

August 31, 2025

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD  
*\*Rise in body or in spirit...(as indicated below)*

OPENING VOLUNTARY  
*It Is Well with My Soul* Phillip Bliss, arr. James Pethel

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 412, v.1)  
*God, Reveal Your Presence* ARNSBERG

\*CALL TO WORSHIP from Lamentations 3  
One: The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.  
**All: It is good that we should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.**  
One: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
**All: God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning;**  
One: The Lord is our portion; therefore, hope in him.

\*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 611  
*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
**O God, we are running so fast, and we don't know how to slow down. We are busy and yet not satisfied. We are moving faster, but we never catch up. In all of this rush, our relationship with you gets pushed aside. Forgive us. Speak to us once again your message of peace, of walking beside still waters, of refreshing our souls, of lying down in meadows of green. Enable and empower us to spend time resting in your presence. In Jesus’ name we pray,**  
*Silent Prayer - How have you disappointed God, others, or yourself?*  
**AMEN.**

\*KYRIE ELEISON KINGDOM  
**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: Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and we are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.  
**All: In Jesus Christ, we have been lifted up to new life with him! Thanks be to God!**

\*RESPONDING WITH PRAISE  
*Glory Be to the Father* (Hymnal 581) GLORIA PATRI  
**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

CHILDREN’S SERMON Rev. Kara Wheeler  
*(All children are welcome in Children’s Church with Ms. Kara.)*

ANTHEM  
*When We Eat This Bread* Thomas Keesecker  
[Refrain]When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus. Oh, come to us in this holy meal, as we gather 'round this table. Fruit from the vine and grain from the field: God, fill us with your blessing and grant us your grace. You have sent your Son to free us all from sin. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. [R] Reveal yourself in this breaking of bread. Raise us up! Make us the body of Christ for the world. Into us breathe life! Send us forth with hearts aflame. Let justice and mercy find freedom to reign. [R]

SCRIPTURE READINGS  
*Mark 2:23-28; 6:30-32* (Pew Bible p. 34, 38)  
*Isaiah 58:13-14* (Pew Bible p. 647)

THE SERMON  
*Labor (less) Day* Dr. Lee Zehmer

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION  
*What is God saying to you through Scripture, sermon and song?*

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Declaration of Faith (Chap. 9)*  
**Christ calls us to live in the presence of God. It is part of our discipline [therefore] to observe a day of worship and rest, setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work, celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness. We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture, not expecting detailed directions for every decision, but relying on the Word to tell us who God is, to press God's present claim on us, and to assure us of God's grace and comfort. We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS  
*Please touch the plate as it is passed to offer your time, talents, and tithes to God.*

OFFERTORY  
*In Heavenly Love Abiding* arr. Jerry Westenkuehler

\*RESPONSE: *The Doxology* (Hymnal 606)  
*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  
**Lord God, your call to us is so very clear. You have invited us to bring our gifts, our resources and our love to you to serve on Christ’s behalf. We give you thanks for all your gifts to us, and may our lives with you be a journey of hope and promise into the future. In Jesus’ name. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION 501  
*Feed Us, Lord* FEED US

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS  
*The Communion bread is gluten, dairy, soy, and nut free.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION  
**How grateful we are for this family meal you have prepared for us, most gracious God. As we have gathered around your table, might we be open to receiving the gift of your love in the food we have shared. Let it nourish us when we feel depleted, sustain us when times are difficult, comfort us when we are sorrowful and enhance our joys when our cups overflow. For the meal we have eaten, O God, make us truly thankful. Amen.**

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

\*CLOSING HYMN 824  
*There Is a Place of Quiet Rest* MC AFEE

\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION (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  
*March on “Joyful Song”* Jon Sprong



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

*The flowers today are to the Glory of God and in celebration of Ward Janicke’s 16th birthday, given by his mom, dad, and brother Henry.*

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:** Kathy Blackwelder   **September 7:** Joanne Edwards  
**Elder/Deacon on Duty Today:** Chris Wheeler, Sue Munn  
**Elder/Deacon on Duty September 7:** Sheryl Smith, Jennifer Abernathy  
**Monitor/Greeter Today:** Eric Park **September 7:** Eric Park  
**Acolytes Today:** Amelia Skinner, Ben Williams  
**September 7:** Millie Goodner, Mason Goodner

**Remember the following in prayer:** Worth Kendall, Mary Tice, Shirley Burton, Beth Easley, Michele Horne, Rev. Dr. Barry Lambert, Keira Esposito, Ashley Platts, Nancy Lowery, Colleen Lathan, Jean Horton, Linda Bradshaw

**Rally Day:** On Sunday, September 7 we will have a breakfast potluck at 10:00 am. Bring a breakfast dish/item to share. Please join us as we kick off a new school year of study and faith formation at FPC! RSVP with a pew card or by calling the office. **Worship will return to 11:00 am.**

**Help for HOPE:** During the month of September, we will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly. Please consider contributing a jar(s) to the Narthex box by Sunday, September 21. These donations will go to families here in Rock Hill to help fight food insecurities. Thank you on behalf of the clients of Project HOPE and the members of the Missions Committee.

**Women's Fall Bible Study:** Join us on Tuesdays, September 9 to October 21 at 10 am, for a study called *Acts: Awakening to God in Everyday Life* by Melissa Spoelstra. Study books are available in the Church Office. (Requested donation of \$10/book.)

**Rock of Ages** This is an evening small group comprised of mostly empty nesters (although all are welcome) that meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 pm starting September 9. Group members will lead the discussion each session. We will meet at the church for Bible Study with an optional dinner afterwards. Study books are \$10/couple to help offset the cost. Please contact Se and Michele Murdoch with any questions.

