First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



September 8, 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 — *O God, Thou Faithful God* — Flor Peeters

✞Call to Worship — Nora Biber

As the sun rises in the morning,
let all creation worship God.
From the highest mountains to the deepest seas,
let all creation proclaim the name of the Lord,
for God alone is worthy to be praised.
God alone makes all things new.
All praise, glory, and honor be yours, forever.

✞Hymn 37 — *Let All Things Now Living* — Ash Grove

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
your new heaven and new earth call us to be more than we have become.
We yearn to enter into fullness of life and to leave behind our self-centered ways.
Curb our temptation to lift up our eyes from the homeless and the needy,
even as we delight in the starry heavens and the wonder of your creation.
Forgive us, O God, and set our gaze once more on the welfare of others.
Renew us in our call to live with joy in the promise
of your new heaven and your new earth.

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

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

✞Response

Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

✞Passing of the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Call to Discipleship: One Great Hour of Sharing — Debbie Kocisko

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — Revelation 22:1-5

Sermon — *Being Church: Practicing What We Preach* — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

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 — *If With All Your Hearts* — Felix Mendelssohn

✙Doxology

Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✙Hymn 726 — *Will You Come and Follow Me* — Kelvingrove

✙Charge and Benediction

In the charge and benediction we are assured of God's peace and blessing; we seek to follow Christ's way, sustained by power of the Holy Spirit. God calls the church to join the mission of Christ in service to the world. As we engage in that mission, we bear witness to God's eternal reign.

✙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 — *Toccata in Seven* — John Rutter

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		*Start A Fire*
Prayer of Confession		Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Yes And Amen*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Call to Discipleship: One Great Hour of Sharing		Debbie Kocisko
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Egypt*
First Reading	Psalm 148	Ella Jane Brown
Second Reading	Revelation 22:1-5	
Sermon	*Being Church: Practicing What We Preach*	Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Affirmation of Faith		
The Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of the People		
The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*My Lighthouse*
✞Benediction		

The psalms have served believers in every generation as a biblical source of prayer and praise and as models for their own response to God. The book is an invaluable resource for worship. The people of God have also heard God addressing them in the psalms, as the prayers and hymns bear witness to the nature and work of God. The Psalter is unique, bringing together human word and word of God in an inseparable unity.

✞ *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 — *E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come* — Paul Manz

Acolyte — Huntington Clark

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

As the sun rises in the morning,
let all creation worship God.
From the highest mountains to the deepest seas,
let all creation proclaim the name of the Lord,
for God alone is worthy to be praised.
God alone makes all things new.
All praise, glory, and honor be yours, forever.

✞Hymn 37 — *Let All Things Now Living* — Ash Grove

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 — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

Gracious God,
your new heaven and new earth call us to be more than we have become.
We yearn to enter into fullness of life and to leave behind our self-centered ways.
Curb our temptation to lift up our eyes from the homeless and the needy,
even as we delight in the starry heavens and the wonder of your creation.
Forgive us, O God, and set our gaze once more on the welfare of others.
Renew us in our call to live with joy in the promise
of your new heaven and your new earth.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

✞Response

Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

✞ *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 {Alan - Front Steps}

Call to Discipleship: One Great Hour of Sharing Debbie Kocisko

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 *Take, O Take Me as I Am* John Bell

First Reading Psalm 148 Sadie Moore

Second Reading Revelation 22:1-5

Sermon *Being Church: Practicing What We Preach* Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Though the Bible is the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ and God's word to us, Presbyterians believe it requires the power and illumination of the Holy Spirit for it to become God's living word within us. This prayer calls upon the Holy Spirit to silence in us any voice but God's own, that we may receive with joy what God is saying to us.

Responding to the Word

✞Affirmation of Faith Rev. L. Craig Foster

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.

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 *The Heavens are Telling* Franz Joseph Haydn

The heavens are telling the glory of God.
The wonder of His work displays the firmament.
The day that is coming speaks to the day,
The night that is gone to following night.
In all the lands respond the word,
never unperceived, ever understood..

✙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 726 *Will You Come and Follow Me* Kelvingrove

✙Charge and Benediction

In the charge and benediction we are assured of God's peace and blessing; we seek to follow Christ's way, sustained by power of the Holy Spirit. God calls the church to join the mission of Christ in service to the world. As we engage in that mission, we bear witness to God's eternal reign.

✙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 *Toccata in Seven* John Rutter

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Wendy Mayrose and Dwight Pemberton.

