

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

I Need Thee Every Hour

arr. Jason Payne

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 666, v. 3)

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come gather together here in the presence of Christ, who is our friend and healer.

All: We have entered here, and in our worship together, we yearn for hope and comfort.

One: Let us reach to the heart of Jesus, who is our life.

All: We encounter our Lord, who makes us whole.

One: Here we are welcome and loved and cherished.

All: Here we are the people of God. Let us rejoice and give God praise.

*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 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, forgive us. We place our trust in things that are fleeting, rather than in you and the sure promises you offer. We focus on the things that are before us, getting bogged down in the mundane and the trials of the moment. We fail to remember to set our sights on you. Forgive our doubt, our lack of hope, our fear. Restore our hope in those things unseen by our eyes. Revitalize our faith. Renew our hearts that we might worship you fully. Redeem us so we can be a sign of your love to others who doubt.

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 (Greateorex)

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

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

DUET

The Lord Is My Shepherd

Henry Smart

Colleen Guseman, soprano; Marsha Roberts, alto

The Lord is my Shepherd, I never shall want, for lack of His mercies, my soul shall not pant. In pleasant green pastures, I daily abide, He leads me the peaceful still waters beside. My soul He restoreth, and for His name sake, the path of true righteousness bids me take. Yea, though I pass through death's dark valley and shade, I will not by evil be ever dismayed. The Lord is my Shepherd, I never shall want. For Thou art my Shepherd, and with me always, Thy rod and Thy staff are my comfort and stay; My table Thou spreadest in presence of foes, my head Thou anointest, my cup overflows. Thy goodness and mercy shall follow me still, while life's earnest duties I daily fulfill. Till joyous my spirit shall claim it's reward, and dwell evermore in the House of the Lord! The Lord is my Shepherd, I never shall want!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Chronicles 16:23-34

(Pew Bible p.358)

John 4:23-25

(Pew Bible p.89)

THE SERMON

Dr. Lee Zehmer

What's Good About the Church: Worshiping the Living Lord

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 285

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

BRIDEGROOM

*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.

THE 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

As the Deer

arr. Mark Hayes

*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

Great and eternal God, we have been striving to run the race and striving to keep the faith. We bring our love and loyalty to you. We pray that your blessing upon these gifts may enable us and our church to be a beacon of light and love to all the world; in our Lord Jesus' name. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 641 (vv. 1, 3, 5)

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

*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

Postlude on HYMN TO JOY

Albert Davis

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God by George and Betty White and in loving memory of their granddaughter Megan Elizabeth, and in celebration of the birthday of her twin brother, Marshall Rikard.

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: Natalie Harper **August 2:** Elizabeth Rollins
Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: Chip Hutchison, Joan Musselwhite
Elder/Deacon on Duty August 2: Jimmy Campbell, Steve Roberts
Monitor/Greeter Today: Chris Wheeler **August 2:** Mike Hunsucker
Acolytes Today: Ben Williams, Charlie Cycak
Acolytes August 2: Taylor Chubb, Keaton Esposito

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, and the family of Donna Martin

Worship Time Change: We return to our 11:00 am worship time on August 2.

New Members Class and Reception in Verdery Chapel: We will have a “FPC 101” Class on Sunday, August 2 at 10:00 am for those interested in learning more about FPC. On Sunday, August 9, the Session will receive New Members at 10:00 am. Attendance is not required at both sessions. Reach out to Pastors Lee and Kara for more information.

Blessing of the Backpacks will be on Sunday, August 2 at 11:00 am worship. Students of all ages and teachers may bring their backpacks for a special blessing as we begin the new school year.

Help for HOPE: During the month of July, our congregation contributed 125 pkgs/boxes/bags of rice and/or rice mixes, an increase from last year’s 108 pkgs! **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. Your donations make a difference to the people right here in our area and are very much appreciated. On behalf of the Mission Committee and the clients of HOPE of Rock Hill, thank you!

Home Communion: On Communion Sundays, we will be serving anyone who wishes to have communion brought to them at home if they are unable to attend worship. Please call the Church Office at 803-328-2467 to be added to the home communion list OR to add someone to the list! We need a few more Elders to help with the serving. Contact Bob Ballard to join the serving team.

Family Promise: Thanks for all the wonderful volunteers at FPC who host families experiencing homelessness. Our next 2026 opportunity is: August 2 - 9. We need overnight hosts, dinner providers, and greeters to open the building, visit with our guests and help other volunteers. Please see a sign-up sheet in a yellow folder on the Narthex table or use this QR code to volunteer.



