

August 3, 2025

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Psalm XIX Benedetto Marcello

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´

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalms 17, 138, 19

One: We call upon you, O God, for you will answer us.

All: Incline your ear to us, and hear our words.

One: We will sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

All: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you,

One: O LORD, our rock and our redeemer.

*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 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing MADRID

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, too often, we say the very things we do not want to say, with words that are angry, reactionary, thoughtless, self-righteous and mean-spirited. We speak when we should remain silent, and we remain silent when we should speak with boldness for the sake of love and justice. We cannot tame our wild and rebellious tongues on our own. We ask for your forgiveness and for your deliverance. Restore and redeem us, that our mouths might declare the wonder of your grace, the beauty of your creation and the joy of being your forgiven sons and daughters. 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 (adapted from Psalm 145:13-14)

One: “The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.” Friends, believe the Good News:

All: In Jesus Christ, all of our sin has been forgiven and God has lifted us 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

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (see insert) Rev. Kara Wheeler
(All children are welcome in Children’s Church with Ms. Kara.)

ANTHEM

Lord, Be the Bread of Life Edwin E. Ferguson
Lord, be the bread of life to me, that I may know no hunger. Lord, be the wine of love to me, so love for Thee grows stronger. Lord, I will watch one night with Thee, will climb the Holy mountain, to see Thy face transfigured light, to taste the living fountain. The covenant between us, Lord, seals me in sweet communion. Then let thy spirit enter me, fulfilled in mystic union.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 1:1-7; 15:1-4; 16:24 (Pew Bible p. 551, 563, 565)

THE SERMON

Wisdom from Proverbs: Soft Answers and Pleasant Talk 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: The Apostles’ 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

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word Dietrich Buxtehude

*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

God of mystery, you come to us through the love of Christ. God of grace, you come to us in the presence of the Holy Spirit. You come to us with abundance beyond words. Let us respond by meeting you at this time and in this place with gifts of gratitude for the love of God, the life of Jesus and the movement of the Holy Spirit among us. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION 508

Come to the Table COME TO THE TABLE

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 450

Be Thou My Vision SLANE

*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

Postlude on “Hymn to Joy” Albert Travis

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

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 10:** Megan Keener
Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: Mary Anne Sheppard, Joan Musselwhite
Elder/Deacon on Duty August 10: Elizabeth Owen, James Crean
Monitor/Greeter Today: Chris Cycak **August 10:** Bob Ballard
Acolytes Today: Jamison Deese, Henry Goodner
August 10: Cecily Zelinski, Penelope Zelinski

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

Blessing of the Backpacks: Our backpack blessing tags were a gift from the growing faith initiative. Seven days of devotions are available for Back2School at www.d365.org (devotions365daysayear).

Help for HOPE: During the month August, we are asking for **boxes of breakfast cereals**. All brands and kinds are welcome. Please place your donations in the bin in the Narthex by **Sunday, August 17**. Your donations make a difference and are very much appreciated.

Jesus on the Move: There are copies of *Flat Jesus* on the table in the Narthex. Sharing of *Jesus on the Move* and *Flat Jesus* pictures allows us to celebrate the ordinary and extraordinary of summer with our church family. Email your pics to the Church Office at firstpresrh@gmail.com.

Ladies Nite Out: On Tuesday, August 12, we will be going to Pier 51 Seafood at 3921 Mt. Gallant Rd. at 6:00 pm. If you wish to carpool, meet in the parking lot behind the Family Trust/Warren Norman building (in front of the Harris Teeter shopping center) at the corner of Celanese and India Hook Road by 5:30 pm. Please RSVP to Linder Tucker by Monday, August 11 at 6:00 pm.

The Rock Hill Music Club presents the *Palmetto Voices Spiritual Ensemble* on Saturday, August 16, at 6:30 pm at Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church. Tickets: \$25 per person. Purchase tickets at www.rockhillmusicclub.org or at the door. You can also purchase paper tickets from Dr. Don Rogers. Proceeds to benefit the Rock Hill Music Club scholarships for Winthrop University and York County High School Seniors majoring in music. This program will feature African music, Negro Spirituals, and Gospel, all central parts of this unique American art form.

