WELCOME!

First Presbyterian Church
is a community of believers committed to
“Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together through Word and Deed.”
GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;
All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Prelude  
Morning Has Broken
Handbell Choir
arr. Karen Thompson

Acolyte (11:00)
Florian Sloan

Procession of Graduates (11:00)  
Canon of Praise
Chancel Choir
arr. Hal H. Hopson

† Call to Worship (Responsive)  
(8:45) Ella Grace Marsh
(11:00) Jackson Phillips

One: Happy are those who trust in the Lord;
All: they are like trees, planted by the water.
One: Happy are those who believe in Christ;
All: they will have the gift of everlasting life.
One: Let us worship God.

† Hymn 275  
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Ein’ Feste Burg

Prayer of Confession  
Rev. Joanne R. Hull
Almighty and most merciful father,
We are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens,
wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.
Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life,
our callousness toward suffering,
our envy of those who have more than we have,
our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,
our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law.
Help us to change our way of life
so that we may desire what is good, love what you love,
and do what you command.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon  
One: The good news of the gospel is that Christ calls us to new life.
All: In Christ we are freed to begin again, and to live in joy.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
**Response to Pardon (8:45)**  
*Hymn 581*  

_Gloria 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._

**Response to Pardon (11:00)**  
*You're Worthy of My Praise*  
Youth Ensemble

**† Passing of the Peace**

One: The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, Peace be with you!  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.  
_Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you._

All: _And also with you. Alleluia!_

One: Let us offer the peace of Christ to one another.

**Life of the Church (11:00) Dr. Thomas E. Evans**

**Proclaiming the Word**

(8:45)

**The Word for Children**

**Scripture Reading**  
Acts 1:6-11  
*Pew Bible Page 947*

One: The Word of the Lord.  
All: _Thanks be to God._

**Sermon**  
_Glory Days_  
Jason Moore

(11:00)

**The Word for Children**

Jason Moore

**Scripture Reading**  
James 1:2-4  
*Pew Bible Page 1054*

One: The Word of the Lord.  
All: _Thanks be to God._

**Scripture Reading**  
Job 19:13-27  
*Pew Bible Page 446*

One: The Word of the Lord.  
All: _Thanks be to God._

**Sermon**  
_Pure Prayer_  
Dr. Thomas E. Evans

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All children are invited to the front of the sanctuary during The Word for Children.  
At the 11:00 service, children 4 yrs-1st grade are welcome to attend Children's Worship.  
**Pick-up Location:** Stepping Stones hallway, Clark Building, 2nd floor.  
**NOTE:** May 24 is the last day of Children's Worship, until the fall.
During the 11:00 service today, we will recognize our high school graduates. Please remember them in your prayers as they take this next step in life.

During This Way Forward, we seek to share what God is doing through us - that together we might give thanks to God through service and praise.

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affirmation of Faith (8:45)</th>
<th>Rev. L. Craig Foster</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Apostles’ Creed</td>
<td>Hymnal Page 35</td>
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### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (8:45)

| The Lord’s Prayer         | Hymnal Page 35     |

### RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES (11:00)

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<tr>
<th>Jason Moore</th>
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A Prayer for and Commissioning of Graduates

**Congregation:** Lord, we thank you for our graduates, and ask that you would continue to nurture their dreams. Help them to seek your will in all that they do, and give them the grace to hold fast to their faith through all the days ahead. Give them courage and strength to persevere. Amen.

**Leader:** Now, on behalf of this congregation, we send you out as Christ’s witnesses into the world. Go forth, knowing that you are missionaries to the world, representing God and this congregation wherever you go. Go with God’s power and wisdom, God’s discipline and love, God’s grace and peace and abundant joy.

