy Bagwell at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org if you plan to attend. Learn more at fpcspartanburg.org/discoverfpc.

Coffee with Rev. Rachel

You are invited to coffee and conversation with Rev. Rachel! There are four opportunities this fall for you to sign up to spend an hour with Rachel over coffee and a treat in the Perrin Room. Attendance at each event will be limited to 12 people; note the different times and days of the week. To view dates/times and to reserve your spot, visit fpcspartanburg.org/coffee or scan the QR code.

JOY Fellowship Ladies' Tea

Join the ladies of the church for tea and scones in the Perrin Room and courtyard Tuesday, **September 17** at 3pm. Hats and white gloves optional. RSVP at fpcspartanburg.org/ladiestea or scan the QR code.

Blood Drive

Our next blood drive is **September 22** from 8:00am-1:00pm. Sign up to donate at fpcspartanburg.org/health or contact Beth Cecil at bcecil@fpcspartanburg.org.

Hand in Hand Truck Drive

A new school year has begun and Hand in Hand has been busy as Spartanburg County School social workers have identified a large number of students in need of food and clothing. Please support the Hand in Hand Truck Drive on **October 6** with your donations of non-perishable food items, hygiene products, cleaning supplies, and/or monetary contributions. Drop off donations at the designated trucks between 8:30am and 12:30pm. To see the full list of items or to donate online please visit handinhandspartanburg.org or scan the QR code. Click DONATE to find a list of suggested items. You may also contact us at (864)913-2179.

Fresh-Baked Bread Needed

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with our brothers and sisters worldwide. We invite you to bring a home-baked or store-bought loaf of bread to the communion table in the worship service of your choice. Place home-baked bread on the Communion Table and store-bought bread in the baskets by the pews before or following worship. Your contributions will be distributed to various missions in our community that feed the hungry.

Winter Warmth

If you knit, sew, or if you like to shop, Winter Warmth needs donations of hats, scarves, gloves, and blankets to be distributed **October 26.** Contact winterwarmthfpc@gmail.com for more details.

Healing & Wholeness Service

On **October 13** at 5:00pm in the Chapel, we will hold a Healing and Wholeness Service in honor of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. Please come for prayer, contemplative music, and silence. Following the service, all are invited Wave of Light, a community-led awareness event for pregnancy and infant loss, which will be held at Hatcher Garden.

African American Museum Trip

Are you interested in visiting the African American museum in Charleston, taking a historical walking tour, and debriefing what you've experienced? Rev. Leslie Lang is exploring the possibility of taking a group to Charleston on November 14-15th. The cost would be approximately $300 total or less. Please contact Cathy Rush at crush@fpcspartanburg.org to get on the information list.

Thank you for your Laptops!

Thank you to all who have donated laptops to the FPC Laptop Ministry. Please keep them coming! If you know anyone who needs a laptop and is associated with First Presbyterian's ministries and missions, please fill out the form found at fpcspartanburg.org/laptop or by scanning the QR code.

Dominican Republic Mission

For the past 30 years, First Presbyterian Church has sent a team of medical professionals and construction volunteers to the Dominican Republic to serve God's people. Now is the time to sign-up for the 2025 trip! Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/dr for more information and to register.

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 as soon as possible.

Gym Hours

Members may use the First Presbyterian Church gym Mondays-Thursdays from 7:00am-8:00pm, Fridays from 7:00am-2:00pm, and Saturdays from 8:00am-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.

Fall Bible and Book Studies

Get plugged in to FPC through our Fall Bible and book study offerings. Several groups have started meeting, but it isn't too late to join! Please visit fpcspartanburg.org/studies for details.

Tickled Pink
Every Tuesday beginning at 9:15am in Fogartie Hall and 5:30pm in the Middle School Room

Bill's Book Club (BBC)
First Tuesday of each month at 10:30am and 7:00pm

Christians in the Making Women's Study
Wednesdays at 10:00am

Wednesday Men's Bible Study (Year Round)
Wednesdays at 12:00pm in the Arthur Center

Younger Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 12:00pm

Wednesdays at First Adult Programming
Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Social Hall

Younger Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 6:30pm beginning September 25
Thursdays at 9:15am beginning September 26

Early Men's Bible Study
Fridays at 6:30am in the Small Private Dining Room

Friday Men's Bible Study
Fridays at 7:00am in the Arthur Center

Calendar

September 18
WDS 80th Anniversary Celebration

September 17
JOY Fellowship Ladies' Tea

October 6
World Communion Sunday

October 13
Healing and Wholeness Service
for Pregnancy and Infant Loss

Looking Forward

October 17
JOY Fellowship Tour to Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.

October 26
Winter Warmth

October 27
Kirkin' O' the Tartans
Shelter

October 30
Trunk or Treat

November 3
All Saints' Evening Worship

November 17
The Installation of Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

For the latest information on events at FPC,
visit fpcspartanburg.org/calendar.

Today's Musicians

Early Worship

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Alle Marie Marsh, Olivia Marsh,
and Kevin Marsh

Contemporary Worship

Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals;
Kolby Carrouth, drums;
Landon Hammett, vocals/keyboard;
Anna Harkey, violin;
Jeff Key, electric guitar;
Corey McDaniels, bass guitar

Traditional Worship

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Lisa Cunningham, Chancel Choir

Offertory

Gentle Words
Kevin Siegfried

What the dew is to the flower,
Gentle words are to the soul,
And a blessing to the giver,
And so dear to the receiver,
We should never withhold.

Gentle words kindly spoken
Often soothe the troubled mind,
While links of love are broken
By words that are unkind.

The O thou gentle spirit,
My constant guardian be,
"Do to others," be my motto,
"As I'd have them do to me."

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.

Front Cover:
Artwork from the Weekday School

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"The teachers are everywhere. What is wanted is a learner."
- Wendell Berry

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
(On Sabbatical until October 1)

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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