Rally Day at FPC is August 16! Please join us as we kick off a new school year of study and faith formation at FPC! Breakfast at 10:00 am in Hopkins Hall! Bring a covered-dish breakfast item to share!

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 1 to families arriving on Friday.) Register with Kara.

<u>This Week’s Calendar</u>	
<u>Sunday, July 26</u>	
9:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am	Worship
<u>Tuesday, July 28</u>	
4:00 pm	Seniors Exercise Class
<u>Thursday, July 30</u>	
2:00 pm	Yarns of Love
4:00 pm	Seniors Exercise Class
<u>Sunday, August 2</u>	
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

Members of the Session

Susan Roberson, Clerk

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
John Abernathy	Paul Horne	Clair Roberts
Jimmy Campbell	Ann Hunsucker	Bo Redmond
Scott Harris	Chip Hutchison	John Blackwelder
Elizabeth Owen	Julia Nichols	Cynthia Johnson
Susan Roberson	Sheryl Smith	Rob Joiner

Members of the Diaconate

Beth Janicke, Moderator

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Jennifer Abernathy	Beth Janicke	Cameron Lawson
Heather Dellinger	Allen Katz	Carolyn Johnson
Kathy James	Joan Musselwhite	Jonathan Nichols
Margaret Joiner	Steve Roberts	Richard Quandt
Dave Keely	Sherry Hutchison	Betsy Forrest

Deacons of the Month for July

Heather Dellinger, Allen Katz, Carolyn Johnson

Deacons of the Month for August

Kathy James, Joan Musselwhite, Cameron Lawson

Office Staff and Contact Information

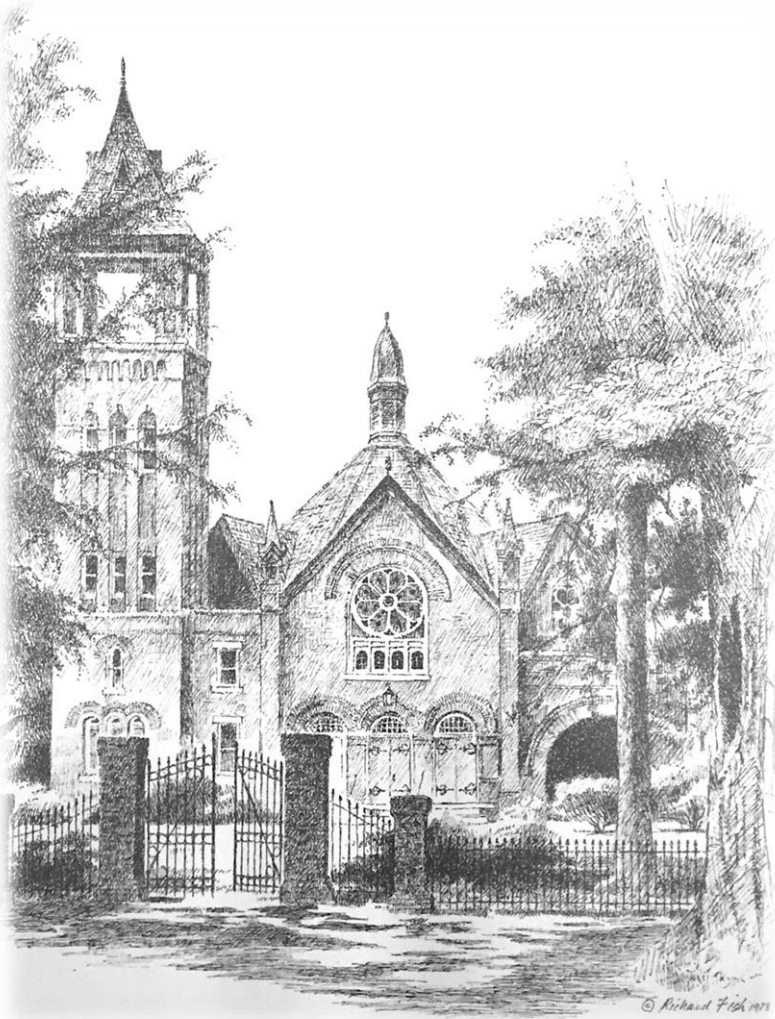
Jonna Eichorn - Administrative Assistant – jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org
Robyn Brown - Financial Secretary - rbrown@fpcrockhill.org
Mail to: Post Office Box 1011 - Rock Hill, S.C., 29731
(803) 328-2467 - firstpresrh@gmail.com - www.fpc-rockhill.org

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.



July 26, 2026
10:00 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