Life of the Church

Sunday, September 8, 2024

Being Church Sermon Series

Christians understand the Church to be the body of Christ on earth. But what exactly does that mean? This is the final week of this six-week series as we continue to explore what it means to be church for one another and for the world in which we live through the Six Great Ends of the Church, which are: the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

Rally Day

TODAY from 9:45-11:00am, join us in the Gym to learn about upcoming discipleship opportunites and enjoy refreshments, children's activities, and great fellowship.

WAF Resumes This Week!

Join your church family for a delicious dinner of fried chicken and all your favorite comfort food sides beginning at 5:00pm at Wednesdays at First (WAF). 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 at 4:30pm.

Acts 2 Fellowship

Fall is a great time to jump back in and strengthen faith, and Acts 2 meals are perfect for just that. Eating together and enjoying time around the table with 8-12 church friends will bless you and can spark friendships for years. Seven fabulous hosts are ready to welcome you into their homes on September 22. Sign up by September 12 a fpcspartanburg.org/acts2 or scan the QR code.

Fall Bible and Book Studies

Women's Ministry Circles
Monthly, September to May
See website for Circles and meeting times.

Second Thoughts About the Second Coming
Thursdays at 12:00pm (Led by the McDaniels)

Tickled Pink Women's Study
Tuesdays beginning September 10
9:15am and 5:30pm

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

The Book of Job Bible Study
Tuesdays beginning September 10 at 12:30pm
Led by Craig Foster

Finding Hope in Lament
Third Tuesday each month beginning August 20
at 5:30pm in Room 2215

Christians in the Making Women's Study
Wednesdays at 10:00am beginning September 11

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

Younger Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 12:00pm beginning September 11

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

Younger Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 6:00pm beginning September 18
Thursdays at 9:30am beginning September 19

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

In-person and online options available. Details on each study and registration forms can be found at fpcspartanburg.org/studies or scan the QR code.

Balance Class for Seniors

Balance Class for Seniors is back! This three-week session will help improve balance, strength, and mobility. Class begins Wednesday, September 11 at 11:00am in the Activity Room. There is no fee for church members, but pre-registration is required and class size is limited. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/recreation or scan the QR code to sign up!

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.

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.

Health Ministry Updates

Our next blood drive is **September 22**. Register now at fpcspartanburg.org/health or contact Beth Cecil at bcecil@fpcspartanburg.org. Save the dates for our Vaccination Clinics **October 8 and 9!**

Winter Warmth

If you knit, sew, or if you like to shop, Winter Warmth would love your donations of hats, scarves, gloves, and blankets. They will be distributed October 26 during Winter Wamth. Contact winterwarmthfpc@gmail.com for more details.

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 celebrate by bringing a home-baked or store-bought loaf of bread to the communion table to the worship service of your choice. Place bread on the Communion Table before or following worship. Your contributions will be distributed to various missions in our community that feed the hungry.

African American Museum Trip

Are you interested in visiting the African American museum, taking a historical walking tour of Charleston, and debrief what you've seen and 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. Contact Cathy Rush at crush@fpcspartanburg.org to get on the information list.

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.

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.

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.

Discover First Presbyterian

Learn more about First Presbyterian Church at the Discover FPC Class **September 15, 22, and 29**. Learn more at fpcspartanburg.org/discoverfpc.

Front Cover:
Sanctuary Banner Six,
The Great Ends of the Church
from Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green

"And the exhibition of the
Kingdom of Heaven to the world"

The dove is in flight over the earth, carrying an olive branch, echoing Genesis 6:11 "And lo, in her mouth a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth." This represents the eighth day of creation, God's grace coming into the world, the reign of God proclaimed by Jesus Christ. The light rising behind the earth represents the dawning of God's kingdom.

To see all six banners of
The Great Ends of the Church,
visit bpcog.org/banners.

Parts of today's liturgy are from Abingdon Worship

Today's Musicians

Early Worship

Holt Andrews, Marcia Andrews,
Matias Mariani

Contemporary Worship

Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals;
Kolby Carrouth, drums;
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,
Chancel Choir,
Paul MacPhail, Valerie MacPhail,
Reel Robertson

Calendar

September 8
Rally Day

September 11
Wednesdays at First Resumes
Children's Choir Begins

September 17
JOY Fellowship Ladies' Tea

Looking Forward

October 6
World Communion Sunday

October 13
Healing and Wholeness Service
for Pregnancy and Infant Loss

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

To Ponder Prayerfully

"If you believe Jesus Christ is behind you and ahead of you,
then you can certainly believe that he is also above you.
This frees you to live under heaven every day of your life.
And that will make all of the difference in how you live your life.
In fact, it can make a world of difference."

- M. Craig Barnes

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
393 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302
(864) 583-4531
www.fpcspartanburg.org