

17th 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:

*The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*

T. Fettke and L.L. Johnson

Mr. Mac McDougal, piano

Dr. Karen Buckland, organ

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations of the Church

\*Call to Worship

(responsively)

(Lamentations 3:22-26)

One: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

All: “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore, I will hope in him.”

One: The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

All: It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

Opening Prayer

Benevolent, merciful God, as we enter this time of worship, we ask that when we are empty, you might fill us. When we are weak in faith, you might strengthen us. When we are cold in love, you might warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

\*Hymn:

39

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

\*Prayer of Confession

O God, we join with Christians from all over the world in remembrance of Christ’s death on the cross. Yet, far too often we don’t remember to pray for those Christians who suffer persecution and some even death. We don’t understand the fear for those Christians who must gather in secret to worship. We don’t appreciate the witness of those Christians who live as minorities often in hostile areas of the world. Forgive us, O God, and help us to remember and to pray for these our Christian brothers and sisters who join with us this day remembering and celebrating Christ’s death on the cross.

*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)

One: Gracious God, we know that no matter how far we distance ourselves from you, your love remains steadfast.

All: As far as the heaven is above the earth, so great is your mercy toward those that respect and follow you.

One: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and of great mercy.

All: In the name of Jesus our Lord, our sins are forgiven. Amen.

\*Response to God’s Grace:

581

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory Be to the Father*

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Young Disciples

Pastor Duke

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

Prayer of Illumination

(unison)

Prepare us, O God, to hear your words through the scriptures of this day. Confront us with your claims on our lives. Clarify the choices we must make if our lives are to have meaning and purpose. Help us to respond to the One who came as the bread of life so we may know life at its fullest and best. Amen.

1st Lesson:

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

*Keep Your Lamps*

arr. Andre Thomas

Jim Adair, Conga Drums

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning; the time is drawing nigh. Children don't get weary 'til your work is done. Christian journey soon be over; the time is drawing nigh. Keep your lamps trimmed and burning; the time is drawing nigh.*

2nd Lesson:

Luke 17:5-10

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Faith and Submission”

Dr. Duke Dixon

Responding to the Word

\*Hymn:

817

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

DUNLAP’S CREEK

\*Statement of Belief

(The Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please be seated as we prepare for prayer.*

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.”

The Offering

Offertory Sentences

Offertory: The Lord’s My Shepherd

Jessie Seymour Irvine/arr. C. Callahan

\*Offertory Response

606

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*Prayer of Dedication

(unison)

Lord, your steadfast love never ceases; your mercies never come to an end. Use these gifts, we pray, that through them your compassion may be known. Amen.

Invitation:

One: You are invited now to the Lord’s Table. It is open to all baptized believers. Jesus instituted this meal the night before he was crucified and instructed his followers to eat this bread and drink from this cup to remember his death which is for the forgiveness of our sins.

All: We will come to this table not because we are perfect people but rather because we are sinners in need of God’s grace and forgiveness.

One: So let all those who acknowledge Jesus as Lord and Savior come and partake of this meal. It is for you. Let us pray.

All: We offer praise, worship and thanksgiving to you, O God, for the gift of your Son Jesus, whose death is commemorated in this bread and cup. Stir our hearts, we pray, to recall his suffering on the cross. Let the image of his lonely ordeal arouse our own passions that we may follow him obediently in our daily walk. Let us love and care and practice holiness, knowing that we shall eat and drink with him in the eternal kingdom. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, evermore praising you and declaring:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,*

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer

God, our help, we thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your Son Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as, in Christ, you have saved us. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

\*Closing Hymn:

526

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

LINSTEAD

\*Charge and Benediction

Dr. Duke Dixon

Choral Benediction:

80

*You Shall Go Out with Joy*

THE TREES OF THE FIELD

*(The congregation is invited to sing along with the choir)*

\*Postlude:

Rigaudon

by André Campra

*Thank you to Jean Johnson for serving as today’s liturgist.*

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Laurie Addison  
Margaret Addison  
Nancy Arnold  
P-Nut Dowdle  
Steve Floyd  
Nancy Goodbar  
ShaSha Gower  
Gin Jacobs  
Liz Pinzon  
Dot Smith


Friends of Church

Stuart Britt  
Andy Dill  
Sherry Dishman  
Nancy Hope  
Julie Young Keadle  
Kim Purcell

