

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude on ‘Old 100’

Henry Purcell

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 386, v. 2)

Come, Worship God

O QUANTA QUALIA

Ruled by your might are the heights of the mountains; held in your hands are the depths of the earth. Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them, God above all gods, who gave us our birth.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the midst of meaninglessness,

All: You call us to meaning, O God.

One: In the midst of divisiveness,

All: You call us to community through Christ.

One: Out of our brokenness,

All: You call us to wholeness and new life in the Spirit.

One: In praise and thanksgiving, let us worship God.

*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 10 [vv. 1, 2 & 4]

Sing Glory to the Name of God

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you call us out of darkness and into your marvelous light. But we crouch in the shadows, ashamed of the wrong we have done, and of the good we have neglected to do. We have been timid disciples, afraid of putting our lives on the line for the good of your reign on earth. We conceal our true selves from one another, hiding behind the masks of our own power and competence. We allow divisions and discord to reign in our hearts, crowding you out altogether. Yet we know that discord is not your way. Reconciling God, call us back into relationship with you. Equip us for relationships of integrity — in our families, in our church community, and in the world you love. We pray in the name of Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and acknowledging our need for the love of God.

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

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: God is gracious and merciful, steadfast in love and abundant in forgiveness. Friends believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to live in the faith! 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

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Rev. Kara Wheeler

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

ANTHEM

Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing

Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise, that we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia! All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever. Sing Jehovah's mighty power, praise Him forever. Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 18:15-20

(Pew Bible p.19)

Romans 12:1-2; 9-18

(Pew Bible p.151)

THE SERMON

Dr. Lee Zehmer

The 4 Ss of Healthy Relationships

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 754

Help Us to Accept Each Other

BARONITA

*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

Arioso

J.S. Bach/arr. Diane Bish

*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

Thank you, extravagant God, for your blessings in our lives. We offer ourselves in grateful response, seeking to live with such compassion toward others that your blessings will flow through us to bless our community and our world. For the sake of Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 306

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

*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

Intonatio para quinti Toni

Sebastian Scherer

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Midge White, mother of Wendy Blanchard, given by Butch and Wendy Blanchard.

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 20:** Susan Dove
Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: John Blackwelder, Margaret Joiner
Elder/Deacon on Duty September 20: Bo Redmond, Jennifer Abernathy
Monitor/Greeter Today: Steve Roberts **September 20:** Bill Lehman
Acolytes Today: Mary Catherine Wheeler, Millie Goodner
Acolytes September 20: Alexander Roberson, Ellis Williams

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

Help for HOPE: For September we are collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly. School children can make a PB & J sandwich for their breakfasts, lunches or after school snacks. Leave your donations in the Narthex by Sunday, September 20. *THANK YOU* from the Mission Committee and the clients of HOPE of Rock Hill!

Youth and Parents Fall Kick Off is tonight at 5:00 pm at Cherry Park Multi-Purpose Fields. We will Kick-Off to a New Year with a FRIENDLY Parent vs. Youth Kickball Game and then grab dinner together after at Burgers & Barley. Bring the whole family - younger siblings will make great cheerleaders!
Youth Group Bible Study on September 20
4:30 pm - Middle School
5:30 pm - Snack Supper provided by Matt & Mimi Goodner
6:00 pm - High School
Exploring a Call of Creativity & Praise on September 27
5:30 pm Snack Supper provided by Jimmy & Kia Hicklin
6:00pm All Youth Group: Panel Discussion with Church Members

Women’s Fall Bible Study: Join us for the organizational meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 10:00 am as we begin our study on *Joshua: Winning the Worry Battle* by Barb Roose. Books will be available (\$10.00 each). The first video and discussion is September 22. Contact Vickey Dodge at vjdodge@comporium.net for questions.

September 23 BBQ & Book Discussion: Join us for our Fall Book Study on Wednesday, September 23 at 5:30 pm on the book, *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. After a BBQ dinner (\$12/plate), we will have our small groups discussion. Childcare will be available. RSVP by Sunday, September 20 to the Church Office or on the clip boards located in the Narthex and the Adult Classrooms.

Outreach Opportunities: Hunger Outreach Program (HOP) will meet on Tuesday, September 22 at 2:30 pm in Hopkins Hall to assemble sandwich bags. We will serve at the Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen on Thursday, September 24 at 10:00 am. Contact Wendy Blanchard to help.

