



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.”

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

APRIL 25, 2021

8:45AM and 11:00AM

SANCTUARY

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND INVITATION

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

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY

ACOLYTE (11:00)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Dale Wood

INTROIT

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

St. Catherine

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

The Lord does not faint or grow weary; God’s understanding is unsearchable.

All: **God gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.**

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:28-31

One: Let us worship God!

✦ *Please Stand*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God,
 we open our hearts to you and confess our sin.
 Forgive the fear within us that keeps us from doing what love requires;
 forgive the prejudice that leads us to judge our neighbors;
 forgive the greed that causes us to hoard your gifts;
 forgive the indifference that prevents us from caring for the vulnerable, the forgotten and the troubled.
 Have mercy upon us, and fill us with your Spirit
 so that we may live new lives of courage, generosity, compassion, and love.
 We ask this in the name of Christ . . .

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news! God's mercy is deeper than the ocean;
 God grace is wider than the earth; God's love is higher than the heavens.
All: We rejoice in this good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

✠RESPONSE

HYMN 236

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

VICTORY

*The strife is o'er, the battle done;
 the victory of life is won;
 the song of triumph has begun.
 Alleluia!*

*The powers of death have done their worst,
 but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
 let shouts of holy joy outburst.
 Alleluia!*

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: God has received us, pardoned us, and loved us;
 let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ.
 Peace be with you.
All: And also with you.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (11:00)

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3:1-3, 16-18

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:1-5; 19:13-15

SERMON

His Name Was Jack

Dr. Lewis F. Galloway

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

(from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

LITANY FOR THE CHILDREN

One: Almighty God, from whom we receive our life, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children.

All: We are parents, teachers, grandparents, neighbors, family members, and friends called to nurture their gifts, to care for their needs, and to lead them to know and love you. As we bring them up, give us calm strength and patient wisdom, that we may teach them to love whatever is just, true, and good as we follow the example of Jesus.

One: Great God, guard the gifts, joys, and laughter of children.
Bring them safely through injury, danger, and illness,
so they may live the abundant life you promise to all your children.

**All: We thank you for their energy and curiosity;
for their brave play and startling frankness;
for their sudden sympathies and eager minds.**

One: We pray for the children of our community and world
who are hungry, thirsty, unwanted, unloved, abused, or abandoned.
We pray for the children on our borders separated from their families.

**All: We praise you for foster parents and adoptive families,
for social workers and therapists, for caregivers and teachers,
and all who dedicate their lives for the health and wellbeing of children.
Guide us in our efforts to end child poverty, hunger, and homelessness.**

One: We pray for those who teach and lead in our Sunday School,
youth and scout programs, and our Weekday School.

**All: As we care for the children and youth entrusted to our care,
may we see each one as your beloved child whom you welcome and bless.**

One: We offer these and all prayers in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray together . . .

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

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP: STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

(8:45)

So Art Thou to Me

K. Lee Scott

(11:00)

See What Love

Felix Mendelssohn

☩ DOXOLOGY

HYMN 606

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*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.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BEARING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

✦HYMN 22

God of the Sparrow

ROEDER

✦CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Alleluia No. 1

*Alleluia, Alleluia!
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Give praise to his name.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Allegro" from Concerto No. 3

Johann Walther

The Flowers in the Sanctuary

*are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Elizabeth Chapman Quantz McMeekin
by Sarah, Tom, and Thomas McMeekin.*

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICES

Dr. Lewis F. Galloway
Rev. L. Craig Foster
Rev. Joanne R. Hull
Mrs. Holly M. Bannan

Mr. Resce H. Youngblood, Acolyte
Mr. Charles S. Wilson II, Reader
Mrs. Kathryn G. Bridges, Elder

Holt Andrews, Director
Marcia Andrews, Organist

Additional Musicians
Valerie MacPhail
Paul MacPhail

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

for SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021

TODAY IS "BLUE SUNDAY" Today we recognize Blue Sunday - a day to increase awareness among churches and their members of the impact of Child Abuse in their community with a focus on prevention. We lift the needs of children and their families in our prayers today. For more information, please visit bluesunday.org.

CHECK IN TO WORSHIP!

If you are a church member, download the *ShelbyNext | Membership App*. After you download and launch the app, enter "firstpres.shelbynextchms.com" for the domain and your username and password. Instructions on how to get your username and password: fpcspartanburg.org/discover/member-login. Once you have the app downloaded, each Sunday when you arrive at church, open your ShelbyNext App and click "Check In" ("allow" it to know your location). Then click on "who" you are checking in, choose the worship service, then "Done."

If you would prefer not to download this app or you are one of our precious visitors, please check in at fpcspartanburg.org/worship.

If you prefer paper: Fill out the Sign-In Form located in your pew and leave it in the Offering Plate as you exit.

WEDNESDAYS AT FIRST - APRIL 28: Dinner: 5:00-6:00pm; Programs: 6:00-7:00pm. Pick up your meal under the FLC Porte-cochère (feel free to drive thru) and then find a spot on the grounds to eat. You may eat in your car or bring a chair/blanket and eat on the grounds. Afterwards, there are programs for children, youth, and adults. Lewis Galloway is leading a seven-week series on Galatians, "What Does it Mean to be Free?" in Fogartie Hall.

