First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



October 22, 2023

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!

Blue 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.

A Nursery is available for infants through age 3 in the Clark Bldg, Rooms 105 (Toddler) and 108 (Crib).

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.

✞Call to Worship

Praise the God of love.
We rejoice in this abundant love.
Praise the God of hope.
We sing praise for this life-giving hope.
Praise the God of new beginnings.
We give thanks for this chance at new life.

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

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Joanne R. Hull

Holy God,
you know us better than we know ourselves.
You see our need when we are blind to it.
You have made us to be yours.
In your compassion,
forgive us for our lack of faith and the harm we do to others and to your creation.
Forgive us for turning away from your will,
for ignoring the cries of our neighbors,
for failing to listen to what is most nourishing even for ourselves.
Let our faults fall from your eyes as you open ours.
Hear this and answer, in Jesus' holy name . . .

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Those who seek will find help and hope in God.
In Jesus we are raised to newness of life.
Friends, hear and believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

The Assurance of Pardon proclaims God's faithfulness. Our lives are redeemed by the saving grace of God – the Gospel in miniature. God does for us that we cannot do for ourselves.

✞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.

Let us greet one another as we share the love and peace of Christ.

Life of the Church

Call to Discipleship: Stewardship — Kristin Hamilton

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — Luke 18:35-43

Sermon — *This Is Our Story: Bartimaeus* — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Redeeming Grace* — arr. K. Lee Scott

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 817 — *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight* — Dunlap's Creek

What are you taking from worship? A new thought, a deep feeling, a glimpse of grace, a challenge? Where will you see God today? A hope or a prayer for the week?

✠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 — *Pasticcio* — Jean Langlais

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
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Living Hope*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church Call to Discipleship: Stewardship		Kristin Hamilton
Children's Time		
Scripture Reading	Luke 18:35-43	
Sermon	*This Is Our Story: Bartimaeus*	Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Anthem		*Your Name is Power*
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*Come Thou Fount (I Will Sing)*
✞Benediction		

The order of worship is called a liturgy, which quite literally means "work of the people." What we do together in prayer and praise, listening for and responding to God, proclaiming and confessing our faith, and engaging in forms of self-offering during this time of worship, is our work in this service.

✞ *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 — *Come! Come! Everybody Worship* — Natalie Sleeth

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✞Call to Worship — Rev. Joanne R. Hull

Praise the God of love.
We rejoice in this abundant love.
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Praise the God of new beginnings.
We give thanks for this chance at new life.

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

Acolyte — Huntington Clark

Prayer of Confession — Rev. L. Craig Foster

Holy God,
you know us better than we know ourselves.
You see our need when we are blind to it.
You have made us to be yours.
In your compassion,
forgive us for our lack of faith and the harm we do to others and to your creation.
Forgive us for turning away from your will,
for ignoring the cries of our neighbors,
for failing to listen to what is most nourishing even for ourselves.
Let our faults fall from your eyes as you open ours.
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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.
Let us greet one another as we share the love and peace of Christ.

Life of the Church

Stephen Ministry Recognition

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children

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 146 — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Second Reading — Luke 18:35-43

Sermon — *This Is Our Story: Bartimaeus* — 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.

The Apostles' Creed may originally have been a baptismal creed. While it is stated in the singular, it is meant to be used corporately. In saying it together we are united with the faithful of the church from all ages.

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.

Call to Discipleship: Stewardship — Kristin Hamilton

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *I Lift My Eyes Unto the Hills* — René Clausen

✠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 817 — *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight* — Dunlap's Creek

What are you taking from worship? A new thought, a deep feeling, a glimpse of grace, a challenge? Where will you see God today? A hope or a prayer for the week?

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Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Pasticcio* — Jean Langlais

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Alli Hoy
by her family.

Life of the Church
Sunday, October 22, 2023

This is Our Story . . .
First Presbyterian is in a season of storytelling with a church-wide focus this fall that we are calling: "This Is Our Story." Through worship, study, and mission, we are exploring the different ways that our individual and collective stories tell *the* Story of God's redemptive love at work all around us. We hope you will join us as - together - we bear witness to the good news that God's story is very much *still* being written.

Wednesdays at First - Oct 25
Full Schedule (see Calendar ---- >)

Come for Food, Faith, and Fellowship! Dinner is served 5:00-6:15pm in Fogartie Hall. Pre-registration for dinner is required by noon on Monday; online payment is preferred; use this QR Code to sign up.