What Does It Mean to be a Member of FPC? Pastor Lee will be leading an informational class for those who are interested in joining the church or would just like to find out more about who we are as a church on Sunday, September 27 at 10:00 am in the Chapel. He will talk about the core beliefs that make us reformed and about how we govern ourselves that make us Presbyterian. Participants will learn about the church’s leadership, ministry, staff, outreach, and how to join, among many other things. Please RSVP to Pastor Lee at lzehmer@fpcrockhill.org to let us know that you will be attending. We hope to see you there!

Montreat Weekend is October 16-18! The cost is \$140/night for your family – with financial assistance available. See Kara with questions and to register. This is a relaxing opportunity for church family fellowship in the mountains during peak leaf season. Hope you can join us!



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 Host Week

Sunday, September 13

9:00 am Mission and Outreach Committee
9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Sunday School for all ages
11:00 am Worship
2:30 pm Handbells
5:00 pm Youth Kickball Game & Burgers & Barley
5:00 pm Children’s Choirs

Monday, September 14

9:00 am Property Committee

Tuesday, September 15

4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
6:00 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 16

6:30 pm Men’s Bible Study

Thursday, September 17

2:00 pm Yarns of Love
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
5:00 pm Pickleball

Sunday, September 20

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Sunday School for all ages
11:00 am Worship
3:30 pm Handbells
4:30 pm Youth Group (see announcements for details)
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 September

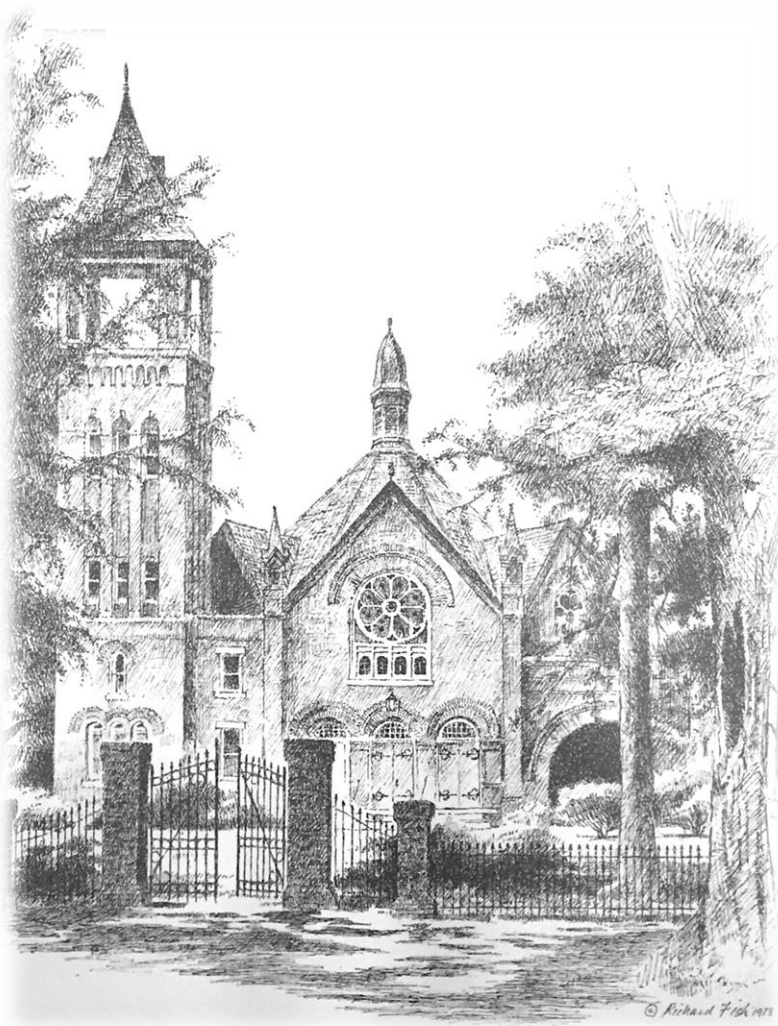
Margaret Joiner, Steve Roberts, Jonathan Nichols

Office Staff and Contact Information

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(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



September 13, 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