Bereavement

Jackie Waldron & family  
Donna Jackson & family  
George Copeland & family  
The Frey family  
The Wardlaw family  
The Threatt family  
Family of Mary Nell Askew  
Lawrence Coleman & family  
Family of Chris Branham  
The Tribble family  
Kathy Hamer & family  
Family of Marian Link  
Latha Gearheart & family

**This Week at FPC**  
**Sunday, October 5**  
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Sunday Night Youth Group (CLC classroom)  
**Monday, October 6**  
9:15 a.m. – Staff meeting  
5:30 p.m. – Community Outreach Committee (church library)  
**Tuesday, October 7**  
9:30 a.m. – The Classics Walking group – CLC gym  
7:00 p.m. – Global Mission Committee (church library)  
**Wednesday, October 8**  
4:00 p.m. – *Deadline to submit announcements for Sunday bulletin*  
5:30 p.m. – PNC (workroom)  
5:30 p.m. – Handbell practice (Room 217)  
6:30 p.m. – Choir practice (choir room)  
**Thursday, October 9**  
9:45 – 11:00 a.m. – Women’s morning bible study (CLC dining room)  
4:00 p.m. – *Deadline to submit announcements for Friday morning Worship News*  
**Friday, October 10 – Church office closed**  
**Saturday, October 11**  
12:00 – 4:00 p.m. – CLC Reserved – Private event/Donna Jackson



**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).*

**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

❖ UNITED IN CHRIST

❖ INSPIRED IN WORSHIP


❖ EQUIPPED IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

❖ ENGAGED IN ACTS OF LOVE THROUGH SELFLESS SERVICE

❖ JOINED IN FELLOWSHIP

### Announcements


The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 12, immediately following worship, to receive and act on a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee, who will present a candidate for the congregation’s consideration and approval. The meeting will not be live-streamed, although arrangements are being made to allow member residents at Presbyterian Community to participate in the meeting and vote.



NURSERY


VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED




A special offering

will be collected this morning for Social Services. Loose offerings collected will go towards helping local families or individuals in need.




Presbyterian College Choirs Present: America, Songs and Stories.

The PC Choirs invite you to join them on a journey through American Choral Music this **Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Concert begins at **7:30 p.m.** at Edmunds Auditorium.




Pastor Duke & J. Lynne

welcome you to drop by the Manse at 200 E. Walnut St. in Clinton on **Sunday, October 12, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.** as they host church family and friends in their home and show appreciation for the love and concern you have demonstrated, especially this year (and always)!



Put on your hiking shoes and let's go for a Hike!

The Classics will be hiking on **Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**. They will meet at **10:00 a.m.** at the **Laurens County Park** (409 State Road S-30-854) at the picnic shelter at the end of the road, where they will hike the **May White Azalea Loop** Trail. This 1.7-mile trail winds through a hardwood forest, a pine grove, by a creek and a pond. Bob Bryant will be leading the hike, so please let Bob know if you will be participating ([rbryant@presby.edu](mailto:rbryant@presby.edu)).



**Let’s Pig Out at the Fall Festival!** We’ll have a **BBQ Cook-Off** Sunday, Oct. 26, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at Skip & Mary Belle’s farm. **Bring your BEST BBQ or your appetite.** If you would like to share your BBQ, please email [lisa@fpccclinton.org](mailto:lisa@fpccclinton.org). The church will provide slider buns, baked beans, slaw, dessert, and tea. **Everyone is invited to come, bring a chair, eat and fellowship with one another.**

Church Staff	Email	Phone: 864-833-1062
Dr. Duke Dixon, Interim Pastor	duke@fpccclinton.org	X 102
Lisa Keen, Front Office/Communications	lisa@fpccclinton.org	X 101
Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary	carolyn@fpccclinton.org	X 103
Mac McDougal, Director of Music	macmcdougal@gmail.com	803-524-6101
Dr. Karen Buckland, Organist	kbuck@presby.edu	864-833-8467
Sheryl Owens, Custodian	sasowens1961@gmail.com	
Missionaries: Donald Marsden (US); Pam and Emre (Turkey); Ellen Smith (US); Larry and Inge Sthreshley (Congo)		

First Presbyterian Church

Clinton, South Carolina

October 5, 2025

“Living, Learning, and Loving Like Christ.”