

# The Second Sunday after Epiphany

## January 18, 2026

### WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

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

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Aria*

Flor Peeters

#### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 543, v.1)

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

GREEN TYLER

**God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice; God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Are any among us weary? Do we carry heavy burdens?  
**Here is a place of rest. Here we encounter Christ’s healing and grace.**

Are any among us frantic and scattered, breathless in our busy-ness?  
**Here is a place of deep peace. In our worship, we meet the unhurried God.**

Are any among us feeling brittle and broken, thirsty for the gospel?  
**Here we encounter Jesus, the living water — tranquil and ever present.**

Are any among us feeling hollow and empty, hungry for truth?  
**Here we encounter Christ, the bread of life — nourishment for the journey.**

#### \*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 463

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

### WE CONFESS OUR SIN

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord Jesus, God of each step, you walk with us on our journeys. Through our valleys of despair, our mountains of accomplishment and our twisting paths of transition, you are with us. Yet, we often think we made it by ourselves, refusing to acknowledge your gentle nudges, discounting the helping hands along the way, not noticing the prayers that followed us and went before us each step of the way. Forgive our lack of trust in you and the refusal to hear and believe your assurance of the journey. Forgive us of all that is past, and free us to a new and living faith in you, through Christ our risen Lord.**

*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: Friends, our God has poured out grace upon grace, freely, in great abundance upon us, although we never earned it and don’t deserve it.

**All: This is the good news we cherish: In Christ we are a forgiven people, Praise be to God!**

#### \*RESPONSE (Hymnal 581)

*Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI (Creatorex)

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are welcome in Children’s Church with Ms. Lauren.*

#### ANTHEM

*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

Dale Wood

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone; chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the church in one. Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone. To this temple where we call Thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today; with Thy wonted loving kindness hear Thy servants as they pray, and Thy fullest benediction shed within its walls alway. Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One. One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.

#### SCRIPTURE READING

*Hebrews 12:1-2*

(Pew Bible p. 212)

#### THE SERMON

*Fixing Our Eyes Upon Jesus*

Rev. Kara Wheeler

#### TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

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

### WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

#### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE 741 (vv. 1, 2, 4, and 5)

*Guide My Feet*

GUIDE MY FEET

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries in the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

#### 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

*Brightest and Best*

arr. Janet Linker

#### \*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

**Ever-Present and Calling God, knowing us from the beginning, naming us as your own, you have entrusted us with the holy work of bearing your light to the world. Receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them—and us—to proclaim your justice, to shine your love to the ends of the earth, and to glorify your name. Amen.**

### WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

#### \*CLOSING HYMN 543 (vv. 1, 3, and 5)

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

GREEN TYLER

#### \*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

*How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*

Dietrich Buxtehude

*The flowers today are to the Glory of God and in honor of all persons who participate in the Music Ministry of FPC by Don Rogers.*

#### **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:** Christy Goodner **January 25:** Libba Faircloth  
**Elder/Deacon on Duty Today:** Susan Roberson, Cameron Lawson  
**Elder/Deacon on Duty January 25:** Elizabeth Owen, Dave Keely  
**Monitor/Greeter Today:** Kinch Edwards **January 25:** Bob Ballard  
**Acolytes Today:** Keaton Esposito, Amelia Skinner  
**Acolytes January 25:** Taylor Chubb, Alexander Roberson

**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, Will Read, Linder Tucker, Manfred Liewald

**Youth Group:** We will not meet today due to the MLK, Jr. school holiday. Middle School Mission Night for Bethel Men’s Shelter will be next Sunday, January 25, 5:00 - 7:30 pm. Parent help needed with transportation.

**Monitor/Greeter 2026 Schedule:** Please see the sign-up sheets in the Narthex for the 2026 schedule. There is an info sheet that explains the role of the Sunday Monitor/Greeter. If you haven’t served before, we welcome new men to the list! Contact Jonna Eichorn at jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org if you have any questions.

**Help for HOPE:** We are collecting soup for January. Any brand, size, can or carton, and flavor are needed! Please leave donations in the Narthex bin by TODAY. Your contributions are appreciated by the Mission Committee and more importantly, the recipients at HOPE who need it most.

**Outreach Opportunities:** FPC will serve at the **Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen** on Thursday, January 22 at 10:00 am. Reach out to Wendy Blanchard for info. **Hunger Outreach Program (HOP) Ministry** will meet at 2:30 pm on Tuesday, January 27 in Hopkins Hall. See Tom Hickman or Christy Goodner for more info.

**Family Promise:** Thanks for all the wonderful volunteers at FPC who host families experiencing homelessness. **FPC will host again the weeks of January 25 – 31 and March 8 -14.** We will need overnight hosts, dinner providers, and greeters to open the building, visit with our guests, and help other volunteers. The January signup sheets are in the Narthex or you may use the QR code.



**A Pickleball Clinic** with LaVern Hovey, a well-known certified instructor in Rock Hill, will be held on February 5 at 5:00 pm in Hopkins Hall. The clinic is 90 minutes long and costs \$20 per person. Contact Chip Hutchison if you would like to register for the clinic.

