

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

NOVEMBER 22, 2020

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

11:00AM SANCTUARY

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND INVITATION

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

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

INTROIT

ACOLYTE

Sing out My Soul

Taizé Community

✠ Please Stand

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed be the Lord God who looks with kindness on us.

**All: We are the inheritors of the promises
made long ago to our ancestors.**

One: Blessed be the Lord God who gathers us here in this place.

**All: From across the street,
from halfway around the world,
God brings us home to the heart of grace.**

One: Blessed be the Lord God who has remembered us.

**All: Scoffers and singers,
watchers and wigglers,
we are those redeemed by God.**

✦ HYMN 367

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

*Hymn printed at end of bulletin
(Verses 1 & 4)*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us come with our prayers of confession and need to the One who prepares the way for our words.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

In these moments, Remembering God,
we bring to you all the ways we have not
lived as your people:
we stand by watching
while those in need struggle to survive;
we cast our lots with those
who worship power and success;
we offer insults rather than words of grace
to those who care for us;
we scoff at your words
which call us to a different lifestyle.

Forgive us, God of Mercy,
for not knowing what we do to you, to others, to ourselves.

Speak to us through Jesus Christ, our King and our Savior,
who bears words filled with your tender mercy and gracious hope.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray...

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: This is the good news: God remembers! Not our sins, not our foolish lives, not our rebellion.
God remembers us - and redeems us!

**All: God prepares the way for us - the way to grace, to hope, to new life.
Joyfully, we offer our thanks to God. Amen.**

✦ RESPONSE

KREMSE

*We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus,
let us be reconciled to each other.
The peace of the Lord be with you all.

All: And also with you.

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

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy is the Lord

Franz Schubert

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 12: 1-2; 12-13; 18-24

One: Hear what the Spirit speaks to the Church.

SERMON

Faith Faces Fragmentation

Dr. J. Lewis Johnson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Unison)

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 (Unison)

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: WINTER WARMTH

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Dale Wood

✠ 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 643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Hymn printed at end of bulletin
(Verses 1 & 3)*

✠ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✠ CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Now Thank We All Our God

J S Bach

The Flowers in the Sanctuary

*are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of*

*Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Chapman, Jr. and Mr. Robert H. Chapman III
by Sadie Chapman Jackson and John Chapman and their families.*

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Dr. J. Lewis Johnson
Rev. L. Craig Foster
Rev. Joanne R. Hull

Ms. Allie Ballenger

Mr. Henry S. Phillips, Acolyte

Holt Andrews, Director
Marcia Andrews, Organist

Additional Musicians

Valerie MacPhail
Lisa Cunningham
Reel Robertson
Paul MacPhail

Chancel Choir

A FEW REMINDERS FOR US ALL:

It is important to wear your mask while on the Church Campus.

Observe Social Distancing with other households.

Hand sanitizer stations are available in the Narthex and Tower Room.

Smile with your eyes; wave at your neighbor.

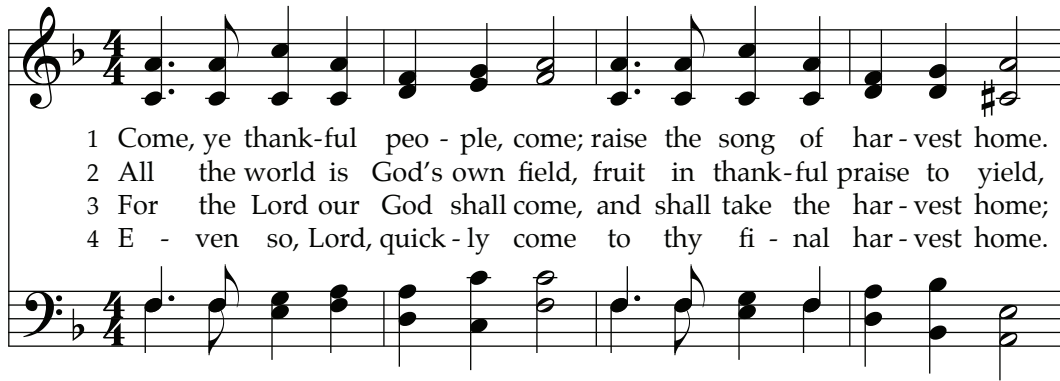
In order to maintain social distancing, please exit as dismissed by the ushers.