RSVP for Dinner Only (by Mon, April 26): Hamburger with Peppers and Onions, Rice and Gravy, Corn, Roll, Dessert, and Bottled Water. Kids Menu: Chicken Fingers, Mac and Cheese, Applesauce, Dessert, and Juice. Sign up today via the church website - click on the WAF event on the church homepage: fpcspartanburg.org.

THE CHAPEL IS OPEN FOR PRAYER Monday-Friday, 9am-1pm for you to come and sit and pray in the stillness of God. We ask that you wear a mask while inside and maintain social distancing protocols. If you are not comfortable coming inside, feel free to sit in the Columbarium. You can also place any personal prayer needs in the Chapel prayer box and a member of our staff will be present in the Chapel to pray over your requests.

FOCUS: A FAMILY EXPERIENCE - JUNE 13-16 Are you ready to deepen your faith as a family this summer? This year, FPC is excited to announce a **"family camp" style VBS!** Join us June 13-16, 5:30-7:30pm, to dive deeper in your faith. We will have dinner on the lawn, opening break-out sessions (children, youth, and adults), family-Bible/activity time, then have a closing time together. This experience is open to children and youth of all ages. Mark your calendar and join us for this awesome week together! Register today: fpcspartanburg.org/vbs.

PNC UPDATE: Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been meeting weekly and is now in the process of hearing from interested candidates. Please check out the webpage at fpcspartanburg.org/pnc. You will find a copy of the Mission Information Form (MIF) as well as a "map" of the search process developed by our Presbytery. There is a link on this page to email the PNC directly; they invite your input and communication. As always, please remember the PNC in your daily prayers: David Beacham, Chair; Bert Barre; Randall Chambers; Molly Colbath; Suzy Cole; Harriet Ike; Whit Kennedy; Craig Kocisko; Carter Smith.

THESE DAYS DAILY DEVOTIONAL NOW AVAILABLE The April-June edition of *These Days* daily devotional is now available. Pick up your copy in the church office or we can mail to you. Contact the church office for more information.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY: If you would like to place Memorial or Tribute Floral Arrangements in the Sanctuary, there are available dates in June, July, and August. For more information, please contact LeAnne Thurmond (864-621-0213; leanne.thurmond@gmail.com).

THE FPC GYM IS REOPENING! Mondays-Thursdays, 9am-1pm & 5pm-8pm; Fridays, 9am-5pm. Masks and social distancing will be required. Additionally, Yoga will begin on Thursdays at 11am. For more information about this or any of our Group Classes (in person or zoom), please contact Colleen Darrall, Recreation Director; cdarrall@fpcspartanburg.org.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

Check out www.fpcspartanburg.org/ministry-finder.

OFFICE HOURS: The Church Office is open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (closed for lunch, 1-2pm). Please ring the doorbell or call and make an appointment. Additionally, feel free to contact us via email or phone. All email addresses and phone extensions can be found here: fpcspartanburg.org/staff.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children

Nursery: 6 months – 3 years in Room C105

Preschool: Room C110

Elementary: Room C201

Children's Worship (11am): Room C207

Youth

Middle and High School students will meet together in the High School Room.

Adults

Bible Alive! Room 2208

Christian Perspectives: Room C212

Faith Driven & Young Adults: Gather in Room C210 for a time of fellowship and reconnecting

LIFT: Fogartie Hall

Open Class: Room 2216

Purnell Fellowship Class: Purnell Room

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES AND OTHER DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Tickled Pink (Women Study): Tuesdays through May 4 at 9:30am in Fogartie Hall

Book Study with Nan & Tom McDaniel: Tuesdays or Thursdays at Noon on Zoom

Christians in the Making (Women's Study): Wednesdays at 10am in the Purnell Room

Mom Moment with Ansley Page: Wednesdays at noon on Zoom

Men's Bible Study: Wednesdays at noon on Zoom

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

Middle School Girl's Bible Study: Fridays at 4:30pm at Starbucks (E. Main and Montview)

WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Sunday School Classes Meet In-Person

- 8:45am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:45am MorningSong Worship (Fogartie Hall)
- 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY, MAY 2

Communion Observed in All Three Worship Services

- 8:45am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
 - 8:45am MorningSong Worship (Fogartie Hall)
 - 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- Confirmands Recognized during 11am Worship*

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Mother's Day

- 8:45am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:45am MorningSong Worship (Fogartie Hall)
- 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY, MAY 16

- 8:45am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
 - 8:45am MorningSong Worship (Fogartie Hall)
 - 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- Baccalaureate Recognition during 11am Worship*

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Celebrate the birthday of the Christian Church - Wear Red!

- 8:45am Pentecost Worship (Sanctuary)
Fellowship in the FLC Parking Lot
- 11:00am Pentecost Worship (Sanctuary)
Fellowship in the FLC Parking Lot

SUNDAY, MAY 30

Trinity Sunday

- 11:00am Worship As One (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

Communion Observed in Both Worship Services

- 8:45am MorningSong Worship (Fogartie Hall)
- 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)



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