

4th Sunday of Easter

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 Sheep May Safely Graze arr. Melody Bober

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Preschool and Chuck and Judi Neufeld Danny Cook

Choral Call to Worship O Praise Ye God by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

***Call to Worship** (responsively)

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

All: He lays down his life for his sheep.

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

All: He knows us, and we belong to him.

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

All: He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

***Opening Prayer**

We are your people, O God, the sheep of your pasture, the flock you have gathered. Lead us beside still waters; teach us the way of righteousness and feed us at your table through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise: 15** LASST UNS ERFREUEN
"All Creatures of Our God and King"

***Choral Meditation** Christ, We All Adore You by Theodore Dubois

***Prayer of Confession** (responsively)

Leader: If we are honest with ourselves, our hearts condemn us. But God, who knows everything, is greater than our hearts; and God's deep desire for us is mercy, love, and peace. Therefore, let us confess our sin.

All: Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Confessional Response: 572** (Old Book) arr. Healy Willan
"Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us"
**Lord, have Mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

A time for silent prayers of confession.

***Assurance of Pardon** (responsively)

Leader: We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us.

All: This is the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***Response to God's Grace: 581** GLORIA PATRI
"Glory Be to the Father"

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Young Disciples Ada Tiller

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

Afterwards, children 2-4 years old are welcome to go to extended care with adults.

Choral Anthem Psalm 9 by Donna Jo Butler

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Lord God, good shepherd, by the leading of your Spirit, help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days of our lives in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: Psalm 23 (The Message)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem The Lord Is My Shepherd by John Rutter

Third Reading: John 10:11-18

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "The Good Shepherd" Dr. Duke Dixon

Responding to the Word

***Hymn of Dedication: 803** RESIGNATION/CMD
"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

***Affirmation of Faith** (unison) 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 at 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.

Choral Meditation Shepherd Me, O God by Marty Haugen

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 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
(Resignation) arr. Charles Callahan

***Offering Response: 609** LASST UNS ERFREUEN
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***Prayer of Dedication** (In unison)

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

***Sending Hymn: 187** BRADBURY
"Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"

***Charge and Benediction** Dr. Duke Dixon

***Choral Benediction** A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter

***Postlude** To God Be the Glory by Richard Hillman

Thank you to Bob Link for serving as liturgist and to Ada Tiller for leading Time with the Young Disciples.

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Margaret Addison
Bebe Ademy
Mary Nell Askew
Chandra Coleman
P-Nut Dowdle
Betty Gross
Doris Milam
Gin Jacobs

Friends of Church

Joshua & Julianna Bleil
Stuart Britt
Betsy Burton
David Eubanks
Betty Goodman
Nancy Hope
Julie Young Keadle
Susan Presseau
Kim Purcell
Mary Tyler
Nancy Kritz

Bereavement

Boney & Threatt families
Hope & Goodbar families
Bob Link family
Ray Scarborough family
Kristy Gambrell & family
Pam Warren & family
Peters' family
Carolyn Payne & family
Bishop family
Donley family
John Dowdle family
Bill Tyler family
Ann Hall family
Gumina family
Gearheart family
Elizabeth Lusby & family
Jackie Waldron & family
Susan Payne family

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

Announcements

The Global Mission Committee would like to thank the congregation for their generosity in the Give for Lent project. We gave a total of \$1955. A full list of all the gifts we gave is on the Global Mission Bulletin board across from the elevator.

Presbyterian College invites you to Join us for Brunch after the worship service **today (11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)** at the Greenville Dining Hall. Adults: \$10.55 + tax, Children (8 & Under): \$7.00 + tax.

Presbyterian College invites you to attend the Presidential Inauguration at Presbyterian College Friday, April 26th at 11:00 a.m., Belk Auditorium, for the inauguration of Dr. Anita Olson Gustafson as the 20th President of Presbyterian College. For a schedule of events during that week and to register your attendance, please visit: <https://www.presby.edu/inauguration-of-dr-anita-gustafson/>.

