

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY

The God of Abraham Praise

arr. Michael Burkhardt

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 681, v.4)

This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made NUN DANKET ALL 'UND BRINGET EHR'
Hosanna in the highest strains the church on earth can raise!
The highest heavens in which God reigns shall now resound with praise.

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Isaiah 40

One: Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these?

All: The Lord, our God, is the maker of heaven and earth.

One: It is our God who brings out the starry host one by one and calls them each by name.

All: We praise you, O Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

One: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

All: We worship you, Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

*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 14 (vv. 1-4)

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of word and silence, you desire our attention and faithfulness, yet we are distracted. You desire our obedience, yet we crowd you out with calendars jammed with meetings, minds filled with lists and trivia and hearts filled with worry and care. Forgive us, O God, and lead us this Lent into the deeper stillness where priorities become clear, vision becomes focused, and your Word heard and obeyed. Give us the strength and courage to live this season with open eyes and ready hearts. In Jesus' name we pray,

Silent Prayer -How have you disappointed God, others, or yourself?

AMEN.

*KYRIE ELEISON

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

O Lord, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on 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 that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE (Hymnal 581)

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

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

ACOLYTE RECOGNITION

Rev. Kara Wheeler

*Receiving an acolyte pin for completion of first full year of service.

Taylor Chubb, Katie Crean, Jamison Deese, Keaton Esposito,
Henry Goodner, Mason Goodner, Millie Goodner, Addie Nichols,
McCain Nichols, Brynn Park, Alexander Roberson, Amelia Skinner*,
Maddie Skinner, Ben Williams*, Cecily Zelinski*, and Penelope Zelinski*

ANTHEM

Welcome

Jeffrey Blersch

As rebels, Lord, who foolishly have wandered far from Your love unfed, unclean, unclothed. Dare we recall Your wealth so rashly squandered, dare hope to glean that bounty which we loathed? Still we return, our contrite words rehearsing, speech, that within Your warm embrace soon dies; All of our guilt, all of our shame, our pain reversing as tears of joy, and welcome fill our eyes. A feast of love for us You are preparing; we who were lost You give an honored place! "Come, eat; come, drink, and be no more despairing. Here taste again the treasures of My grace." Welcome home.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 25:1-10

(Pew Bible p. 475)

Genesis 9:8-17

(Pew Bible p. 7)

THE SERMON

God's Covenant with the Earth

Dr. Lee Zehmer

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 – A Declaration of Faith 2:1

God created all the worlds that are and upholds and rules everything. We affirm that the universe exists by the power of God's Word and Spirit. God has chosen to give it reality out of the love we have come to know in Christ. God still works through the processes that shape and change the earth and the living things upon it. We acknowledge God's care and control in the regularity of the universe as well as in apparently random happenings. There is no event from which God is absent and his ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving. That purpose embraces our choices and will surely be accomplished. The Creator works in all things toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

OFFERTORY

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier (Blessed Jesus We Are Here)

arr. Paul Fey

*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

In gratitude for your love which never lets us go, we bring you our gifts, O God. Help us to give with generous grace and to love lavishly as you have so loved us. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ who came that we might know what a life of love looks like. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION 370

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

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

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Send us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, and encourage many through us; for Jesus sake, Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 313

Lord, Make Us More Holy

LORD, MAKE US MORE HOLY

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymnal 541, v. 1)

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

RANDOLPH

God, be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Jesu, Priceless Treasure

J.S. Bach

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

The flowers today are given by Sheryl Smith to the Glory of God and in honor of our 2025 acolytes and their families in appreciation for their dedication and faithfulness as we honor and recognize them today.

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: Mary Alice Owen **March 8:** Susan Dove

Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: Scott Harris, Heather Dellinger

Elder/Deacon on Duty March 8: Sheryl Smith, Jonathan Nichols

Monitor/Greeter Today: Chris Cycak **March 8:** Rod Hicks

Acolytes Today: Henry Goodner, Ben Williams

Acolytes March 8: Millie Goodner, Mason Goodner

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, Jean Horton, Manfred Liewald, Donna Martin

Help for HOPE: In the month of March, we will be collecting GRITS. Any brand and any variety (long-cooking, quick cooking, or instant) is needed and appreciated. Leave your contributions in the narthex by **March 15**. The Mission and Outreach Committee and the clients of HOPE of Rock Hill thank you.

2027-2029 Nomination Forms are available in the Narthex and at the doors.

The Congregational Life Committee will meet in the Seekers classroom after worship for lunch and a meeting.

Youth Group: Today our schedule will be 4:30 pm: MS Bible Study; 5:30 pm: Snack Supper; 6:00 pm: HS Bible Study; 7:00 pm: DR Mission Trip Meeting.

