

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

## WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

*\*Rise in body or in spirit... (as indicated below)*

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* SHOWALTER/arr. Jason W. Krug  
The Roy S. Hutchinson Joyful Ringers Handbell Quartet  
Cynthia Johnson, Gary Johnson, Marsha Roberts and Chandler Thomas  
ML Marley, piano

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 236, v. 4)

*The Strife Is O'er* VICTORY

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 86

One: All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

**All: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.**

One: We will give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with our whole heart, and we will glorify your name forever.

**All: For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of the pit.**

### \*OPENING PRAYER WITH 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.**

### \*OPENING HYMN 620

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* LAUDA ANIMA

## WE CONFESS OUR SIN

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, like the disciples we are short-sighted and small-minded. We focus on problems and needs and on what seem like logical or "possible" solutions. We rely on our own strengths and resources and are quickly overwhelmed. We forget to turn to you, and we fail to depend on your Spirit. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us yet again that your ways are not ours, and that, with you, all things are possible. Renew us in faith and commitment that we might trust you in every situation. We pray in Jesus' name,**

Silent Prayer - *(How has God brought life from dead places in your life?)*

**AMEN.**

### \*KYRIE ELEISON 551

*Lord, Have Mercy* LAND OF REST

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear this good news: Our Lord, who walked this earth and faced temptation, understands our struggles and temptations. Jesus stands ready to listen, to forgive, and call us to new life.

**All: We believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ, we have a share in the resurrection victory! Thanks be to God!**

### \*RESPONSE (Hymnal 238, v.1)

*Thine Is the Glory* JUDAS MACCABEUS

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!**

## THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Kara Wheeler

(Children through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are welcome in Children's Church with Ms. Kara.)

### ANTHEM

*Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach  
Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright; Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light. Word of God our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned, striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying, round thy throne.

### SCRIPTURE READING

*Acts 20:17-38* (Pew Bible p.132)

### THE SERMON

*Finishing Well* Dr. Lee Zehmer

### TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

*What is God saying to you through Scripture, sermon and song?*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE 730

*I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* GRAND ISLE

### \*WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE – A Declaration of Faith 10:2

**In Christ God gave us a glimpse of the new creation  
he has already begun and will surely finish.**

**We do not know when the final day will come.**

**In our time we see only broken and scattered signs  
that the renewal of all things is under way.**

**We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering  
in the world, the church, or our own lives.**

**But we see Jesus as Lord.**

**As he stands at the center of our history,  
we are confident he will stand at its end.**

**He will judge all people and nations.**

**Evil will be condemned**

**and rooted out of God's good creation.**

**There will be no more tears or pain.**

**All things will be made new.**

**The fellowship of human beings with God  
and each other will be perfected.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Please touch the plate as it is passed to offer your time, talents, and tithes to God.*

### OFFERTORY

*Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus* arr. Michael Bedford

### \*RESPONSE

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We give our gifts in love and thanksgiving for all that we have been given. Let our giving gracious God be not the end point but rather the beginning. Let our gifts of love and gratitude travel where we do not, making pathways of hope where there is none. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

### \*CLOSING HYMN 326

*For All the Saints* SINE NOMINE

### \*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymnal 591)

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!* HALLE, HALLE  
**Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah! Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah!  
Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah! Halle-lujah! Halle-lujah!**

### CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Christ lag in Todesbanden* J.S. Bach

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*The flowers today are given to the glory of God by the Chubb family and in honor of James Allen's 6<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 26th, David and Janelle's 12<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 12th, and Taylor's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 29th.*

### Guests...WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church!

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us and pray that you will discover anew God's love for you today.

Please sign the Friendship Pad with your contact information when it is passed. Church members and staff would be delighted to provide you with more information about FPC.

**Nursery Care Today:** Megan Keener **May 3:** Mary Alice Owen  
**Elder/Deacon on Duty Today:** Jimmy Campbell, Carolyn Johnson  
**Elder/Deacon on Duty May 3:** Chip Hutchison, Sherry Hutchison  
**Monitor/Greeter Today:** John Blackwelder **May 3:** NEED  
**Acolytes Today:** Keaton Esposito, Alexander Roberson  
**Acolytes May 3:** Amelia Skinner, Brynn Kirksey

**Remember the following in prayer:** Worth Kendall, Mary Tice, Shirley Burton, Beth Easley, Michele Horne, Rev. Barry Lambert, Keira Esposito, Ashley Platts, Nancy Lowery, Colleen Lathan, Manfred Liewald, Donna Martin, Allen Tice, Patti Cloninger

**ACOLYTE TRAINING UPDATE!** The Acolyte Training will be held on **Sunday, May 3** at 9:15 am. The training is for current acolytes and those entering 3rd grade in Fall 2026 and older. Please contact Sheryl Smith if you will be attending or have any questions.

