

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Dan Miller

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE OF GRATITUDE FOR PASSPORT KIDS

Brynn Kirksey & Taylor Chubb

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 666, v. 4)

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 20

One: In times of trouble and distress, God is always present with us.

All: When we call out, God hears us.

One: The name of the Lord brings comfort to heavy hearts.

All: In God's name alone do we put our trust.

One: The Lord will help those who seek God.

All: God will answer the prayers of the people.

One: We rise and stand on the righteousness of God.

All: Let us worship God who is faithful, merciful and just!

*OPENING PRAYER WITH 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 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

UNSER HERRSCHER

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, teach us to see ourselves as we really are. Sometimes we are not as kind as we could be with what we say to those we care deeply about. Sometimes the temptation to gossip is overwhelming. We are not always respectful of each other and of you, great God, and sometime especially in our families, we take each other for granted. Grant us self-control and fill us with kindness and compassion. Help us to live and love as Jesus does,
Silent Prayer - (How have you let God, others, or yourself down?)

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: Our God is a God of love and mercy, who allows us always to begin again.

All: By God's grace, in the name of Jesus, we are forgiven to walk in newness of life. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*RESPONSE (Hymnal 581)

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI (Greatest)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (see insert)

Rev. Kara Wheeler

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

ANTHEM

Psalm 139

Allen Pote

Lord, You have searched me and known me, You know everything I do; when I rise up, when I lie down, You are with me through and through. Before a word is on my tongue, You know what I will say, your presence follows me day by day. When can I flee from your spirit? Where can I go to run away? If I go to heaven, or live in hell, You are there. Search me, O God, and know me. Find me and know my heart. See if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 6:1-7

(Pew Bible p.116)

1 Peter 5:1-4

(Pew Bible p.221)

THE SERMON

Dr. Lee Zehmer

What's Good About the Church: Caring for the Body

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE – The Apostle's Creed (Contemporary)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

OFFERTORY

Prelude on 'BEACH SPRING'

Janet Linker

*RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We are grateful, gracious God, for the gift of belonging to you. We see the hurts, the poverty, the injustice and the violence that mars your world, and we know that your heart is broken. We thank you for the high calling to care, respond and give to meet the needs and ease the suffering of people you love so much. We pray that these offerings will be useful to fulfill the mission of your church. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION 525 (vv. 1 & 2)

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

WORDS OF INVITATION and INSTITUTION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

The Communion bread is gluten, dairy, soy, and nut free.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, merciful God, for the bounty of your creation — for the gifts of the field and vine that nourish our bodies, souls and hearts. Sustained by this meal and the assurance of your grace through our Lord, Jesus Christ, may our lives reflect your presence and may you be our priority. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 318

In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymnal 295, v. 1)

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Poco vivace

Hermann Schroeder

Deacons will be at the exits today to receive your Deacon's Fund Offering.

The pink rose is in celebration of the birth of Kathryn Ruth Lawson.

Ruthie was born on July 29 to Sarah and Cameron Lawson.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of those who have died by their own hand on their private battlefield fighting an internal civil war.

We may never understand their suffering or decision, but God does.

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: Elizabeth Rollins August 9: Michele Murdoch

Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: Jimmy Campbell, Steve Roberts

Elder/Deacon on Duty August 9: Ann Hunsucker, Carolyn Johnson

Monitor/Greeter Today: Mike Hunsucker August 9: Alan Johnson

Acolytes Today: Taylor Chubb, Keaton Esposito

Acolytes August 9: Rhett Keener, Brynn Kirksey

Remember the following in prayer: Worth Kendall, Mary Tice, Shirley Burton, Beth Easley, Michele Horne, Keira Esposito, Ashley Platts, Nancy Lowery, Colleen Lathan, Manfred Liewald, Allen Tice, Patti Cloninger, Jean Horton, Sam Curry, the family of Donna Martin, Eddie Gainey, and Alvane Deal

New Members Class and Reception in Verdery Chapel: We will have a “FPC 101” Class today at 10:00 am for those interested in learning more about FPC. The Session will receive New Members at 10:00 am on Sunday, August 9. Attendance is not required at both sessions. Reach out to Pastors Lee and Kara for more information.

Sunday Morning Updates for August: We have now returned to our 11:00 am worship time. Our Rally Day breakfast and Fall Kick-Off will be at 10:00 am on August 16. Bring a covered-dish breakfast item to share! Sunday School classes will return at 10:00 am on August 23. Please join us as we kick off a new school year of study and faith formation at FPC!

Help for HOPE: During the month of August, our congregation will collect boxes of breakfast cereal to contribute to the clients of HOPE of Rock Hill. You may bring in any brand or type of cereal. (ex: Cheerios, Chex, etc.) Please leave your boxes in the Narthex by Sunday, August 23. On behalf of the Mission Committee and the clients of HOPE of Rock Hill, thank you!

