

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SPARTANBURG, SC



JULY 20, 2025
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
11:00AM SUMMER WORSHIP

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 worshipping 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 the QR Codes. The ShelbyNext QR code will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you may give via Venmo or 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.*



ShelbyNext



Venmo

SUMMER WORSHIP

11:00AM

SANCTUARY

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND INVITATION

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

INTROIT

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

arr. Moses Hogan

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace deMaine

The God who speaks comfort to us
calls us here.
The God who addresses us with tenderness
meets us here.
The God who guides us with gentleness
cares for us here.
We come to prepare a way for the Lord.
We come to ready ourselves for the transformation of our lives.
For the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.

We begin our worship service with the Call to Worship as a way of centering ourselves and directing our acts of worship. God calls us to worship in spirit and in truth, and it is the longing of every human heart to worship God. To paraphrase St. Augustine, our hearts cannot rest until they rest in thee.

✦ HYMN 825

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

SWING LOW

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. L. Craig Foster

Holy God,
You created the world with the words of your mouth,
and through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
you spoke salvation and love into being.
Forgive us when we use our words to speak
hatred instead of love,
criticism instead of encouragement,
judgement instead of care,
blame instead of curiosity.
May our gentleness be known to everyone,
And may we speak peace into our hurting and broken world.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

✦ RESPONSE

HYMN 623, v. 1&3

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul. (x2)
I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean;
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul. (x2)

✦ 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

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

Kum ba Yah

KUM BA YAH

*Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!*

FIRST READING

Galatians 5:22-23

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

SERMON

Rooted in the Spirit: Gentleness Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rev. Leslie L. Denny

FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

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

The gesture is simple, but the meaning is profound. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, the ultimate peacemaker. In the midst of divisions, we symbolize our unity through handshakes and hugs. Likewise, when we regularly pass the peace we practice God's call to make every effort to maintain the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3).

OFFERTORY

Cornerstone

Shawn Kirchner

Offertory text can be found on the last page of the bulletin.

✦ DOXOLOGY

GLORY TO GOD

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. Is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Doxology literally means "words of glory." Doxologies have long been used by Jews and Christians to praise God. We honor and thank God "from whom all blessings flow."

✦ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BEARING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Amen

Jester Hairston

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Amen

arr. Fred Bock

Sermon Series: Rooted in the Spirit

This summer, we invite you to explore the fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. In a world where promises are easily broken and hope can feel fragile, these are God's enduring gifts to us — signs of grace that take root even in disappointment. Come be grounded, encouraged, and renewed by the Holy Spirit's quiet but abiding work in and among us.

Special Music

The African-American spiritual had its roots in the songs slaves brought with them to this country from Africa and the Caribbean. As the slaves became Christian they adapted the words to reflect their new-found faith.

The spirituals of the 1800s tended to be "call and response"...that is, a leader would sing and the people would reply. In the early 1900s, the Fisk University Jubilee Singers of Nashville began to arrange spirituals in choral form, and the anthems in this service are a direct outgrowth of their work.

The short history lesson aside, spirituals have developed a worldwide following because of their immediate emotional impact and their unbridled expressions of sacred joy and sorrow (sometimes simultaneously!).

The Flowers in the Sanctuary

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

Mr. and Mrs. William Clarke Cannon, Mr. William Z. Cannon,

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Dudley Ward, Sr. (Mary Zimmerman),

Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Cannon, Miss Eloise Zimmerman, and Miss Nora Zimmerman

by Mary Zimmerman Cannon.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025

TICKLED PINK POP UP PARTY

Ladies, join us for a mid-summer boost of friendship, fun and faith Tuesday, **July 22**, 9:30-10:30am in Fogartie Hall. We will have light refreshments, fellowship, and a short devotion. Come a little early if you'd like extra time to visit. Wear your summer pink and bring a friend! Let's beat the heat and summer blah's together. We can't wait to see you!

PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH

Please pray for the youth going on the Middle School Mission Experience and Montreat Youth Conference this coming week. There are still summer activities to get involved in. Scan the QR code for details and to sign up. Contact Carrie Coleman at ccoleman@fpcspartanburg.org with questions.



ORDER YOUR KIRKIN' BANNER

Now is the time to order your family's banner for Kirkin' o' the Tartans, which will be held Sunday, October 26. The fabric is ordered from Scotland so please complete the order form at fpcspartanburg.org/tartan by **Friday, July 25**.

SUMMER CHOIR - CORRECTION!

Summer Choir will sing in the month of August! Anyone high school age and up is welcome to sing with the Summer Choir. All you have to do is attend rehearsal at 10:15am and learn the music for the 11:00am service that day. Contact Holt Andrews at rhandrews@fpcspartanburg.org with questions.

WOMEN'S CONNECTION: 2 SPOTS LEFT!

There are still two spots left for the Montreat Women's Conference **August 8-10**. Both are in Assembly Inn with private room/shared bath for \$425 total. If you are interested in this time of renewal, visit fpcspartanburg.org/womensconnection or scan the QR code.



