

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!
We are thrilled to have you here.*

Gathering Around the Word

Centering Prayer

God our helper, our shade, our protector, you are able to give life to the dead, to call into being things that do not exist. We trust in your power to make all things new; to keep us in sunlight and moonlight, along rocky paths and pathways unknown; until all our going and coming brings us at last to your kingdom promised in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Prelude

They Cast Their Nets in Galilee BY CHARLES CALLAHAN

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Concerns and Celebrations of the Church

*Call to Worship: (responsive)

If you ask the sky who God is,

the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,

the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,

the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God" (Psalm 19:1)

Are you listening?

We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory.

Let us worship Holy God.

*Morning Prayer

*Opening Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah #65/CWM RHONDDA

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession: (responsive)

Holy God, some days we are quick to declare your goodness. Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith. Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings –

trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith. But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith. Amen.

(Our prayer continues in silence)

*Words of Forgiveness

Friends, whether you speak to God in a whisper or with clear conviction, with questions or with answers, with hope in your heart or with doubt in your throat – God will *always* listen with love and mercy. So rest in this good news: regardless of how loudly you live your faith – you belong to God.

We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven.

Speak *that* good news with confidence.

Amen.

*Gloria Patri

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.*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Anne Barnes

First Lesson: Psalm 19

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace BY TOM FETTKE

Make me a channel of Your peace. O Master, grant that I may never seek Where there is hatred, let me bring so much to be consoled, as to console; Your love, where there is injury, Your to be understood, as to understand, to pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, be loved, as to love, with all my soul. true faith in You. Make me a channel of Make me a channel of Your peace. It is Your peace. Where there's despair in in pardoning that we are pardoned, in life, let me bring hope, where there is giving of ourselves that we receive, and darkness, only light, and where there's in dying that we're born to eternal life. sadness, ever joy. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Andy

All preschool and elementary children are invited to come down front.

Second Lesson: Matthew 16 :13-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

Responding to the Word

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Peace in Our Time, O Lord ARR. BY CRAIG PHILLIPS

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDT

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

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

*Closing Hymn

Open My Eyes, That I May See #451/OPEN MY EYES

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

*Choral Benediction

What Wondrous Love Is This WILLIAM WALKER

*Postlude

Rhapsodie Gothique BY GORDON YOUNG

Thank you to Carol Anne Barnes for serving as liturgist and to Holly Cody for live streaming at Presbyterian Communities.

Prayers for the Week

Morning Prayer: *God, my maker, hold me this day, with the same hand that shapes the mountains, with the same hand that cradles the deep. Keep my heart soft and supple, make my faith strong and firm. Renew me, re-form me, re-create me into the image of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.*

Evening Prayer: *We come to you, O Lord, weary from the day's journey, thirsty for rest, hungry for peace. Renew us in your love and restore us by your grace, until we find our rest at last by the river of the water of life. Amen.*

Please Remember in Prayer

<u>Church Family</u>	<u>Friends of Church</u>	<u>Bereavement</u>
Margaret Addison	Stuart Britt	The Wardlaw family
Laura Ashley	Andy Dill	The Threatt family
Neile Chambers	Nancy Hope	Latha Gearheart & family
P-Nut Dowdle	Julie Young Keadle	Cindy Jacobs & family
Steve Floyd	Kim Purcell	Sonya Atkinson & family
Kathy Hamer	Trecie Davis Richey	Pam Warren & family
Linda Hunter		Marvine & Bill Tyler
Gin Jacobs		Danny & Hunt Cook
Liz Pinzon		
Dot Smith		

Please continue to hold our Global Missionaries in prayer: Donald Marsden (US); Pam (Turkey); Ellen Smith (US); Larry and Inge Sthreshley (Congo)

This prayer list will be updated quarterly. If you would like to be added to or removed from the list, please contact the church office – 833-1062.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Marty Ademy	Lee Atkinson	Austin Barnes
Emily Holder	Danny Cook	Cyndi Coker
Bob Link	Amanda Donley	Charlie Gustafson
Holbrook Raynal	Chad Gambrell	Harold Nichols
Andy Sullivan	Jean Johnson	Ashley Powell
Stan Walsh	Bob McLean	Jettie Young

This Week at FPC

Sunday, March 8

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages (Adults & Youth meet in Fellowship Hall)
10:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service
6:00 p.m. – The Classics attending the Candlelight Celtic – Newberry Opera House
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. – Combined Youth Group (CLC Classroom)

Monday, March 9

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Mah Jongg lessons (CLC Dining Room)
5:30 p.m. – Congregational Life Committee (library)
5:30 p.m. – Racial Equity Committee (workroom)

Tuesday, March 10

9:30 a.m. – The Classics CLC Gym walk
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Mah Jongg lessons (CLC Dining Room)
4:00 p.m. – Deadline to submit information for Steeple People Newsletter

Wednesday, March 11

10:00 a.m. – Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Andy
(The Vestibule – 310-B E. Carolina Ave.)
4:00 p.m. – Deadline to submit announcements for Sunday bulletin
5:30 p.m. – Handbell Choir practice
6:30 p.m. – Adult Choir practice

Thursday, March 12

9:45 – 11:00 a.m. – Ladies' Morning Bible Study (CLC Dining Room)
4:00 p.m. – Deadline to submit announcements for Worship News

Friday, March 13 – Church office closed



Scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to OnRealm, where you may make your offering or tithe. (Text/Data rates may apply).

Church Staff

Rev. Andy S. Chambers
Lisa Keen, Office Manager
Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary
Mac McDougal, Director of Music
Dr. Karen Buckland, Organist
Sheryl Owens, Custodian

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Clinton, South Carolina

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026