**Graduates:** May God grant us strength to be His witnesses wherever we go.

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS (8:45) (11:00)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tom McDaniel</th>
<th>John Murphy</th>
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### OFFERTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acquaint Now Thyself With Him</th>
<th>Raymond Haan</th>
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<td>Genesis Choir</td>
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<tr>
<th>I Am On the Battlefield for My Lord</th>
<th>arr. Robert L. Jefferson</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>Reel Robertson and Matias Mariani, soloists</td>
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<tr>
<th>Doxology</th>
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**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

| Old Hundredth |}

† Doxology

† Prayer of Thanksgiving
BEARING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

† Hymn 450 Be Thou My Vision

† Charge and Benediction

† Congregational Response
Hymn 547 Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Postlude Toccata on "Slane"

2014 High School Graduates

Adrienne Lyndsey Atkins
Kathleen Maybry Baehr
Robert Mason Barrett Jr.
Warren Harper Bond
Ann Margaret McKinney Bullington
Collin Bradley Cooper
Claire Elise Cumbo
Madeline Alyse Edwards
Ernest Andrew Floyd
Ruth McNeill Foerster
Stephen Ryan Futrell Jr.
Catherine Pamela Greissinger
Martin Christopher Groke
Anders Downs Ike
Meredith Lea Johnson
James Scott Keim Jr.
Caroline Quillen Kennedy
Page Ferrier Morehead
Elizabeth Iles Oakes
Matt Phillips
Hunter Kamran Popkin
Adam Harris Reinhardt
Andrew Bennett Reinhardt
William Reed Sanchez
Connor Reed Sanchez
Caroline Elizabeth Stone
Jane Maron Tate
Ian Buchanan Threatt
Sarah Dunn Wade
Julia Alexandra Wicker
Grant Patterson Wolfe
Nick Woody

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Lucille Bergeret Bowling by her daughter, Julia Burnett.

A hearing loop has been installed in the Sanctuary. If your hearing aid or cochlear device is equipped with T-coil technology, please switch it to the “T”, T-Coil, or telephone position for improved hearing during the service.

Hearing impaired devices, large-print bulletins, and large-print Bibles are available from the ushers upon request.

Some of our hearing impaired devices are missing. Please check your coat pockets, car consoles, bags, etc. and return any found devices to the Ushers’ Stand. Thank you!
Welcome!
If you are visiting with us today, you are our honored guest! Please sign the Fellowship Pad, so that we may contact you.
For more information about First Presbyterian, check the church website or see one of the Worship Greeters, holding the baskets.

Joining First
If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please come to Dr. Tom Evans’ office on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:45am. Dr. Evans’ office is located off the main hallway, between the Tower Room and Purnell Room. The door is labeled “Congregational Care Office”; ministers and members of the Session will be there to greet you. Additionally, a Welcome Class is held twice a year, which is open to all visitors interested in joining our church or to anyone wanting to learn more about the Presbyterian Church (USA).
For more information, please contact Rev. Joanne Hull; 208-2125/jhull@fpcspartanburg.org or Joanie Shackleton; 208-2132/jshackleton@fpcspartanburg.org.

Baccalaureate Sunday, TODAY, MAY 17
Join us as we support our high school seniors as they begin a new chapter in their lives. We will have a special portion of the 11:00am worship service to recognize our seniors.

Today - Conversations with Session and Pastors
Have a question or a comment that you would like to share with Session or one of the ministers? On the 3rd Sunday of the month for the next several months, a few Session members and pastors will gather in the Purnell Room following the 11:00 worship service to listen or answer any questions.

VBS Registration Deadline is THIS Wednesday!
G-Force: Vacation Bible School 2015 will be held June 8-11, 9am-12noon - for children in rising 4k-rising 6th grade. Registration forms are available on our website (fpcspartanburg.org/grow) and at the Church. The Registration Deadline is May 20.
Want to help? Contact Kristen Raynor; keraynor@gmail.com.

Lunchtime Men’s Bible Study Begins Wednesday!
Beginning May 20, a new men’s study will meet each Wednesday, 12:00-1:00pm in the Large Private Dining Room. The leader will be Kyle Keefer and the study will begin with the book of James.
To reserve your place and for details about study materials, contact Katie Resumovic; 208-2139/kresumovic@fpcspartanburg.org.

