

WELCOME to  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
Spartanburg, SC



First Presbyterian Church is a community of  
believers committed to  
"Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together  
through Word and Deed."

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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

JANUARY 1, 2017

11:00AM - Sanctuary

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*What Is This Lovely Fragrance*

John Ferguson

#### † CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Christi O. Brown

One: Grace be unto you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Let hope, peace, joy, and love abound.**

One: Come let us worship the Lord who established a new covenant with us through his Son Jesus Christ.

All: **We come to offer ourselves and our lives to the Lord as we worship.**

† Please rise in  
body or spirit.

Please sign and  
pass the Ministry  
of Friendship  
Pad, note the  
names of those  
around you,  
and greet one  
another after  
worship.

This hymn focuses on each of the key players in the Christmas story, calling them from wherever they are to "Come and worship Christ, the newborn King." The angels were called from all over the earth, and the wise men from afar, while the shepherds were almost next door. As the hymn is sung, think about where you are coming from as you come to worship.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God,  
 we confess that we are a distracted people  
 and forgetful of your love.  
 We make selfish choices,  
 hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world.  
 We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry  
 and repent of our disregard for you,  
 each other, and your creation.  
 By the power of your Spirit,  
 forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
 to live in your light and walk in your truth.  
 We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ...

## SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: As children of the Holy One, God forgives you and loves you eternally.  
 By the power of God's Spirit, forgive yourself and forgive others  
 as God in Christ has forgiven you.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## † RESPONSE

GOD REST YOU MERRY

*God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
 Let nothing you dismay,  
 Remember Christ our Savior  
 Was born on Christmas Day;  
 To save us all from Satan's power  
 When we were gone astray.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy;  
 O tidings of comfort and joy.*

## † PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Rejoicing in Christ's life among us, let us share signs of welcome with one another.  
 The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet each other as we share the peace of Christ.

## LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Joanne R. Hull

# PROCLAIMING THE WORD

## SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Pew Bible Page 680

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

## SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 3:7-14; 4:10-13

Pew Bible Page 1024

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

All children are invited to the front of the sanctuary during The Word for Children.

## SERMON

*New Year, New You*

Rev. Joanne R. Hull

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## † HYMN 144

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

CRANHAM

[Hymn 144](#)

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal Page 35

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.

Though we do not know the time of year when Jesus was actually born, we do know that Israel, at any time of year, was not the windy, frozen scene the opening stanza of this hymn depicts. Nevertheless, the world was not a friendly place for Jesus even though the thermometer was above freezing. The middle stanzas describe the contrast between the glory of heaven from which Jesus came and the poor reality of the earth He came to save. The final stanza is a commitment that, in recognition of that sacrifice, we will devote ourselves to God.

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

## OFFERTORY

*Who at My Door is Standing*  
Chancel Choir

K. Lee Scott

## † DOXOLOGY

HYMN 133, V3

ADESTE FIDELES

*Sing, choirs of angels;  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all  
glory in the highest!  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!*

## † PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

# BEARING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

## CALL TO RENEWAL OF OUR COVENANT WITH GOD

### † RENEWAL OF OUR COVENANT WITH GOD (Unison)

I give myself completely to you, God.  
Assign me to my place in your creation.  
Let me suffer for you.  
Give me the work you would have me do.  
Give me many tasks or have me step aside while you call others.  
Put me forward or humble me.  
Give me riches or let me live in poverty.  
I freely give all that I am and all that I have to you.  
And, now, Holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
You are mine and I am yours.  
So be it.  
May this covenant made on earth continue for all eternity. Amen.

### † HYMN 150

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

DIX

### † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

James Kimball

#### Hymn 150

This hymn is a prayer for God's presence in our lives as we draw closer to Him. The Magi showed faith in God and eagerness, as well as sacrifice, in their journey to see the Christ-child. So may we live as though we really believe and eagerly look forward to the day when we shall one day see Him.