Rise Against Hunger: We will need close to 100 people to get our 15,000 meals packed on Sunday, August 17, beginning at 2:00 pm. This is a fun opportunity for children, youth, and adults to serve alongside each other. Sign up at: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/FirstPresRockHill2025> or the QR code.



Mission Outreach Updates: We help at the Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen at 902 Crawford Rd, Rock Hill, on Thursday, August 28 at 10:00 am. Please contact Wendy Blanchard to help. The HOP ministry will **not** meet in August.

Save the Date for Rally Day: On Sunday, September 7 we will have a breakfast potluck at 10:00 am. Bring a breakfast dish/item to share. We will be sharing the *Jesus on the Move* pics from this summer! Don’t miss it!

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.

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, August 3

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship with Communion & Blessing of the Backpacks
11:15 am Christian Ed. Meeting
Ladies Out to Lunch

Tuesday, August 5

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

Thursday, August 7

8:30 am Walking Group
2:00 pm Yarns of Love
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

Sunday, August 10

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship with 1st Grade Bible Presentation

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

Deacons of the Month for August

Christy Goodner, Kathy James, Joan Musselwhite

Church Office Hours

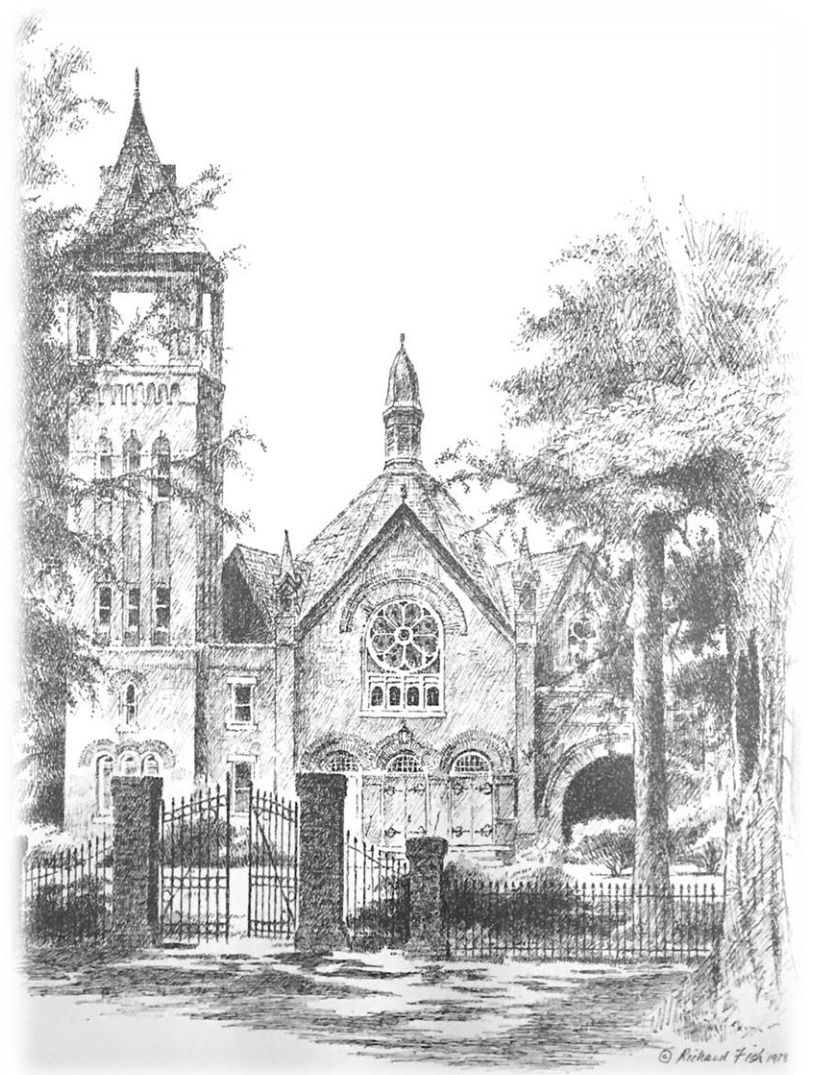
Monday – Wednesday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Friday: Closed

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% 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
Rev. Kara Wheeler – Director 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