The Music & Worship Committee invites the congregation to attend a reception in honor of Chuck and Judi Neufeld for their many contributions to the FPC music program since September 2019. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service next **Sunday, April 28.**

First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) of Clinton, South Carolina seeks a creative and inspiring individual to serve as Director of Music on a part-time basis. This individual needs to be grounded in Christian faith and demonstrate a commitment to fellowship and service. To inquire more about this opportunity and the chance to assist in enhancing our worship services with music, please send your resume to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 29, Clinton, SC 29325, or email to lisa@fpcclinton.org. Direct all correspondence to the Worship and Music Committee, including three references with your resume.

First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) seeks a creative and inspiring individual to serve as Director of Christian Education on a part-time basis (20 to 25 hours per week). This individual needs to be grounded in their Christian faith and demonstrate a commitment to fellowship and service. To inquire more about this position, please send your resume, including three references, to FPC, P.O. Box 29, Clinton, SC 29325; or email to lisa@fpcclinton.org.

YOU might find a "HIDDEN TREASURE" on the fellowship hall stage! Stop by and look at the items from the "Organize the Church" day and take anything you might want. All we ask is that you make a donation to the church for what you take. All items left will be discarded after April 28th. Happy Hunting!

The coordinator for the Congregational Care Meal Team for the month of April is Nancy Dove. Please contact Nancy at 864-201-2237 or by email, ronalddgove@gmail.com for any need for meals for individuals/families of FPC.

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).



This Week at FPC

Sunday, April 21

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School – various classrooms

10:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service – Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. – Combined Youth Group Supper – CLC dining room

6:30 p.m. – Middle School – NHC for Bingo; Sr. High Youth meet – CLC classroom

Monday, April 22

9:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting

5:30 p.m. – Racial Equity Committee - library

Wednesday, April 24

5:15 p.m. – Handbell rehearsal – room 217

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Choir rehearsal – choir room

6:30 p.m. – Pints with the Pastor - Lumberyard

Core Values of FPC Clinton

UNITED IN CHRIST – The grace of God in Jesus Christ is for all people, and with joy we celebrate our unity in Christ. Guided by our confession, we embrace our Presbyterian heritage by practicing a faith that calls us to love and serve God and to love our neighbors.

INSPIRED IN WORSHIP – Worship is at the center of the Christian faith. We gather to encounter the living God through the reading and preaching of God's word, the celebration of the sacraments, the songs, prayers, and fellowship of the people, honoring God with our very best.

EQUIPPED IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – An understanding of the scriptures and reformed theology is vital to our belief that we are a priesthood of all believers. Therefore, we strive to be diligent and effective in encouraging a varied program of Christian Education that engages people of all ages. Through Sunday school classes, bible studies, children and youth ministries, and special learning events, we aim to offer Christian Education that is well organized, well led, and well supported in the church and the community.

ENGAGED IN ACTS OF LOVE THROUGH SELFLESS SERVICE – The love of God is unconditional. We respond to God's steadfast love through acts of compassion, reaching beyond the boundaries of race, economics, and culture to serve our church, our community, and our world with hope and confidence in God's purposes.

JOINED IN FELLOWSHIP - The church is a family in Christ. We strive to bring all generations of the church family together with activities both to celebrate joyful encounters and to support each other through grief and hardship. We share the burdens of those in our congregation and community and encourage each other as we develop faith and trust. In God's love we celebrate and recognize the presence of Christ and the Holy Spirit in our lives through fellowship.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2024

Kay Cleveland
Danny Cook
Will Ferguson
Chad Gambrell
Donna Jackson
Jean Johnson
Bob Link
Ron Zimmerman

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
Holbrook Raynal
Andy Sullivan
Susan Tallman
Stan Walsh

Church Staff

Dr. Duke Dixon, Interim Pastor

Lisa Keen, Front Office/Communications

Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary

Dr. Chuck Neufeld, Part-time Director of Music

Dr. Karen Buckland, Part-time Organist

Laura James, Interim Part-time CE Coordinator

Sheryl Owens, Custodian

Missionaries: Donald Marsden (Siberia), Pam (Turkey), Al and Ellen Smith (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus)

Weekday Preschool Staff: Pam Jennings, Preschool Director & Teacher; Sheryl Owens, Teacher

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First Presbyterian Church Clinton, South Carolina

April 21, 2024



*"As the Body of Christ, we are called to follow
Jesus in loving God and our neighbor."*