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*Many thanks to Bruce Campbell, organist, and Justin Boazman, conductor, for their musical leadership while Marcia and Holt Andrews are away.*

*For the hearing impaired: Our Sanctuary is equipped with a T-coil hearing loop. If your hearing aid or cochlear device is equipped with T-coil technology, please switch it to the "T", T-Coil, or telephone position for improved hearing during the service. Hearing aid devices are also available in the Narthex and Tower Room. Please ask an usher and return these to the Usher Stands when you exit. Thank you.*

*Large-print bulletins are available from the ushers upon request.*

# JANUARY 8 - - SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:45AM

## CHILDREN

Nursery (Birth-2K)

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Clark Building

Preschool (3K-5K)

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Clark Building

Elementary (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Clark Building

*To see your child's lesson for this week (Preschool and Elementary), visit [www.Deepbluekids.com](http://www.Deepbluekids.com).*

*Download the parent's lesson guide by selecting:*

*Curriculum> This Sunday> Choose your child's age group> Choose "All Hands on Deck" with today's date.*

*You can also download a free App to follow weekly lessons, games, music, and videos.*

## YOUTH

Youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Family Life Center

## ADULTS

**BIBLE ALIVE! (Room 2210)** *A talented and experienced teaching team leads this class for those who want to study the Bible in-depth, book by book.*

**CHOIR CLASS (Room 2208)** *This class uses the Uniform Lesson Series to frame their study and application of Bible texts to daily living. They meet from 10:00 to 10:30am to accommodate choir members, but anyone can join.*

**CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES (Room C212)** *This class explores and studies contemporary issues from a variety of perspectives using the Bible, the Christian faith and life, the Presbyterian/Reformed tradition, and World Christianity to form its conclusions.*

**EMMAUS CLASS (Room 2207)** *Join us on our journey as we welcome everyone, with eyes open towards Jesus. We are the loud class at the end of the hall, enjoying fellowship, coffee, and a fresh, new, scripture-based lesson each week.*

**FAITH DRIVEN (Room C210)** *This class is largely made up of parents of young children and seeks to learn more about the Bible and how to apply its truths within the workplace and the home.*

**FELLOWSHIP CLASS (Room 2212)** *Special, distinctive, and important: The host presents a scholarly and factual study of selected books of the Bible presented with a mature flair and wisdom. All ages feel at home with this loyal group.*

**OPEN CLASS (Room 2213)** *A small-group discussion of Christian themes in literature; open to all ages and points of view.*

**PURNELL CLASS (Purnell Room)** *For a hymn sing and an excellent Bible lesson, join this faithful group of men and women.*

**SPARK (Room 2216)** *This class is made up of young adults in their 20's and 30's, both single and married, with and without children, who are interested in connecting and building relationships with each other, while exploring Christianity and the Bible and their applications to life.*

**NOTE:** All rooms with a C in the room number are located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Clark Building. Room numbers in the 2000's are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Main Building. The Purnell Room is on the first floor of the main building.

# LIFE @ FIRST

JANUARY 1, 2017

Complete details at [www.fpcspartanburg.org](http://www.fpcspartanburg.org).  
Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

## WELCOME!

If you are visiting with us today, you are our honored guest! **Please sign the Fellowship Pad**, so that we may contact you.

*For more information about First Presbyterian, check the church website or see one of the Worship Greeters, holding the baskets.*

## JOINING FIRST PRES...

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please come to the Church Library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 10:30am. The Church Library is located on the first floor of the main building, on the hallway near the Chestnut Street Door. Ministers and members of the Session will be there to greet you. Additionally, a Welcome Class is held twice a year, which is open to all visitors interested in joining our church or to anyone wanting to learn more about the Presbyterian Church (USA).

*For more information, please contact Rev. Joanne Hull; 208-2125/jhull@fpcspartanburg.org or Joanie Shackleton; 208-2132/jshackleton@fpcspartanburg.org.*

## PASTORS ON-CALL

If you have a **Pastoral Emergency** after 5:00pm during the week or anytime over the weekend or on holidays, please call **208-2142**. The message will be sent to the pastoral care team member who is on-call and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

For pastoral needs for our youth, contact Jason Moore (804-9244).

## HELP RELIEVE HUNGER IN SPARTANBURG

**Next Sunday, January 8**, please bring canned goods and loose change to Worship to benefit Total Ministries of Spartanburg. As we celebrate Communion together, let us serve others through our gifts for hunger relief. Containers are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary and Fogartie Hall (MorningSong). **All nonperishable food items are welcomed!** Some suggestions: Peanut Butter, Canned Meat, Beef Stew, Soup, and Family-Size Beans and Rice (not 20\*lb bags).

## WEDNESDAYS AT FIRST RESUMES JANUARY 11

**Dinner:** The dinner line is open 5:00-6:15pm. **Menu for 1/11:** Salad Bar, Pot Roast with Rice and Gravy, Squash Casserole, Rolls, and Dessert. The dinner cost is \$7 for Adults and Youth (12 and older), \$6 for Seniors (55 and over), \$4 for Children - with a limit of \$20 per family of 4 or more.

**Dinner reservations** can be made by calling the church office (583-4531) or on our website (Grow/Registrations...) prior to noon on Monday, January 9.

