

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We are so happy that you are here today to share in our service of worship of the Living God!

Gathering Around the Word

The congregation is asked to make use of the prelude as a time of preparation, meditation, and prayer.

\*All who are able, please stand.

Prelude Prelude on “Brother James’ Air” James Denton

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations of the Church

\*Call to Worship (responsively)

Leader: The Lord looks down from heaven to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

All: They have all gone astray; there is no one who is good, no, not one.

Leader: Have they no knowledge, those who devour God’s people and do not call upon the Lord?

All: O that our deliverer would come! Lord, restore our lives and make us glad.

\*Opening Prayer (unison)

O God, as we gather now for worship, may we hear your words that give life purpose and meaning. May we allow your Holy Spirit to be at work in our lives and the life of our church. Guide us to be your people in this place and at this time. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn: 643 NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now Thank We All Our God

\*Prayer of Confession

Leader: Sisters and brothers, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God every time we turn toward our home and remember whose we are. With open hearts, let us pray and confess our sin.

All: Creator of the universe, we imagine that we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us to our foolishness. In judgment, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken, and life is restored.

A time for silent prayers of confession.

\*Confessional Response: 572 (Old Book) arr. Healy Willan

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us (Kyrie Eleison)

Lord, have Mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

\*Assurance of Pardon (responsively)

Leader: But this we call to mind and therefore have hope. The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.

All: In the name of the Lord, who is our portion and our hope, we know that our sins are forgiven. May our mouths be filled with praise. Amen.

\*Response to God’s Grace: 581 GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Young Disciples Gemma Gearheart

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

Prayer of Illumination (unison)

Mighty God, you spoke the world into being; speak now to our hearts. By the power of your Spirit, make these ancient words live, that we might be shaped into your people, eager to bear your claim in the world and to give flesh to your future. For we pray in the name of Jesus, who leads us into life. Amen.

First Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem Amazing Grace Jay Rouse

Second Lesson: Luke 15:1-10

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Being Found” Dr. Duke Dixon

Responding to the Word

\*Hymn: 442 WOODWORTH

Just As I Am, without One Plea

\*Affirmation of Faith (unison) 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.

Please be seated as we prepare for prayer.

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.”

The Offering

Offertory Sentences

Offertory My Jesus, I Love Thee Janice James

\*Offertory Response: 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives. Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known that our lives might show forth your glory. For we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

\*Closing Hymn: 649 AMAZING GRACE

Amazing Grace

\*Charge and Benediction Dr. Duke Dixon

Choral Benediction

\*Postlude The Singing Trumpet Edward Broughton

Thank you to Holbrook Raynal for serving as today’s liturgist and to Gemma Gearheart for Leading Time with the Young Disciples.

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family	Friends of Church	Bereavement
Laurie Addison	Stuart Britt	Latha Gearheart & family
Margaret Addison	Andy Dill	Jackie Waldron & family
Nancy Arnold	Sherry Dishman	Donna Jackson & family
P-Nut Dowdle	Nancy Hope	Lee Counterman & family
Steve Floyd	Julie Young Keadle	George Copeland & family
Nancy Goodbar	Kim Purcell	The Dixon family
ShaSha Gower		The Frey family
Gin Jacobs		The Wardlaw family
John Lapomarda		The Threatt family
Liz Pinzon		Family of Mary Nell Askew
Dot Smith		Lawrence Coleman & family
		Family of Chris Branham
		The Tribble family
		The Hamer family

“I am the Resurrection and the Life ...”

Robert P. “Bob” Hamer

November 14, 1943 – September 9, 2025

The congregation extends love and sympathy to Kathy Hamer and family at the recent passing of Kathy’s husband, Bob Hamer, on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



### Core Values of FPC Clinton

- ❖ UNITED IN CHRIST
- ❖ INSPIRED IN WORSHIP
- ❖ EQUIPPED IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
- ❖ ENGAGED IN ACTS OF LOVE THROUGH SELFLESS SERVICE
- ❖ JOINED IN FELLOWSHIP

### The Session of First Presbyterian Church

#### Class of 2025

Derrick Adair  
Katherine Addison  
Austin Barnes  
Maecy Burton  
Cyndi Coker  
Van Mattison  
Harold Nichols  
Jackie Waldron

#### Class of 2026

Marty Ademy  
Emily Holder  
Bob Link  
Holbrook Raynal  
Andy Sullivan  
Stan Walsh

