

22nd 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

What a Friend We Have In Jesus

by Emma Lou Diemer

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations of the Church

Moment for Angel Tree

Elisabeth Zimmerman

*Call to Worship

Psalm 245:2-3, 19, 21

Leader: Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

All: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; God’s greatness is unsearchable.

Leader: God fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he hears their cries and saves them.

All: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord and will bless your holy name forever and ever.

*Opening Prayer

You are worthy of all praise, O God; your judgment is sure. Like a refiner’s fire, you purify your people and temper their desires. The heat is your love for them; the flame is the Spirit’s power within. The light is the light which illumines the world. Come, fire from above, and fill our being as we worship you this morning. Amen.

*Hymn: 363

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

DARWALL’S 148TH

*Prayer of Confession

Leader: The psalmist assures us that the Lord is near to all who call on God in truth. So, with assurance of God’s presence, God’s steadfast love, and God’s overwhelming mercy, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All: Holy God, we come before you a broken people in a broken world. We confess we have ignored yet again, your assured presence. We have forged our own paths and charted our own waters. In the name of independence, we have ignored your aid, your comfort, and your peace. We have called upon you in desperation rather than recalling your mighty and faithful acts in all times and places. Forgive us. You have been with us in exile and liberation; be with us even now.

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: The psalmist declares that God hears the cry of the beloved and saves them. Be assured, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Praise the Lord and bless God’s holy name forever.

*Response to God’s Grace: 581

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Young Disciples

Tricia Nolan

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

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

God of wisdom, by your Spirit may your Word be proclaimed, that we may know good news in our hearts and minds and bear witness to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ in word and deed. Quiet in us any voice but your own, that we might hear your Word to us today. Amen.

1st Reading: Philippians 3:12-16

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

There is a Balm in Gilead

by Benjamin Harlan

Foard Tarbert, Soloist

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul, just tell the love of Jesus, and say he died for all.

2nd Reading: Haggai 2:1-9

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Is the Glass Half Empty or Half Full?”

Dr. Duke Dixon

Responding to the Word

*Hymn: 301

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

*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.

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

Harvest Home

by Gilbert M. Martin

*Offertory Response 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

For the gifts offered this day & every day, O Lord, make us good stewards of all that you have entrusted to our care. May these gifts be used to serve your beloved creation, to sustain your children in all they say and do, and to build up your kingdom throughout the earth. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

*Closing Hymn: 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

DARWELL’S 148TH

*Charge and Benediction

Dr. Duke Dixon

Choral Benediction: 80

THE TREES OF THE FIELD

You Shall Go Out with Joy

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

*Postlude

Allegro

by Oliver King

Thank you to Chad Gambrell for serving as today’s liturgist and to Tricia Nolan for leading the Time with the Young Disciples.

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Friends of Church

Bereavement

Laurie Addison

Stuart Britt

Donna Jackson & family

Margaret Addison

Andy Dill

George Copeland & family

Nancy Arnold

Sherry Dishman

The Frey family

Laura Ashley

Nancy Hope

The Wardlaw family

Neile Chambers

Julie Young Keadle

The Threatt family

P-Nut Dowdle

Kim Purcell

Family of Mary Nell Askew

Steve Floyd

Lawrence Coleman & family

Nancy Goodbar

Family of Chris Branham

ShaSha Gower

The Tribble family

Gin Jacobs

Kathy Hamer & family

Liz Pinzon

Family of Marian Link

Dot Smith

Latha Gearheart & family

Cindy Jacobs & family

This list will be updated quarterly. If you would like to be added to or removed from the prayer list before that time, please let the church office (833-1062) know.