Family Promise-August 2 – 9: We have a few openings for overnight hosts, dinner providers, and greeters. Please see a sign-up sheet in a yellow folder on the Narthex table or use this QR code to volunteer. Thanks for all the wonderful volunteers at FPC who host families experiencing homelessness.



FPC Men’s Fall Bible Study Join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm starting August 19. We will be reading Adam Hamilton’s book titled Half Truths. In this 6-week Bible study, we will search for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés with the wisdom found in Scripture. Study books are available in the Church Office. Requested donation of \$10/book to help offset the cost.

Rise Against Hunger: Join FPC on Sunday, August 23 at 3:00 pm for an exciting, hands-on volunteer opportunity to package meals for global hunger relief. We will pack 15,000 meals and will need close to 100 people to complete our goal! There is plenty of room for more volunteers to register!! When you are registering, there is no need to make a contribution. FPC’s Mission Endowment has made a gift to Rise Against Hunger for our event. Use the QR code to register.



Montreat Weekend is October 16-18! Registration is open. A room in the Inn is \$100/night and \$140/night if you need two rooms for your family. Six apartments available at \$140/night if arriving on Thursday of the Montreat Weekend. (Any remaining apartments will be available on August 2 to families arriving on Friday.) Register with Kara.

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, August 2

10:00 am “FPC 101” Class in the Chapel
10:15 am Mission & Outreach Committee
10:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am Worship, Communion, Backpack Blessing
12:00 pm Christian Ed. Committee

Tuesday, August 4

4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
6:00 pm Deacons
7:00 pm Finance & Stewardship Committee

Thursday, August 6

2:00 pm Yarns of Love
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

Sunday, August 9

10:00 am Reception of New Members in the Chapel
10:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am Worship
12:00 pm Security Team Meeting

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 August

Kathy James, Joan Musselwhite, Cameron Lawson

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

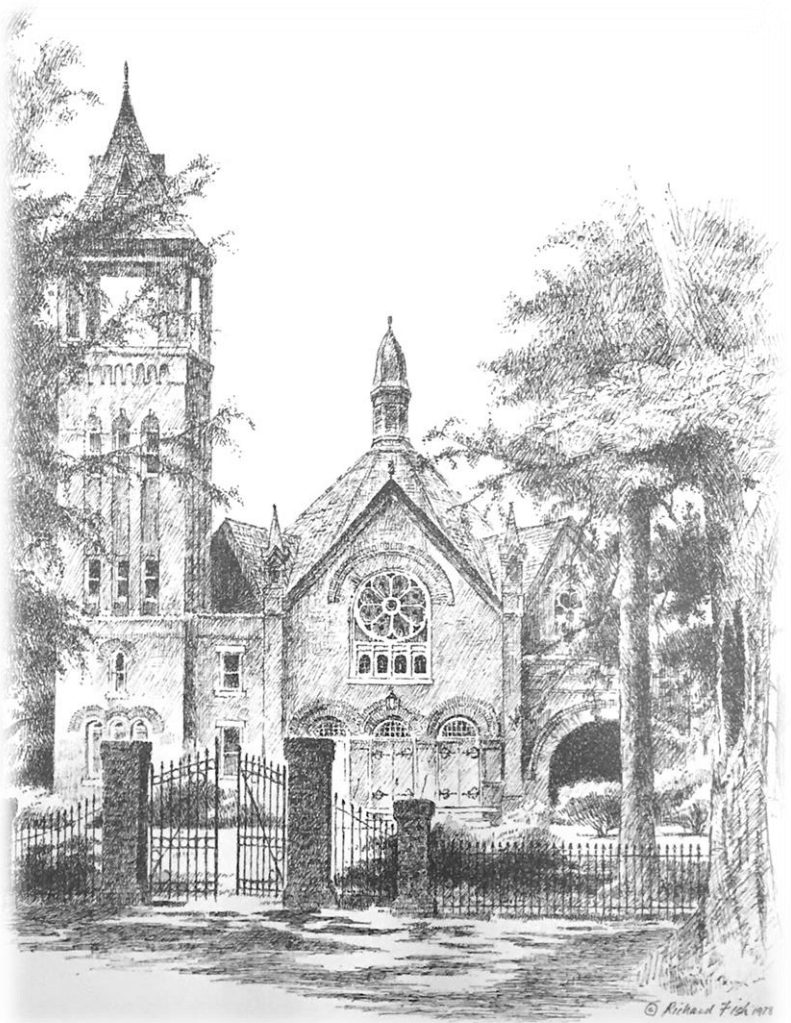
Monday – Wednesday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Friday: Closed



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.



August 2, 2026
11:00 am

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

First Presbyterian Church

234 East Main Street, Rock Hill, SC 29730

Organized 1869