

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

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Andy S. Chambers, Pastor



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CLINTON

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 A.M.

Dr. Anita O. Gustafson, President of Presbyterian College

Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon, Lassiter Chaplain & Dean of Spiritual Life

Rev. Dr. British Hyrams, Jack & Jane Presseau Associate Chaplain

Senior Members of the Celtic Cross Church Leadership Program

Prayer of Confession

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor and professor in Germany. He helped found the Confessing Church to resist the Nazi government. He was imprisoned and executed at Flossenbürg concentration camp in 1945 two weeks before the Allied Forces liberated the camp. This prayer comes from his writings in prison.

Assurance of Pardon

The Theological Declaration of Barmen was written by Karl Barth and adopted by a group of German Reformed and Lutheran church leaders. It was written as a response of resistance to the Nazi takeover of the German Christian Church, which sought to combine nationalism and a distortion of Christianity that would answer to the government. The Declaration of Barmen is based upon biblical affirmations of the lordship of Jesus Christ, and it insists that it is idolatry for the Church to serve any other lord (including the State).

The Presbyterian Promise

The Presbyterian Promise Scholarship is a commitment by Presbyterian College to recognize students for their merit and affiliation with the Presbyterian Church. PC seeks to develop students academically and spiritually in this signature scholarship. Students who are of members of Presbyterian churches will receive a scholarship for a minimum of \$24,000 per year for up to four years—that's an \$96,000 commitment to you. For more information scan the QR code:



Centering Prayer

Gracious God, we thank you for being ever present with us. We know that we are never alone. Your mercies have been faithful and rich. Pour out your spirit upon us, that we might do the work of your will. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*All who are able, please stand.

Prelude

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name
Mac McDougal, piano, and Karen Buckland, organ

T. Fettke/L.L. Johnson

Welome and Announcements

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

Greetings from Presbyterian College

Dr. Anita Gustafson, President

Choral Introit

“This Is the Day”
PC Choir and Artie Piotrowski, trumpet

Jacobus Gallus

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Ephesians 4:1-4

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

With all humility and gentleness,

with patience, bearing with one another in love.

Make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit,

just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.

*Morning Prayer

*Morning Hymn/#35

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

LOBE DEN HEREN

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945

(Please see note, inside cover)

**O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to
concentrate my thoughts on you:**

I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness, but with you there is light;

I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with you

there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is

bitterness, but with you there is patience; I do not understand your ways,

but you know the way for me.

**Restore me to liberty, and enable me to live now, that I may answer before
you. Lord, whatever this day may bring, your name be praised. Amen.**

Our prayer continues in silence

***Assurance of Pardon** (responsive)

Hear the good news of the gospel.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our sin from us.

In Christ we forgiven, redeemed, and set free. Alleluia. 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

“Didn’t My Lord Deliver Daniel”

Traditional Spiritual arranged by Roger Emerson

PC Vocal Select

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Esther 4:9-17

p. 388 pew bible

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“For the Living of These Days”

Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon

Chaplain & Dean of Spiritual Life

***Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

from the Theological Declaration of Barmen, 1934

(Please see note, inside cover)

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.

Jesus Christ is God's mighty claim upon our whole life.

We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords—areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

As the Church of pardoned sinners, we have to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with our faith as with our obedience, with our message as with our order, that we are solely Christ’s property, and that we live and want to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. British Hyrams

Associate Chaplain

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

"Be Thou With Me"

Johann Franck

*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

A Fond Farewell to Mac McDougal

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

*Hymn of Mission/#307 *"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

CWM RHONDDA

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response *"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"*

Peter Lutkin

*Postlude

Song of Praise

Mary Ellen Kerrick

*The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of
Presbyterian College.*

Thank you to Dr. Anita Gustafson for her opening remarks; to Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon and Rev. Dr. British Hyrams for serving as our guest ministers; to CJ Davis, M.C. Dailey, Olivia Lee, Kacie Tharin, and Thomas Willis (c/o '27) for participating and serving as liturgists from the Celtic Cross program; to Mrs. Kipper Ackerman and the PC Choir for blessing us with beautiful music; and to the streaming team of Craig Powell (soundboard) and Ron & Nancy Dove (Pres. Comm).



Prayers for the Week

Household Prayer: Morning

Dear God, thank you for this day. Guide my mind in your way and help me to do your will. All praise, honor, and glory is yours. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Dear God, thank you for providing for my needs. Thank you for always being with me. Keep me through the night and put a song of praise on my lips when I rise again. 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)
Greg & Jennifer Davis (Friends of Laurie & Lee Counterman/Greg facing extensive surgery for oral cancer in the coming weeks)
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)
Clovis Simmons (CHS tennis coach, recent diagnosis of melanoma)

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 27

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

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service with lunch following at the Christian Life Center. All are welcome!

5:30-7:00 p.m. - Sunday night Youth Group (CLC Kitchen/DR/Classroom)

Monday, September 28

9:30 a.m. - Staff meeting

Wednesday, September 30

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, October 1

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

Friday, October 2 - Church office closed



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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X 102

Lisa Keen, Office Manager

X 101/575-937-1641 (cell)

Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary

X103

Mac McDougal, Director of Music

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Sheryl Owens, Custodian

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



We extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the invaluable contributions of our choir director, Mac McDougal, during the past two and a half years. Mac has been offered a position at 4th Presbyterian Church in Greenville as their Director of Music. While we will deeply miss his presence, we are profoundly grateful for his service as the Director of Music at FPC.



WORLD COMMUNION

Sunday October 4, is World Communion Sunday. If you are visiting with us today, we would love for you to join us again next week for this special worship service as we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you or someone you know would like homebound communion served, please contact the church office. A member of the Congregational Care Committee will be happy to bring communion to you.



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.



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**.



Please mark your calendars for two upcoming Fall events at 1st P. **October 25th:** The Kirkin' o' the Tartan Worship Service & the Annual Fall Festival, where there will be hot dogs, sides, and Skip's famous chili. Bring your family and lawn chairs to Skip & Mary Belle's for a wonderful time of family, fun, and fellowship. Further details regarding the time and address will follow soon.



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)