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

This Week at FPC
Sunday, November 9
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School
10:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service
5:00 - 6:00 p.m. – Sunday Night Youth Group (CLC Classroom)

Monday, November 10
5:30 p.m. – Congregational Life Committee (workroom)
5:30 p.m. – Racial Equity Committee (church library)

Tuesday, November 11
9:30 a.m. – The Classics walking group – CLC gym
4:00 p.m. – *Deadline to submit announcements for Steeple People newsletter*

Wednesday, November 12
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, November 13
9:45 a.m. – Women’s Morning Bible Study (CLC Dining Room)
4:00 p.m. – *Deadline to submit announcements for Friday morning Worship News*

Friday, November 14 – 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).*



WHAT DIFFERENCE CAN YOU MAKE WITH \$10.00?
After a lesson on stewardship and being good stewards of our time, talents and money, the Confirmation youth were given a challenge. Each youth was presented with \$10 and asked to be good stewards with that money. One youth bought cat litter and donated it to the Humane Society. Canned goods were bought and taken to the Soup Kitchen by another youth. A donation to a Love Offering was given. One youth bought health items and snacks and made blessing bags and took them to the homeless. A monetary donation was given to the Laurens County Cancer Society, and another donation was given to the Humane Society. One youth took money and put it in the washers at the laundromat so folks washing clothes could use that money. We are proud of the good stewards our youth are becoming.

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

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

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X 102
X 101
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



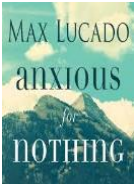
Our youth group, along with Broad Street Methodist, collected nearly 1,000 canned goods and non-perishables for their canned goods scavenger hunt last Sunday afternoon. The youth enjoyed the opportunity to collect so many canned goods on behalf of United Ministries. Thank you to all who donated to their service project.



On behalf of United Ministries, The Community Outreach Committee will be collecting items for the upcoming winter season. Please consider donating gently used or new jackets, gloves, hats, blankets, and socks. A bin is placed under the bulletin board in the church office. We will be collecting these items through January.



The Ladies' Morning Bible Study group will meet next week on Thursday, November 13 at 9:45 a.m. in the CLC dining room. Pam Copeland and Hunt Cook are the hostesses. Jill Frey is the teacher, and Jean Johnson is the leader. We will be studying Luke 4:1-13 (Lesson 3, "Jesus Is Tested") with the main idea being, -- "Christ's wilderness experience shows us that when our lives are dangerous and frightening we are not alone". Hope to see everyone on the 13th!



The Women’s Evening book club group will meet Monday, November 17th at 7:00 p.m. Participants do not have to be FPC members. We welcome anyone who wants to fellowship and grow in Christ! We will pick up with Section 2 of Max Lucado’s *Anxious for Nothing*.



The Presbyterian Community is seeking volunteers to help with a "Christmas Market" Thursday, November 20th, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Friday, November 21st, 10:00 a.m. until noon. If you are planning to donate items for the market, please drop them off to Pastor Debby’s office (on left in foyer before entering chapel) at the Community. If you are bringing baked goods, please drop off on Wednesday, November 19th to ensure freshness.

❖ **Volunteers are needed** to help on **November 19th** to arrange items and price them ahead of time; **morning helpers** on the **20th and 21st** to help "man" a table and collect money for gifts, and helpers to wrap Christmas presents purchased at the Market.

❖ **Items needed:** Inexpensive handmade items such as knitted hats and scarves; wooden crosses; crocheted blankets; Christmas or Thanksgiving-themed cakes, pies, nuts or cookies (to be frozen for the holidays); handmade bookmarks; small pieces of artwork or pottery; homemade notecards with original artwork pictured on them, etc.

All proceeds will be given to missions. Please let the church office know (833-1062) if you can help.



During the winter season, Duke Energy is once again sponsoring the ***Share the Light Fund***. The Duke Energy Foundation will match dollar for dollar the donations from each church, business, agency or individual gift given to ***Share the Light***. United Ministries of Clinton will administer the funds for Laurens County. Donation slips are available on the credenza in the church office hallway. Thank you for your help in helping others!

~ Laurens County Share the Light

First Presbyterian Church
Clinton, South Carolina

November 9, 2025



“Living, Learning, and Loving Like Christ.”