Menu: Break-Feast for All! Ham and Cheese Casserole (Gluten Free), Sausage Casserole, Bacon, Sausage Gravy, Biscuits, Chicken & Waffles, Fruit Bar, Dessert, Beverage

Trunk or Treat @ WAF, Oct 25
Everyone is invited to Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 25, **outside the Family Life Center, 6:15–7:30pm**. This Youth-sponsored event will include decorated "trunks" for our children to Trick-or-Treat from as well as Face Painting and even a warm fire for S'mores! Children AND adults are invited to wear their Halloween costumes; an award will be given to the most creative Trunk. Need more info? Contact Carrie Coleman (ccoleman@fpcspartanburg.org) or Kara Clark (kclark@fpcspartanburg.org).

Church Basketball
Registration now for Church Basketball (grades 1-12). Scan the QR code to sign up prior to the **deadline of October 30**. Interested in coaching? Contact Colleen Darrall (cdarrall@fpcspartanburg.org).

Next Sunday: Kirkin!
On **Sunday, October 29**, at 8:30 and 11:00am, we will worship together in the Sanctuary for our Kirkin' o' the Tartans service. Each fall, First Presbyterian holds this powerful historic service, a remembrance of Presbyterianism's Scottish roots through special music and a procession of bagpipes and tartans. In our Kirkin' service, we remember ancient times, as well as past and present kith and kin, while asking God's help and blessings in the future. *Lemonade and cookies will be served following both services.*

If you are a **Tartan Banner owner** and would like to participate in the 8:30am or 11:00am Kirkin' o' the Tartans service, we need to know by this evening. Please scan this QR code to participate. A *mandatory rehearsal will be held in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, October 25, at 5:30pm.*

Stewardship 2024
Our stewardship season is an invitation to prayerfully consider how each of us can participate and contribute to *Living Out God's Story*. By supporting the ministry of First Presbyterian with gifts of time, talent, and treasure, you help to add your story to the Story unfolding all around us. Pledge cards are available on tables throughout the church. We encourage you to fill out a card with your estimate of giving for the coming year and return it to the church by **Stewardship Sunday** happening **October 29**. You can also make a pledge online by using the QR code provided here. Thank you!

Veterans / Active Service Personnel
In honor of Veterans Day, in the Worship Bulletin on Sunday, November 12, we will recognize current church members who have served OR are currently serving in the military. Please **submit church members' names and branch of military service by Monday, November 6** to Joanie Shackleton (jshackleton@fpcspartanburg.org / 208-2132).

Winter Warmth 2023

We need volunteers for our largest annual mission project, Winter Warmth, where we give brand-new coats to children in need across Spartanburg County. This year, the distribution will take place on **Saturday, November 11**. If you are interested in volunteering, please use this QR Code:

Do You Knit or Crochet?

In addition to coats, children will also be receiving hats and scarves, handmade by members of the church. If you are able to knit or crochet, we could really use your help in making it happen! Please **drop off your donations** in the Mission Closet, at WAF, or at the Church Receptionist's desk.

Questions? Email winterwarmth@gmail.com.

DR Mission Trip

Sign up to travel with Pastor Leslie, other church members, and local doctors to the **Dominican Republic February 3-10, 2024**. Medical as well as non-medical folks are encouraged to be a part of this wonderful ministry to the people of San Juan de la Maguana. Contact Leslie Lang or Greg Colbath for more info; use the QR Code to register. Deadline to signup is Friday, December 1.

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 go to fpcspartanburg.org/enews. Never miss out on the life of our church!

Tutor at Cleveland Academy

Are you able to commit to one hour a week to help end child poverty through the gift of literacy? Kindergarten Tutors are needed every day, 9am-10am, at Cleveland Academy to work in small groups with students. Please contact Mary Elizabeth Evans (mewevan@gmail.com) if you are interested and able to help.

Share Your Favorite Bible Story

We invite you to share your favorite Bible story from the Old or New Testament and what that story has meant to you. A selection of the submitted stories will be shared (with your permission) as part of our ***2023 Advent Devotion Book: The Stories that Shape Us***. Go to fpcspartanburg.org/stories - or use this QR code - to submit your story. Questions? Contact Craig Foster (cfoster@fpcspartanburg.org). Each story and reflection should be submitted by November 1, so don't delay!