YOUNG ADULT POP UP HAPPY HOUR

Come beat the heat, enjoy some fellowship, and catch up with others from FPC at Rockers on Wednesday, **July 23**, 5:00-7:00pm. Contact Pastor Leslie at llang@fpcspartanburg.org if you plan to come. Invite a friend!

SPARTANBURGERS NIGHT: NEW DATE!

Due to weather, the original FPC Family Night at the Spartanburgers Game was canceled. We have arranged for another evening at Fifth Third Park on Thursday, **July 31**. If you purchased tickets for the June 25 game, exchange them by calling (864) 594-0700 and speaking to the Tickets Operations Manager. Please tell them you are with FPC. You may purchase tickets at fpcspartanburg.org/baseball. We look forward to a fun night at the ball park (and pray for great weather this time)!

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Are you ready to join FPC, but unsure of what the next steps are and unsure of the process? Have you wondered why membership matters? Church membership fosters deeper connections with fellow believers, creating a sense of belonging and shared purpose; it is an expression of our commitment to God and our faith.

Membership offers a stronger sense of community, opportunities for spiritual growth, and a platform for service and contribution. Church members can rely on each other for encouragement, prayer, and practical support during difficult times. Church membership opens doors to various ministries and service opportunities, allowing individuals to use their gifts and talents to benefit the church and the wider community.

We would love to have you add your gifts, energy, and love to the body of Christ at FPC. The next opportunity to join the church is Sunday, **August 10** at 10:30am in the Parlor. Contact Cathy Bagwell, (cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org) Visitor and New Member Coordinator. She is ready to help you through the process and answer your questions!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10AM (GATHERING TIME - 9:45AM)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Nursery – Room C105 (Clark Building)
Preschool (3K-5K) – Room C110 (Clark Building)
1st–5th Grade - Large Private Dining Room
(Outside of Fogartie Hall)
Youth - Second Floor of the Family Life Center

COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

This summer in worship we will be exploring the Fruit of the Spirit, and in Adult Sunday School, we will hear from members of our congregation as they share how the Spirit works through them as they live out their faith outside the walls of the church. Join us each Sunday at 10:00am in Fogartie Hall to hear from a different member of our congregation.

July 20

Amy Curtis

Medical Director, Gibbs Cancer Center

July 27

Suzy Cole

Attorney to Nonprofits

August 3

Rick Beltram

Owner, B Square Enterprises

August 10

Rev. L. Craig Foster

Associate Pastor for Discipleship

August 17

Dr. Steven P. Eason

Retired Pastor, Myers Park Presbyterian Church

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Matias Mariani, Bruce Campbell,
Lisa Cunningham, Janet Kuntz, Paul MacPhail,
Mary Dixon, Tweeetie Bowman, Sarye Glenn,
Summer Choir

*Cover Image: Flow of Life by Gesa Reuter
Parts of today's liturgy are from Moira Laidlaw
(Liturgies Online)*

Offertory

*Cornerstone
Shawn Kirchner*

*O the stone that the builders rejected
became the cornerstone of a whole new world.
A grain of wheat may be knocked to the ground
and suffer through the winter's cold,
only to rise right up again
And bear its seed a thousandfold.*

*Never can our journey fail;
a little child will lead the way,
whose eyes are filled with a shining light,
to whom the night is bright as day.*

*The love that rolls the stone away
gives us life that we may sing
"Grave where is thy victory?
Death, o death where is thy sing?"*

*Adapted from Psalm 118:22, Isaiah 11:6, John 12:24,
1 Corinthians 15:55*

CALENDAR

JULY 20

SPIRITUAL MUSIC SUNDAY

JULY 20-26

Montreat Youth Conference (High School)

JULY 21-24

Middle School Mission Experience at P.C.

JULY 27

BLUEGRASS SUNDAY (SANCTUARY)

JULY 31

FPC Spartanburgers Night

LOOKING AHEAD

AUGUST 8-10

Women's Connection at Montreat

AUGUST 10

Blessing of the Backpacks

AUGUST 24

Rally Day

SEPTEMBER 10

Wednesdays at First Returns

SEPTEMBER 14-21

Host Church for A Way Home (formerly SPIHN)

OCTOBER 25

Winter Warmth

OCTOBER 26

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

TO PONDER PRAYERFULLY

“I think maybe God was trying to tell me that gentleness begins with strength, quietness with security. A great tree is both moved and unmoved, for it changes with the seasons, but its roots keep it anchored to the ground. Mastering a gentle and quiet spirit doesn’t mean changing my personality, just regaining control of it, growing strong enough to hold back and secure enough to soften.”

- Rachel Held Evans

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. Leslie L. Denny
Associate Pastor
Young Adults and Missions

Rev. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor
Discipleship

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Associate Pastor
Congregational Care

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
Director of Finance

Joanie Shackleton
Assistant Director of Finance
and Mission Support

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
Weekday School, Children’s and
Adult Discipleship

Cathy Rush
Receptionist and
Admin to Music

Kerri Bell
Administrative Assistant
Congregational Care and Deacons

Andy Mayfield
Grounds Manager

Judith Holbert
Tiffany Long
William Massey
Custodians



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