Remembering Their Service and Sacrifice
Next Sunday, May 24, the church will honor your loved ones who have served in the United States Armed Forces and have now passed on. We will print the information in the worship bulletin.
Please contact Joanie Shackleton; jshackleton@fpcspartanburg.org/208-2132 prior to May 19 with the name of the person, their rank, branch of service, and dates of service.

Pentecost - Sunday, May 24 - One Combined Service
Celebrating the birthday of the Christian Church and the power of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost is a time to open ourselves to God’s creative new future. We will have one combined worship service in the Sanctuary at 11:00am so that we might truly experience the unity of the church made possible, not by our like-mindedness, but by the one Lord who draws us together and the one Spirit that binds us in love. Our Missions will be a featured aspect of worship, with special guest speakers. Music will be provided by the Spartanburg Jazz Ensemble. You won’t want to miss this Spirit-filled, energetic group! Come ready for the excitement and remember to wear red!
**Celebrating College and Graduate School Graduates**

Today we are recognizing and celebrating with our high school graduates, but we are also very proud of our members who have graduated from college or graduate school this year and want to recognize and celebrate with them as well. If you or a member of your family graduated this past winter or spring or will graduate this spring, please let [contact the church office this week](mailto:kresumovic@fpcspartanburg.org/208-2139).

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**Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 31**

Beginning May 31, and concluding Sunday, August 9, the Summer Worship schedule will be:

- **8:30am** Early Service (Chapel)
- **9:30am** Sunday School
- **10:30am** Worship (MorningSong and Sanctuary)
- **11:30am** Fellowship/Summer Sizzle - June 7, June 28, July 19, August 23
  (August 23 Summer Sizzle Back-to-School Bash @12:30)

_The regular Sunday morning schedule will resume on Sunday, August 16._

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**Summer Choir**

Anyone high school age and above is welcome to be a part of the Summer Choir, which begins Sunday, May 31 and runs through Labor Day weekend. Summer Choir meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45am in the Choir Room (top of the Tower Room stairs) and rehearses music for that morning’s service only, so you will never be behind! There are strong singers in every section and the music is designed to be manageable with one rehearsal. This is a great way for people who enjoy singing but can’t be a part of a choir on a weekly basis to have an enjoyable choral experience and help provide a great service to the church.

_For more information, contact Holt Andrews; 208-2134 / rhandrews@fpcspartanburg.org._

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**Children’s Worship to Recess for Summer**

The Education and Discipleship Committee will recess Children’s Worship beginning with the commencement of the summer worship schedule on May 31, until the fall (the last Children’s Worship will be May 24). Our dedicated group of volunteers will take a much deserved rest. Children’s Worship will resume with the regular fall schedule on September 6.

_If you have questions, please contact Beth Burris; 208-2131 / bburris@fpcspartanburg.org._

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**For Parents**

- **Nursery care** is available on the first floor of the Clark Building for all services for children six weeks through three years old. Silent pagers are provided to parents in case one of our nursery staff needs to reach you.
- **Nursing Mothers:** Room C103 on the first floor of the Clark Building is open from 8:15am through the end of the 11:00 service. Please follow the instructions in the room with respect to use of the changing tables and disposal of diapers.
- **Rainbow worship bags** are provided at the doors for your child to use during worship. Please return the crayons, book, bookmarks, and bag to the baskets at the conclusion of worship. The papers or leaflets are for your child to keep as a reminder of today’s scripture and message.

_If you have questions or comments, please contact Beth Burris; 208-2131 / bburris@fpcspartanburg.org._

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**Looking Forward . . .**

- **May 25**
  - Memorial Day - Church Facilities Closed

- **May 31**
  - Summer Worship Schedule Begins
  - **Worship led by:**
    - 8:30 Chapel - Joanne Hull
    - 10:30 MorningSong - Jason Moore
    - 10:30 Sanctuary - Joanne Hull

- **June 7**
  - Communion
  - **Worship led by:**
    - 8:30 Chapel - Tom Evans
    - 10:30 MorningSong - Craig Foster
    - 10:30 Sanctuary - Tom Evans
  - First Summer Sizzle - Cupcakes!