Bus Trip to Thornwell, Nov 1

Join your church friends and take a road trip to Clinton, SC to visit Thornwell and Lush Acres Farm. On **Wednesday, November 1**, we will learn more about our church's long relationship with Thornwell and see their ministry in action. All are welcome! We will meet in the Family Life Center parking lot at 9:15am. Lunch plans to be determined. Return time is approximately 2:30pm. Use the QR Code to sign up or contact Ian Ritchings (iritchings@fpcspartanburg.org / 864-208-2139).

Blood Drive, November 5

The Blood Connection buses will be parked outside the Family Life Center on **Sun, Nov 5, 8am-1pm**; please stop in the Family Life Center Lobby to check in. Want to minimize your wait time? Pre-register with Beth Cecil (bcecil@fpcspartanburg.org).

WDS Substitutes Needed

The Weekday School at FPC is looking for substitute teachers for the 2023-24 school year. If you are interested in being a substitute, please contact Kris Graham, Director of the Weekday School (kgraham@fpcspartanburg.org / 864-706-0460).

Volunteer Opportunities . . .

Visit fpcspartanburg.org/ministry-finder.

Joining First Presbyterian

If you would like to become a member of First Presbyterian Church, please make your way to the **Church Parlor at 10:30am** on **Sunday, November 12**. Ministers and members of the Session will be there to greet you and welcome you into the membership of the church. Questions? Contact Rev. Joanne Hull; 864-208-2125 / jhull@fpcspartanburg.org.

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

Bible Alive – *Room 2208*
Emmaus – *Room 2207*
Abide – *Room 2200*
L.I.F.T. – *Room 2201*
Glory Days – *Purnell Room*

Today's Musicians

Early Worship: Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews

Contemporary Worship: Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals; Kolby Carrouth, drums; Cooper Cecil, electric guitar; Landon Hammett, keyboard/vocals; Anna Harkey, violin; Corey McDaniels, bass guitar

Traditional Worship: Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews; Chancel Choir; Angel Chatter Choir

Calendar

October 22

8:30am Early Worship (Chapel)
9:00am Contemporary Worship (Fogartie Hall)
10:00 Sunday School (9:45am Gathering Time)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

October 25

Wednesdays at First
5:00pm Dinner Line Opens (Fogartie Hall)
5:00pm Children's Choirs (Clark Building)
6:15pm Trunk or Treat (FLC Parking Lot)
7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

October 29

Kirkin' o' the Tartans
Stewardship Commitment Sunday
Reformation Sunday
8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
9:45am Fellowship (Parlor, Perrin Room)
10:00 Sunday School (9:45am Gathering Time)
11:00am Worship (Sanctuary)
12:15pm Fellowship (Front Lawn)
5:00pm Youth Pickleball Night (FLC)

Looking Forward

October 26

JOY Fellowship to Montreat

November 1

Bus Trip to Thornwell

November 5

All Saints' Day Observed
Blood Drive
Evening All Saints' Worship Service (Columbarium)

November 11

Winter Warmth Distribution

November 14

Presbytery Meeting (First, Anderson)

November 20

JOY Fellowship Friendsgiving

November 21

Spartanburg Community Thanksgiving Service
(Second Presbyterian Church, 438 N Church Street)

Front Cover: "Roundel with Christ Healing the Blind Man" from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library

Parts of today's liturgy are from the Abingdon Worship Annual and Feasting on the Word Worship Companion.

To Ponder Prayerfully

"When we honestly ask ourselves
which person in our lives means the most to us,
we often find that it is those who,
instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures,
have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds
with a warm and tender hand."

- Henri Nouwen

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. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor
Discipleship and Communications

Rev. Joanne R. Hull
Associate Pastor
Congregational Care and Deacons

Rev. Leslie A. Lang
Associate Pastor
Young Adults and Missions

Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise
Associate Pastor
Youth and Campus Ministries

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

Grace deMaine
Associate Director, Youth Ministry

Carrie Coleman
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Beth Cecil
Parish Nurse

Colleen Darrall
Director of Recreation

Pano Stathakis
Director of Hospitality

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

Shannon Hutcheson
Administrative Assistant
Children's and Adult Discipleship

Ian Ritchings
Administrative Assistant
Missions, Young Adults, Communications

Cathy Rush
Receptionist and Admin to Music

Joanie Shackleton
Administrative Assistant
Congregational Care and Deacons

Andy Mayfield
Grounds Manager

Judith Holbert
Tiffany Long
William Massey
Custodians

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