**Presbyterian Kids:** Passportkids registration is now open for summer camp for grades 3 - 5 at Montreat Conference Center, July 6 - 9. Cost is \$200. A \$50 deposit due to Kara by January 25. Scholarships are available.

**Souper Bowl of Caring:** Join us on Sunday, February 8 for the 2026 Souper Bowl! Let’s tackle hunger in Rock Hill! Bring your specialty chili, soup, or dessert to share. Beverages and condiments will be provided. Save the date for this fun lunch after worship in Hopkins Hall. Who will win our soup, chili, and dessert cook-off? Which team will we vote to win?

**A Reception of New Members** will be held on Sunday, February 8 at 10:30 am in the Chapel. Contact Pastor Lee or Kara if you are interested in joining the church.

**A Spring Mission Trip for all Youth (grades 6 - 12)** will be Friday, March 20 (depart church at 3:30 pm) to Sunday, March 22 (return by 5:00 pm.) We will be serving with Charleston Youth Mission Co. and staying at the Charleston-Atlantic Presbytery offices. There are only 24 spaces. Deposit \$25 - Total cost \$125 plus additional money for 2 meals on the road. Contact Kara to register!

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**

**Sunday, January 18**

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship  
3:30 pm Handbells  
5:00 pm Children’s Choirs

**Monday, January 19**

*Church Office Closed for MLK, Jr. Day*

**Tuesday, January 20**

8:30 am Walking Group  
10:00 am Women’s Bible Study  
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class  
6:00 pm Session and Diaconate Meeting

**Wednesday, January 21**

6:00 pm Yoga  
6:30 pm Men’s Bible Study

**Thursday, January 22**

8:30 am Walking Group  
11:00 am Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen  
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

**Sunday, January 25**

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship  
3:30 pm Handbells  
5:00 pm Children’s Choirs  
5:00 pm Middle School Youth at Bethel Men’s Shelter

**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 January**

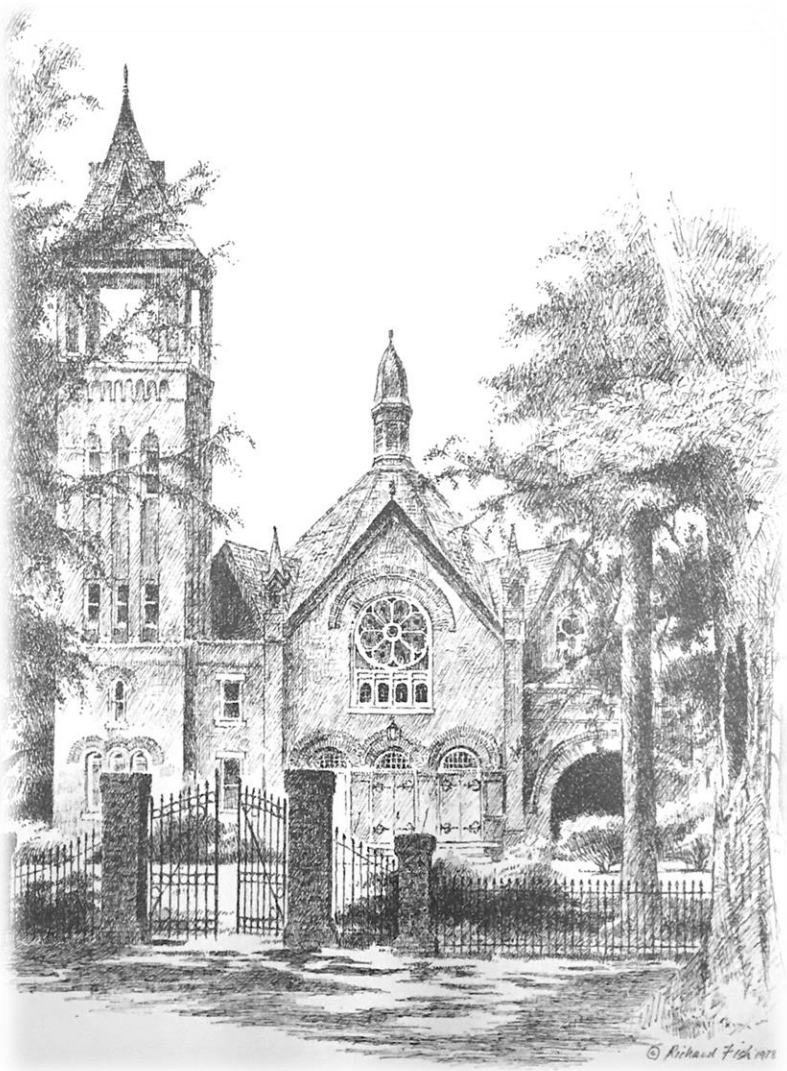
Jennifer Abernathy, Beth Janicke, Betsy Forrest

**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



**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