Feel free to fellowship outdoors prior to and following the worship service.

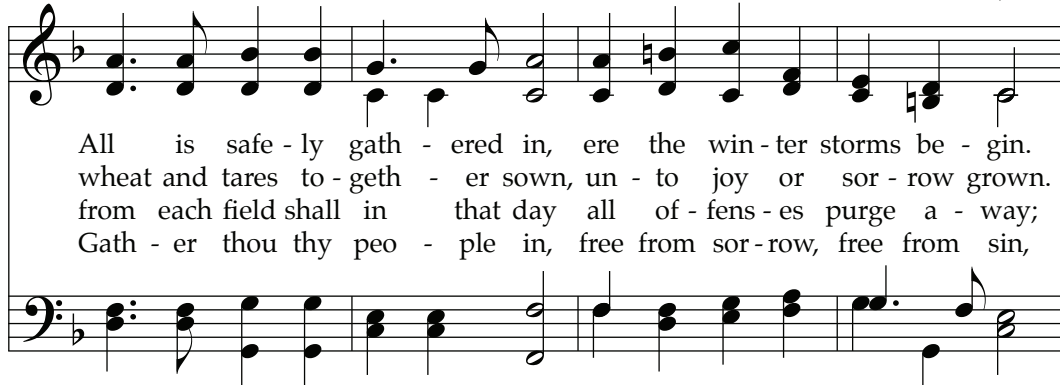
Thank you for your assistance.

Our ability to keep the church open depends on everyone following these COVID-19 protocols.

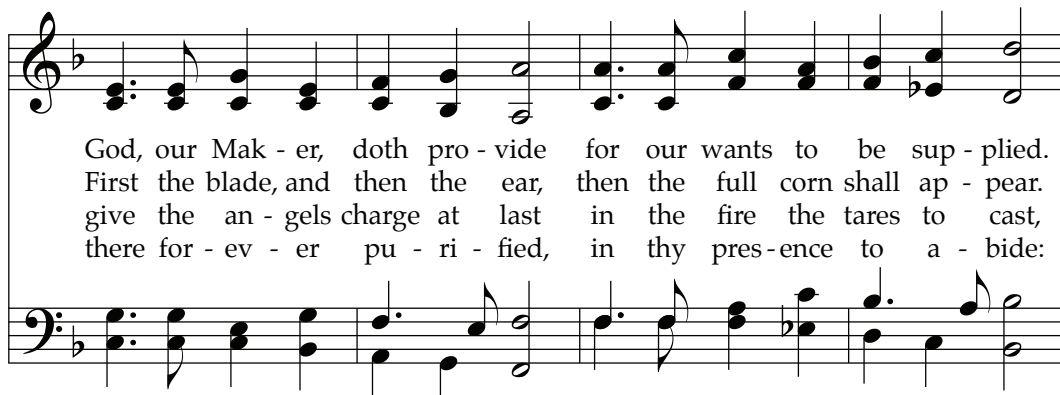
367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