**Men’s Fall Bible Study:** Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm starting September 10 for a study called *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet* by Adam Hamilton. Study books will be available later this month in the Church Office. (Requested donation of \$10/book.) Please contact Terry Dodge for more information.

**Family Promise:** Thanks for all the wonderful volunteers at FPC who host families experiencing homelessness. Our next opportunity is September 14-20. We need overnight hosts, dinner providers, and greeters to open the building, visit with our guests and help other volunteers. Please consider how you might serve. Use this QR code or see the sign-up sheet in the narthex to volunteer. Contact Kathy Pender for more information.



**Our 2025 Montreat Weekend** will be Friday, October 3 - Sunday, October 5. Full payment is due by October 1. See Kara to register and for more info.

**October Craft Fair** Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Craft Fair at FPC to be held on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please use the QR Code if you or anyone you might know would like to register to be a vendor for the event. We will be asking for congregational support this year with baked goods closer to the event date. Thank you for your support! Contact Steve Roberts with your questions.



**Fall Festival!** We will be hosting the Special Needs students from the three high schools for a Fall Festival at FPC on Thursday, October 30. Volunteers are needed! Join in the fun!! Please contact Kara Wheeler or Ann Hunsucker for more info.

**Music Ministry at FPC!** Reach out to Don Rogers at rogersdm@comporium.net to learn more about the choirs and how to join. More info in the newsletter and E-Blast.

**Emails and Updates:** If you would like to receive our emails for the Wednesday E-Blast, Saturday Worship Note, and the monthly newsletter, send Jonna an email at jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org and she will place you on those mailing lists. Stay informed about the FPC news and happenings! **If you have a new address, email, or phone number,** please send those to Jonna to be updated in our database.

**This Week’s Calendar**

**Sunday, August 31**

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Worship, Communion, and Deacon’s Fund  
11:00 am College Student Lunch  
3:30 pm Handbells

**Monday, September 1**

*Church Office Closed for Labor Day*

**Tuesday, September 2**

8:30 am Walking Group  
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class  
6:00 pm Deacons

**Thursday, September 4**

8:30 am Walking Group  
2:00 pm Yarns of Love  
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class  
5:00 pm Pickleball Open Court Play

**Sunday, September 7**

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Rally Day Breakfast  
11:00 am Worship  
3:30 pm Handbells

**Members of the Session**

Susan Roberson, Clerk

**Class of 2025**

Butch Bailey  
Terry Dodge  
Mimi Goodner  
Mary Anne Sheppard  
Chris Wheeler

**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

**Members of the Diaconate**

Christy Goodner, Moderator

**Class of 2025**

James Crean  
Vickey Dodge  
Christy Goodner  
Diane Hicks  
Sue Munn

**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

**Deacons of the Month for September**

Diane Hicks, Margaret Joiner, Steve Roberts

**Church Office Hours**

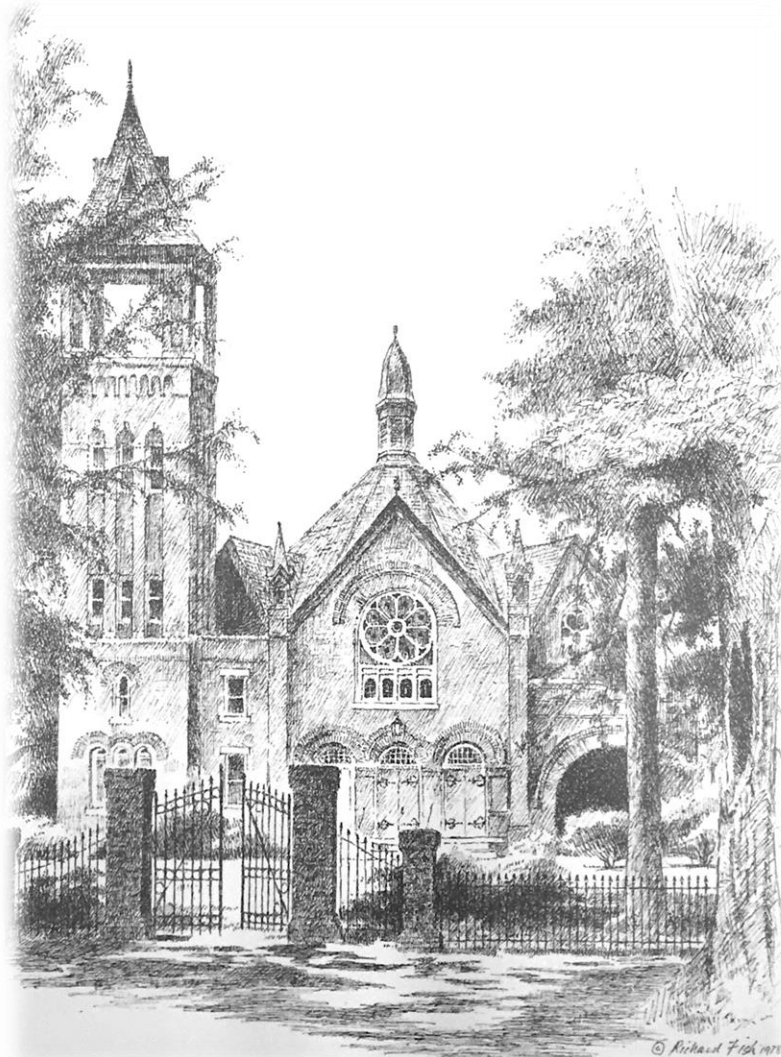
Monday – Wednesday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Friday: Closed

**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



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 transactions.



**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

Dr. Donald M. Rogers – Director of Music

M. L. Marley – Organist

Angela Harris – Director of Cherub Choir

Ashley Platts – Director of Handbell Choirs