**Fellowship:** After a delicious WAF dinner, enjoy a time of fellowship with your FPC friends in Fogartie Hall.

## REGISTER FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT

**January 27-29 at The Cove in Asheville.** The Rev. Katherine Smith will lead us in a time of learning, creativity, rejuvenation, and rest. Register today! The final deadline is January 15.

*Register online ([fpcspartanburg.org/events/wr](http://fpcspartanburg.org/events/wr)) or pick up a form at the church.*

## POINSETTIA BOOKLETS

Poinsettia books, noting memorials and honorariums, are available in the Tower Room, Narthex, and FLC Lobby.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY - NEW TRAINING CLASS BEGINS IN JAN

Over the last 23 years, we have offered 21 training courses and have trained 188 Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministers receive special training to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community who are experiencing life difficulties. **To learn how to become or receive care from a Stephen Minister, talk to one of the pastors or our parish nurse.** Applications can be found in the church office.

## INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FLOWER GUILD?

*For more information on being a member of the Flower Guild, please contact LeAnne Thurmond Holcombe; 864/621-0213.*



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PASTORAL COUNSELING

Pastoral Counseling, with Dr. Kirk Neely, is offered by the congregation for First Presbyterian Church members. There is no fee; a contribution may be made to underwrite the ministry. Counseling is on Tuesdays, by appointment only.

*To make an appointment, contact Didi Terry; 583-4531/dterry@fpcspartanburg.org.*

## ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Online giving provides the flexibility to give how you want, regardless of day or time. You can give ① through the church website, ② through text message to 864/309-0816, or ③ using the ShelbyNEXT / Giving app. Copies of "Your Guide to eGiving" are available in the church office.

*Questions? Contact Lynise Clarke; lclarke@fpcspartanburg.org / 208-2130.*

## NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS IN JANUARY

Looking at Jesus with Jewish Eyes, will begin the second week of January. This study, led by Nan and Tom McDaniel, will meet Tuesdays at noon in the Arthur Center and Thursdays at noon in the Church Library - pick the day of the week that suits you! The book, "The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus" by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine is available in the church office at a cost of \$10. The study begins January 10/12 and will conclude February 28/March 2.

*For more information, or to purchase a book, please contact Katie Resumovic; 208-2129/kresumovic@fpcspartanburg.org.*

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 29, immediately following the 11:00am worship service for the purpose of calling Mr. Jason Colin Moore as Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry, upon the successful completion of his final examination before the Presbytery examinations committee.

## CAMP ARCADIA NEEDS YOUR HELP

This coming year, Camp Arcadia will be taking on a revitalization and is looking for a Chairperson. You'll want to get in on the ground floor and learn the ropes in June 2017!

*If you are interested in leading this vibrant and vital mission beginning in **2018**, or simply have some questions, please contact  
Chris Curtis; Curtis1120@gmail.com  
or Penny Wright; pwright@fpcspartanburg.org).*

## CHURCH SECURITY CARD

Do you have a Church Member Picture ID? If not, apply for one now. You can get an application form and have your picture taken at the reception desk in the main building or the recreation office area in the Family Life Center. There is a fee of \$20. Church staff will call you when your ID is ready.

Carry the ID with you at all times so that you can enter church buildings if the doors are locked. If you lose it, a replacement will cost \$20.

## CALENDAR THIS WEEK

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

11:00am Sanctuary Worship  
5:15pm Neighborhood  
Meal Ministry

### MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Church Facilities Closed

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

10:30am BBC with Kirk Neely  
2:00pm Circle Bible Leader Meeting  
7:00pm BBC with Kirk Neely

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

12:00pm Men's Bible Study  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
12:30pm SPARK Men's Bible Study

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

6:30am Men's Bible Study  
7:00am Men's Bible Study

*AA meets 3 times per week - Tues, Thurs,  
and Fri at 7am in the Scout Hut.*

*For the complete schedule of FLC Classes:  
www.fpcspartanburg.org/grow/recreation.*

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## LOOKING FORWARD . . .

### JANUARY 8

Communion  
8:45 Sanctuary

Rev. Christi O. Brown

8:45 MorningSong & 11:00 Sanctuary  
Dr. Thomas E. Evans

### JANUARY 11

WAF Resumes

### JANUARY 14

MLK Walk As One

### JANUARY 16

Church Facilities Closed

These announcements are just a sampling of the church activities. For complete information, please pick up a First News in the Narthex, FLC Lobby, or church office - or visit the church website.

Scan this QR code for  
a direct link.