Gospel of Matthew- Chapter 25 Lenten Study: Join us for this in-depth study on Mondays, through March 30, 7:00 to 8:00 pm. In-person is preferred, but Zoom-hybrid will also be available. Join us however you prefer! The study is for adults and older youth. As Pastor Lee has directed us all "Reflecting the light of Jesus into our community and beyond." Contact Dave Keely to participate.

Rolling in Rock Hill FPC has an opportunity to help a Rock Hill family by painting their house on Saturday April 18. We encourage you to be a part of our FPC team for this great community event. **Please sign up by TODAY.** Contact Richard Quandt or Ken Roberts with questions.

Family Promise: Thanks for all the wonderful volunteers at FPC who host families experiencing homelessness. FPC is hosting the week of March 8 -14. We need greeters to open the building, visit with our guests, and help other volunteers. **Use the QR code to sign up for March.**



Plentiful Harvest Kitchen Is Sunday, March 22: Shifts are from 2:00-4:00 pm to cook and 4:00-6:00 pm to serve and clean-up. Three to four volunteers are needed per shift. Covenant PC handles the menu and we provide the workers. If you are interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Jennifer Abernathy.

Save the Date! An Acolyte Training will be held on Sunday, April 26 at 9:15 am. The training is for all 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.

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.



Church Office Hours

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

Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Friday: Closed

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 1

- 9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship and Communion
- 12:00 pm Congregational Life
- 3:30 pm Handbells
- 4:30 – 7:00 pm MS/HS Bible Studies/Snack Supper
- 5:00 pm Children's Choirs
- 7:00 pm High School DR Trip Mtg

Monday, March 2

- 7:00 pm Matthew 25 Lenten Study

Tuesday, March 3

- 8:30 am Walking Group
- 10:00 am Women's Bible Study
- 4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
- 6:00 pm Deacons

Wednesday, March 4

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

Thursday, March 5

- 8:30 am Walking Group
- 4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
- 5:00 pm Pickleball Play

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Saving Time Begins! Spring Ahead!
Family Promise Host Week

- 9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship with Communion
- 12:15 pm Mission/Outreach Mtg.
- 3:30 pm Handbells
- 4:30 – 7:00 pm MS/HS Bible Studies/Snack Supper
- 5:00 pm Children's Choirs

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 March

Kathy James, Joan Musselwhite, Cameron Lawson

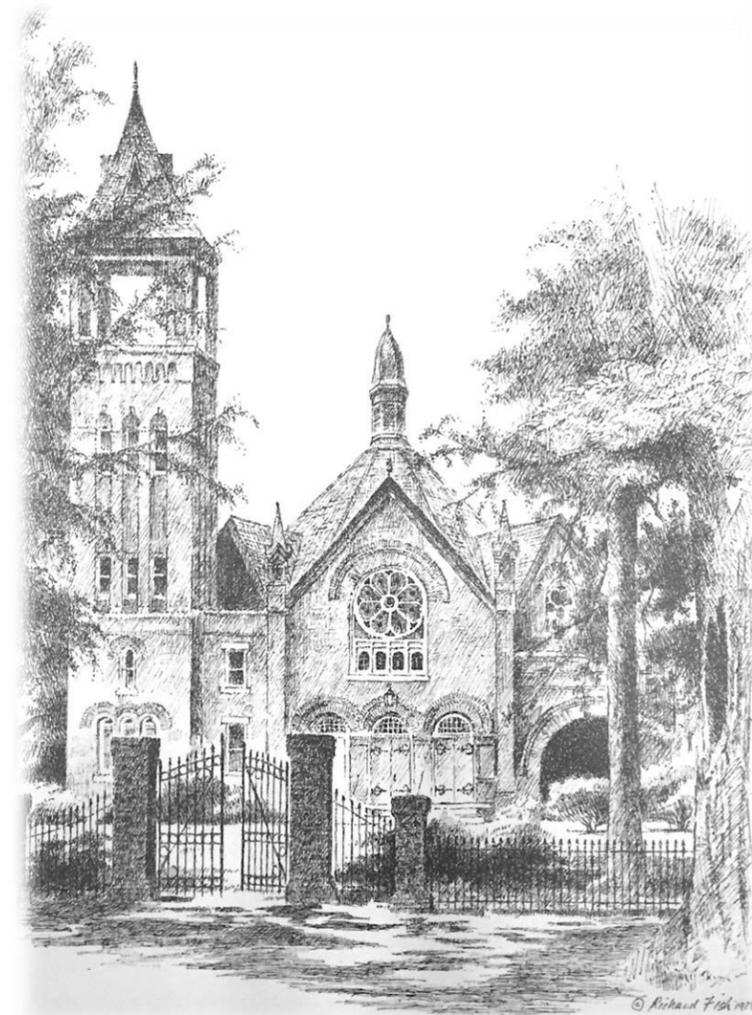
Office Staff and Contact Information

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



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