- **June 8-11**
  - Vacation Bible School

- **June 14**
  - Blood Drive
MISSION THAT serves OUR NEIGHBORS AND OUR GOD
Our congregation serves God and our neighbors at home and abroad with these local and international missions.

LOCAL Missions

Poverty: Monthly Hunger Offering; Mobile Meals; Winter Warmth; TOTAL Ministries; Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network (SPIHN); Habitat for Humanity; The Haven; Healing: Angel Tree; St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic; Children's Advocacy Center; HOPE Center for Children; SAFE Homes/Rape Crisis Network; Thornwell Home for Children; Presbyterian Communities of SC; Disaster Relief: One Great Hour of Sharing, Disaster Response Action Team; Kairos Prison Ministry; MLK, Jr. Celebration; Education: Pine Street Elementary Tutoring; Boys & Girls Clubs; Spartanburg Presbyterian Student Association; Arcadia Outreach Ministry; Presbytery Unified Funds; The Shepherd's Center

International Missions

Missionaries: Support for 4 missionaries - Jo Ella Holman, Cuba and Dominican Republic; Mark Hare, Haiti; Mission Workers Serving with Kurds; Mission Workers Serving in the Middle East; Dominican Republic: Clinica Cristiana; Center for Christian Education & Development (CCED School); Sponsorship of CCED School Children; Infant Nutrition Program; Vacation Bible School; Cuba: Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada in Santa Clara partnership; Haiti: Haiti Outreach Ministries; Philippines: Precious Heritage Ministries orphanage and feeding program for street children; Witness Season; Bread for the World

This week, please pray for the people of Nepal, who have suffered a second major earthquake only weeks after the first. May God bless their families, their government, and the rescue workers who serve them.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Class of 2015: Libby Adamson, Fran Bagwell, Wally Barre, Roy Berry, Mark Coleman, Jenny Dunn, Mark Hicklin, Kay McClure, Len Reed, David Tate, Donna Thornton, Joella Utley, John Verreault, Nick Wildrick, Vicki Woodward

Class of 2016: Vic Bailey, Jay Beeson, Jennifer Biber, Billy Blackford, Mark Cann, Paul Coté, Fred Cumbo, Emma Harrill, Ann Jones, Janet Kuntz, Valerie MacPhail, Darwin Simpson, Penny Wright

Class of 2017: Cathy Bagwell, Colleen Ballance, De Calvert, Cecilia Cogdell, Cliff Gaubert, Brandt Goodwin, Kim Keith, Whit Kennedy, Tom King, Sanders Lee, Sylvia Spears, Monica Threatt, Linda West, Elizabeth Young

Diaconate

Class of 2015: Palmer Ball, Tim Camp, Cooper Cecil, Randall Chambers, Grant Close, Wade Crow, Jennifer Howe, Melissa Morehead, Karen Parrott, Ralph Polson, Jay Reagan, Juli Robertson, Brand Stille

Class of 2016: Orin Beach, Harry Clayton, Mary Deller, Phillip Glover, Pamela Heath, Laura Hollar, Arthur Jones, Eunice Knouse, Alice Madsen, Kevin Marsh, John Tatham, Rob Usry

Class of 2017: Will Adair, Vic Bailey IV, Gail Ballard, Dawn Bingham, Jason Blanton, Steven Blanton, Carroll Easterling, John Faris, Rob Hammett, Harriet Ike, Robby Kocsisko, Laura Ringo, Mary Tygett, Mac White

Staff

Dr. Thomas E. Evans, Senior Pastor; Rev. L. Craig Foster, Associate Pastor, Education/Discipleship; Rev. Joanne R. Hull, Associate Pastor, Congregational Care; Rev. Christi O. Brown, Pastoral Associate for Young Adults; Scott Neely, Pastoral Executive; Holt Andrews, Director of Music; Marcia Andrews, Assistant Director of Music and Organist; Jason Moore, Director of Youth Ministry; Penny Wright, Assistant Director of Youth; Beth Burris, Director of Children's Ministries; Beth Cecil, Parish Nurse; Colleen McCullough, Director of Recreation; Jane Mullins, Director of Hospitality

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