## ***MISSION THAT SERVES OUR NEIGHBORS AND OUR GOD***

*Our congregation serves God and our neighbors at home and abroad with these local and international missions.*

### **LOCAL MISSIONS**

**Poverty:** Monthly Hunger Offering; Mobile Meals; Winter Warmth; TOTAL Ministries; Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network (SPIHN); Habitat for Humanity; The Haven; CAST Program; **Healing:** Angel Tree; St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic; Children's Advocacy Center; HOPE Center for Children; SAFE Homes/Rape Crisis Network; Thornwell Home for Children; Presbyterian Communities of SC; Disaster Relief: One Great Hour of Sharing, Disaster Response Action Team; Kairos Prison Ministry; MLK, Jr. Celebration; Refugee Relief; **Education:** Pine Street Elementary Tutoring; Boys & Girls Clubs; Spartanburg Presbyterian Student Association (UKIRK); Arcadia Outreach Ministry; Presbytery Unified Funds; The Shepherd's Center; Adult Learning Center

### **INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS**

**Missionaries:** Support for 4 missionaries - **Jo Ella Holman**, Cuba and Dominican Republic; **Mark Hare and Jenny Bent**, mission co-workers in Haiti and the Dominican Republic; **Mission Workers Serving with Kurds**; **Mission Workers Serving in the Middle East**; **Dominican Republic:** Clinica Cristiana; Center for Christian Education & Development (CCED School); Sponsorship of CCED School Children; Infant Nutrition Program; **Cuba:** Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada in Santa Clara partnership; **Haiti:** Haiti Outreach Ministries; **Philippines:** Precious Heritage Ministries orphanage and feeding program for street children; **Witness Season**; **Bread for the World**

***This week, please pray for this PC(USA) Missionary:  
Ruth Brown (Democratic Republic of the Congo).***

## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

### **SESSION**

**Class of 2017:** Cathy Bagwell, Colleen Ballance, De Calvert, Kyle Clelland, Celia Cogdell, Cliff Gaubert, Brandt Goodwin, Kim Keith, Whit Kennedy, Tom King, Sanders Lee, Sylvia Spears, Monica Threatt, Linda West, Elizabeth Young

**Class of 2018:** Fran Bagwell, David Beacham, Roy Berry, Leslie Calicutt, Mark Coleman, Mary Dixon, Ken Frick, Mark Hicklin, David Ike, Kay McClure, Nan McDaniel, Kam Neely, Susan Oldham, Carter Smith, Pat Tatham

**Class of 2019:** Bert Barre, David Berry, Jennifer Biber, Mark Cann, Dick Carr, David Cecil, Fred Cumbo, Sally Dover, Emma Harrill, Ann Jones, Stan Lummus, Eric Nease, Richard Strasburger, Winnie Walsh, Lewis White

### **DIACONATE**

**Class of 2017:** Will Adair, Vic Bailey, Gail Ballard, Dawn Bingham, Jason Blanton, Steven Blanton, Bill Cummings, Carroll Easterling, John Faris, Rob Hammett, Harriet Ike, Robby Kocisko, Laura Ringo, Mary Tygett, Mac White

**Class of 2018:** Marjorie Appiah, Randy Barre, Budge Bean, Margie Beckett, Randall Chambers, Erin Chastain, Max Hyde, Brenda James, Donna Kennedy, Andy Lancaster, Lisa Lefebvre, Melissa Morehead, Juli Robertson, Joy Shackelford, Brand Stille

**Class of 2019:** Katherine Burns, Harry Clayton, Molly Colbath, Mary Deller, John Donovan, Phillip Glover, Carol Gutman, Marsha Hagins, Anne Hicklin, LeAnne Holcombe, Eunice Knouse, Tommy Rudeen, Denise Stevens, John Tatham, Alan Workman

## **STAFF**

**Dr. Thomas E. Evans**, Senior Pastor; **Rev. L. Craig Foster**, Associate Pastor, Education/Discipleship; **Rev. Joanne R. Hull**, Associate Pastor, Congregational Care; **Rev. Christi O. Brown**, Pastoral Associate for Missions; **Holt Andrews**, Director of Music; **Marcia Andrews**, Assistant Director of Music and Organist; **Jason Moore**, Director of Youth Ministry; **Penny Wright**, Assistant Director of Youth; **Beth Burris**, Director of Children's Ministries; **Beth Cecil**, Parish Nurse; **Colleen McCullough**, Director of Recreation; **Jane Mullins**, Director of Hospitality



**First Presbyterian Church**

393 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302-1917

864/583-4531 [www.fpcspartanburg.org](http://www.fpcspartanburg.org)