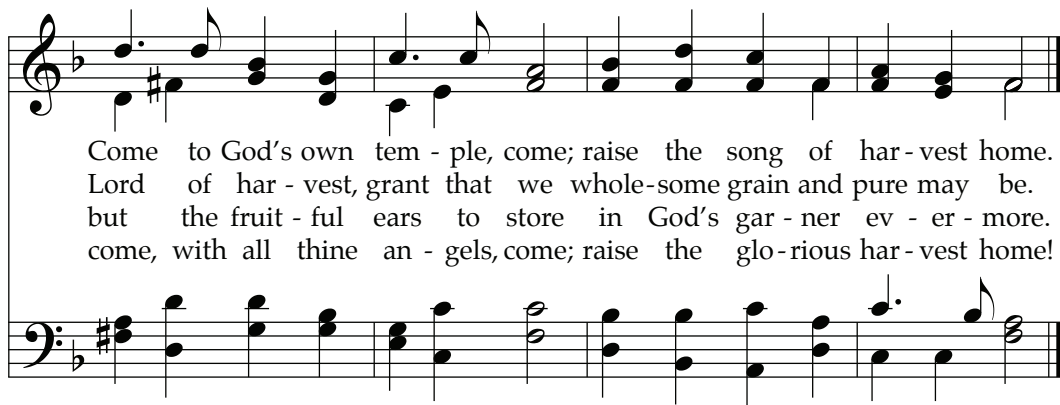
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:




Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.


643 Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:




who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,




with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.



Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

THE ANNUAL SPARTANBURG COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE will be held on **Tuesday, November 24, 6:30-7:30pm**. Hosted by Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, this virtual Livestream Event will be on their Facebook page and their YouTube channel. All proceeds taken during the evening's offering will benefit Angels Charge Ministry, a nonprofit serving incarcerated women in Spartanburg County. You may give your offering for this online (http://bit.ly/SIFA2020_TS). The Spartanburg County Foundation will match the offering up to \$5,000. Pastor Leslie Lang will be preaching. Plan to join in on this Special Service.

WHITE GIFTS will look a little different this year, but First Presbyterian Church will continue to bless several organizations with gifts wrapped in white for those they serve. Each Sunday in Advent, we will collect gifts for an identified organization. For the wish lists of each organization, visit www.fpcspartanburg.com/whitegifts! There is also an option on this page to Give a Monetary Donation.

Sunday, November 29 - Thornwell

Sunday, December 6 - Cleveland Academy of Leadership

Sunday, December 13 - Mobile Meals

Sunday, December 20 - Hope Center for Children

Please bring your gift to the Front of the Sanctuary/MorningSong Worship either... 1) Prior to the service; 2) Following the service; or 3) You may let your child(ren) bring it forward during The Word for Children.

ANGEL TREE: This holiday season FPC will participate in Virtual Angel Tree (no contact) to remind the local children of prisoners we support each year that they are loved and not forgotten, not only by their incarcerated parents but also by their Heavenly Father. Angel Tags will be provided virtually for volunteers to sponsor. Individuals will pay online to sponsor each gift package and the sponsored gifts will be sent directly to the Angel Tree kids. Each gift package will include a gift card, a personal message from the parent, an age-appropriate Gospel presentation, and an opportunity to request a Bible. Stayed tuned for more information on how to support this long-standing, impactful ministry. Questions? Contact Brandt Goodwin (brandtgoodwin@gmail.com).

PARTICIPATE IN A REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR: Start with an empty box and each day, add the designated item to your box. On Christmas Eve, bring your full box to church. All donations will go to TOTAL Ministries. Decorate your box with Christmas/Advent theme and fill it so we can share hope and joy to others this Advent season (see list in First News and on church website).

ADVENT AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

First Sunday of Advent, November 29: Family Advent Celebration

Second Sunday of Advent, December 6

- Communion in Morning Worship Services
- 5:00pm Shelter Worship Service in Fogartie Hall

Third Sunday of Advent, December 13: Special Music in Sanctuary Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20

- Lessons and Carols in MorningSong
- Special Broadcast of 2019 Moravian Love Feat

Monday, December 21: Service of Comfort and Light - 6:00pm, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

- 11:00am Christmas Eve Worship - Sanctuary
- 4:00pm Family Service – Front Lawn (rain location: Gym)
- 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Front Lawn (rain location: Sanctuary)
- 11:00pm We will be rebroadcasting our 2019 Messiah Service, featuring our Chancel Choir.