**The Fundraising Lunch & Silent Auction** for the Youth Dominican Republic Mission Team is today after worship.

**FPC 2026 Monitor/Greeter Schedule:** Please see a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for the OPEN SUMMER DATES. There is an info sheet that explains the role of the Sunday Monitor/Greeter. We welcome new men to the roster!

**Help for HOPE:** Because of your generosity and mission-filled hearts, 209 cans/jars/pkgs. of fruit were donated during the month of April! That is a huge donation and one which is greatly appreciated by the folks over at Project HOPE and even more importantly, the clients! **During the month of May**, we are collecting cans of vegetables. Any brand and variety (peas, green beans, corn, tomatoes, etc.) is needed and appreciated. Place the canned vegetables in the Narthex box by Sunday, May 24. Please accept a heartfelt thank you from the Mission Outreach Committee and the clients who will receive our donations.

**Spring Fling 2026** We will once again host the Special Needs students from our three high schools with a Spring Festival this Friday, May 1. Contact Ann Hunsucker to help.

**The Upper Midlands Chorale** will close their inaugural season with a worship celebration on Sunday, May 17 at 5:00 pm at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 2060 Marett Boulevard, Rock Hill. Mike Forrest, Iris Rose, and Bobby Smith are members of the Chorale.

**Save the Date!!** We will be serving at the Plentiful Harvest Kitchen on Sunday, May 31! Shifts are available from 2-4 pm to cook and 4-6 pm to serve and clean-up, with 3-4 volunteers per shift. If you are interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Jennifer Abernathy.

**Montreat Weekend is October 16-18!** Registration will open on May 1 for our 2026 family retreat. The cost for a room in the Inn is \$100/night and \$140/night if you need 2 rooms for your family. Six apartments are available at \$140/night. More details to come!

**Presbyterian College Summer Mission Trip** is open to all youth, Grades 6-9! Dates are Monday, July 6 to Thursday, July 9 and the cost is FREE due to a Lilly Grant. See Kara for more information. Students must be registered by Sunday, May 3.



This QR Code may be used for all online contributions to the church. There is a 1% processing fee for Checking/ACH transfers and 3% fee for Credit Card transaction.

## This Week's Calendar

*Family Promise Week: April 26 - May 3*

### Sunday, April 26

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 10:00 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Worship  
 12:00 pm Youth DR Trip Lunch/Auction  
 3:30 pm Handbells  
 5:00 pm Children's Choirs

### Monday, April 27

6:00 pm Nominating Committee

### Tuesday, April 28

2:30 pm HOP  
 4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class  
 6:30 pm Rock of Ages

### Wednesday, April 29

6:00 pm Yoga  
 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study

### Thursday, April 30

4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

### Sunday, May 3

9:15 am Acolyte Training  
 9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 10:00 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Worship and Communion  
 3:30 pm Handbells  
 5:00 pm Children's Choirs  
 5:00 pm ALL Youth Group Worship Prep

## **Members of the Session**

Susan Roberson, Clerk

### Class of 2026

John Abernathy  
 Jimmy Campbell  
 Scott Harris  
 Elizabeth Owen  
 Susan Roberson

### Class of 2027

Paul Horne  
 Ann Hunsucker  
 Chip Hutchison  
 Julia Nichols  
 Sheryl Smith

### Class of 2028

Clair Roberts  
 Bo Redmond  
 John Blackwelder  
 Cynthia Johnson  
 Rob Joiner

## **Members of the Diaconate**

Beth Janicke, Moderator

### Class of 2026

Jennifer Abernathy  
 Heather Dellinger  
 Kathy James  
 Margaret Joiner  
 Dave Keely

### Class of 2027

Beth Janicke  
 Allen Katz  
 Joan Musselwhite  
 Steve Roberts  
 Sherry Hutchison

### Class of 2028

Cameron Lawson  
 Carolyn Johnson  
 Jonathan Nichols  
 Richard Quandt  
 Betsy Forrest

