

*“Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your faith journey,
you are welcome here.”*



FIRST
— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —
CLINTON, SC
Living, Learning, and Loving like Christ.

September 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Reverend Andy S. Chambers, Pastor

Good morning and welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We give thanks for your presence here with us today and pray the Spirit will be near us all in this time together. This morning, we are especially glad to have you with us as we celebrate and give God thanks for the faithful ministry of Dr. Karen Buckland, who has served as our pianist/organist for 25 years. Karen is an integral part of our music ministry each and every Sunday and has accompanied many talented singers through the years.

Should you have any prayer requests you would like to share with the church, we invite you to fill out the card in the pew back and drop it in the offering plate as it comes by.

Again, it is a blessing to worship with you on this Lord's Day.

May the Lord's face shine brightly upon us all!

Pastor Andy

Centering Prayer

O God who knows our every need before we can even ask, you provide all our needs and some of our wants. You bless us all. Make us truly thankful and empower us to bless others from the gifts you have given us, for the glory of your name. Amen.

*All who are able, please stand.

Prelude

Let All Things Now Living

GILBERT MARTIN

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (responsive)

In the prayers and the praise, in the words and the wonder:

we are given enough joy to live each day.

in the unexpected generosity for the lost:

we are given enough compassion to use in service each day.

In the promises made to all, in the mercy offered to each:

we are given enough grace to share each day.

*Morning Prayer

*Morning Hymn/#385 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

It seems far too often that we cannot decide, O God. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, (at least, for those who need it – but surely, not us).

Forgive us, Presence of Peace.

Instead of grumblers,

may we be ambassadors of grace.

Instead of continual complaining,

may we carry compassion to the hurting.

Instead of whiners,

**may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet. Amen.**

Our prayer continues in silence

***Assurance of Grace** (responsive)

This is the good news: there is no ranking in God's kingdom. God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life.

God has kept the covenant. We have been forgiven; we have been made new people. Thanks be to God. 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.*

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 13:2-5, 13

p. 897 pew bible

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

Look at the World

BY J. RUTTER

Second Lesson: Acts 15:36-41

p. 900 pew bible

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

***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.**

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

Brother James' Air

JAMES DENTON

*Doxology

*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

Special Recognition of Dr. Karen Buckland

*Hymn of Mission/#775 *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

WALK WITH ME

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*Postlude

Once to Every Man and Nation

GORDON YOUNG

The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Dr. Karen Buckland, our organist, in celebration of her 25 years of dedicated musical service to First Presbyterian Church.

Thank you to Andy Sullivan for serving as liturgist and to the streaming team of Craig Powell (soundboard) and Ron & Elisabeth Zimmerman (Pres. Comm).



Prayers for the Week

Household Prayer: Morning

Dear God, thank you for this day. Help me hear others as I know that you always hear me. Open my heart and help me give myself with grateful praise to things you have set for me today. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Dear God, thank you for always being with me. Rest now in me, God, so that I will wake in the morning with praise and thanksgiving on my lips. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.



Church Family

Margaret Addison
Laura Ashley
Neile Chambers
P-Nut Dowdle
Kathy Hamer
Linda Hunter
Gin Jacobs
Dot Smith

Bereavement

Cindy Jacobs & family
Sonya Atkinson & family
Pam Warren & family
Marvine & Bill Tyler
The Goodbar family
Laurie Addison & family
Marty & Bebe Ademy
Debbie Boland & family

Please Remember in Prayer

Friends in Christ

Hope & Stuart Britt (Andy & Randy Sullivans' daughter and son-in-law)
Neal & Lynda Counterman (Lee Counterman's uncle & aunt)
Andy Dill (Jackie Waldron's nephew)
Julie Young Keadle (Jettie & Reese Young's sister)
Kim Purcell (former FPC member)
Trecie Davis Richey (Mary Belle Smith's sister)
Lannie Finley (Marty Ademy's niece)
Moonyeen Smith (Bebe Ademy's sister-in-law)
Emalee Foreman (Freddie Pinson's niece)
Allyson Lunsford (Neile Chambers' dear friend)
Marie McCallister (Amelia & Harrison Watkins' grandmother)
Henry McKinney (Amelia & Harrison Watkins' grandfather)

Please continue to hold our Global Missionaries in prayer: Donald Marsden (US) and Pam (Turkey).

The prayer list will be updated quarterly. If you would like to be added to or removed, please let the church office know.





This Week at FPC

Sunday, September 20

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. - Small Group 7 Ice Cream Social - Presbyterian Community dining hall

5:30 p.m. - Christian Education Committee (library)

Wednesday, September 23

12:15–12:45 p.m. - Pause & Pray (Chapel)

4:00 p.m. - Deadline to submit items for the Sunday bulletin

5:30 p.m. - Handbell practice

6:30 p.m. - Choir practice

Thursday, September 24

4:00 p.m. - Deadline to submit items for Worship News

Friday, September 25 - Church office closed

7:30 p.m. - CLC Reserved till 12:00 p.m., Sat., Sept. 26 (PC Sorority Chapter Retreat)

Saturday, September 26

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Session Retreat, Thornwell Conference Center

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

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

Class of 2028

Austin Barnes
Cyndi Coker
Charlie Gustafson
Harold Nichols
Ashley Powell
Jettie Young

Church Staff

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Rev. Andy S. Chambers, Pastor

Lisa Keen, Office Manager

Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary

Mac McDougal, Director of Music

Dr. Karen Buckland, Organist

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



October 19, 2026: We've planned a free picnic lunch at Musgrove Mill State Park with a visit to the recently renovated Visitor Center. We'll hike the British Camp Trail and then enjoy a great picnic; or, just come for the picnic and fellowship under the picnic shelter. The planning team is providing lunch

(fried chicken, potato salad, deviled eggs, pimento cheese sandwiches, chips, pickles, tea, cookies and brownies). Please RSVP to the church office by October 12th.



The Racial Equity Subcommittee continues its "supply drive" to help replenish the food and school supply pantries at Presbyterian College. The following is the list of supplies that they are asking for: *peanut butter, jelly, Oatmeal, Hormel Compleats, Poptop Chef Boyardee, tuna kits and Easy Mac;*

laundry detergent (pods or small bottles), *toilet tissue, paper towels, toothpaste, body lotion, body wash.* (Scent and Dye-free items are encouraged.) A large bin for these items is placed in the church office hallway, just outside of the workroom.



We invite you to come to the chapel on **Wednesdays** from **12:15-12:45 PM** for a time to "Pause & Pray". You are welcome to bring your lunch and join us for this midweek prayer service. The office & courtyard doors will be open.



We look forward to celebrating PC Sunday on September 27th. Please join us as we welcome the students, faculty, staff and choir of Presbyterian College. A potluck lunch will follow in the CLC. Fried and baked chicken, as well as macaroni and cheese, will be provided. We kindly ask church members to bring side dishes and desserts to ensure we have enough food to share with our guests.



Please scan the QR code at left with your mobile device to be directed to our YouTube channel, where you may livestream any of our worship services. (Text/Data rates may apply)



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