#### Class of 2027

Lee Atkinson  
Danny Cook  
Amanda Donley  
Chad Gambrell  
Jean Johnson  
Bob McLean

### This Week at FPC

#### Sunday, September 14

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service  
6:00 p.m. – Sunday Night Youth Group (CLC youth classroom)

#### Monday, September 15

7:00 p.m. – Women’s Evening Bible Study (parlor)

#### Tuesday, September 16

4:00 p.m. - Deadline to submit announcements for Steeple People newsletter

#### Wednesday, September 17

4:00 p.m. – Deadline to submit announcements for Sunday bulletin  
5:30 p.m. – Handbell practice (Room 217)  
6:30 p.m. – Choir practice (choir room)

#### Thursday, September 18

4:00 p.m. – Deadline to submit announcements for Friday morning Worship News

#### Friday, September 19 – 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

Dr. Duke Dixon, Interim Pastor  
Lisa Keen, Front Office/Communications  
Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary  
Mac McDougal, Director of Music  
Dr. Karen Buckland, Organist  
Sheryl Owens, Custodian

### Email

[duke@fpccanton.org](mailto:duke@fpccanton.org)  
[lisa@fpccanton.org](mailto:lisa@fpccanton.org)  
[carolyn@fpccanton.org](mailto:carolyn@fpccanton.org)  
[macmcdougal@gmail.com](mailto:macmcdougal@gmail.com)  
[kbuck@presby.edu](mailto:kbuck@presby.edu)  
[sasowens1961@gmail.com](mailto:sasowens1961@gmail.com)

### Phone: 864-833-1062

X 102  
X 101/575-937-1641 (mobile)  
X 103  
803-524-6101  
864-833-8467

**Missionaries:** Donald Marsden (US); Pam and Emre (Turkey); Ellen Smith (US); Larry and Inge Sthreshley (Congo)

## Announcements

Please hold the Dixon family in your prayers as they travel to Macon, Georgia this week to attend a Celebration of Life service for Duke’s mother, Frances Archer Dixon, who entered the Church Triumphant on March 24<sup>th</sup>.



**Next Sunday is PC Sunday!** The PC Choir will sing, President Anita Gustafson will bring greetings, and PC Chaplain Buz Wilcoxon will offer the sermon. We look forward to worshipping with PC and our church family!



**Following the worship service,** the congregation and all PC students are invited to join us for a covered dish lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Bring lots of your favorite dishes to share. The Congregational Life Committee will provide both baked/fried chicken and tea. We look forward to seeing you there!



**A nursery is available (baby – 3 yrs. of age)** during the worship hour. If you would like to volunteer to keep the church nursery, please contact the church office. Based on church policy, there will need to be two adults or one adult and one senior high youth in the nursery during this hour. Thank you to Jean, Haleigh and Logan Johnson for volunteering today.



**Worship Bags for Children** – Before worship each Sunday, all children are encouraged to pick up a Worship Bag from the rack in the narthex or basket in the sanctuary entry near the chapel. These bags contain resources that will help children worship and praise God. **Bags should be returned to the rack or basket after worship.**



**This sanctuary** is equipped with an Oval Window Audio Induction Loop Assistive Listening System. Please switch your hearing device to “T” (telephone) or request assistance. Headsets are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.



**\$12 for adults and \$8 for kids.** Order cards are placed on the church bulletin board, or you may place your order by calling the church office (833-1062). We need 10 more orders to meet the minimum to print the next batch. Help us reach our goal and order your purpose statement t-shirt today!



**The Classics** have resumed their weekly walk sessions at the CLC! Join us on **Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.** for exercise, fun and fellowship in the CLC gym!



**The Women’s Evening faith-based book club** group will meet **tomorrow evening at 7:00** in the **church parlor**. More information will be shared with everyone at our first meeting, and we will come up with a plan for reading and discussing our books. **Please invite other friends! Participants do not have to be FPC members. We welcome anyone who wants to fellowship and grow in Christ!**



**Discover Ireland with FPC!** The *Classics* are exploring options for a 10-day group trip to Ireland (and possibly Northern Ireland) in September of 2026. This would be open to all FPC members, not just those in The Classics group. If you are interested, please email Leigh Ann Bryant at [lasbryant@bellsouth.net](mailto:lasbryant@bellsouth.net) by **September 22** so you can be added to the email list and receive more information as it becomes available. Doing so does not commit you to going on the trip.

# First Presbyterian Church Clinton, South Carolina

September 14, 2025



*“Living, Learning, and Loving Like Christ.”*