## **Deacons of the Month for April**

Margaret Joiner, Steve Roberts, Jonathan Nichols

## **Deacons of the Month for May**

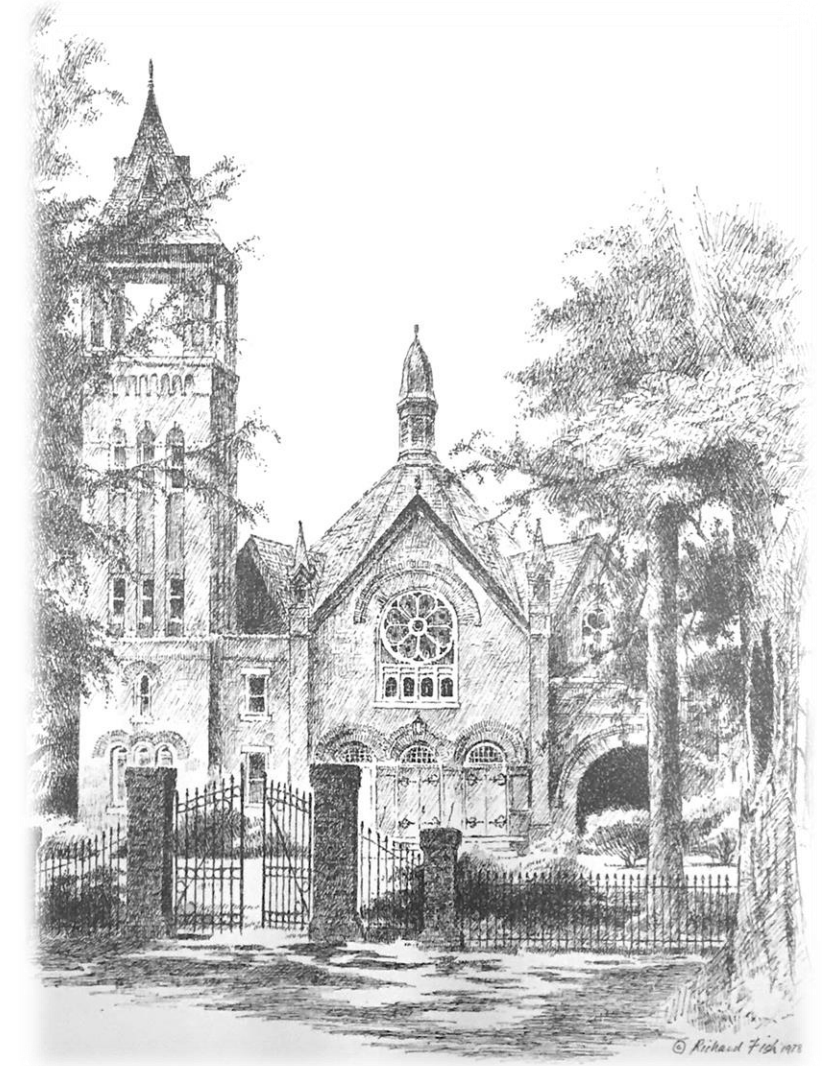
Dave Keely, Sherry Hutchison, Richard Quandt

## Office Staff and Contact Information

Jonna Eichorn - Administrative Assistant – jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org  
 Robyn Brown - Financial Secretary - rbrown@fpcrockhill.org  
 Mail to: Post Office Box 1011 - Rock Hill, S.C., 29731  
 (803) 328-2467 - firstpresrh@gmail.com - www.fpc-rockhill.org

## Church Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
 Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
 Friday: Closed



# First Presbyterian Church

234 East Main Street  
 Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730  
 Organized 1869

We are a diverse family of believers in Jesus Christ, who seek to glorify God by celebrating and sharing God's renewing and transforming love as we:

*Worship* the living God with joy and thanksgiving

*Teach* the Word of God to deepen our faith and grow in our love of Christ

*Serve* others through sharing our unique gifts of the Holy Spirit

*Fellowship* with one another to energize our life together as a congregation

*Nurture and Embrace* all of God's children.

Dr. A. Lee Zehmer – Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Kara Wheeler – Associate Pastor of Family Ministries  
 Dr. Donald M. Rogers – Director of Music  
 M. L. Marley – Organist  
 Angela Harris – Director of Cherub Choir  
 Ashley Platts – Director of Handbell Choirs