



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 5, 2023

How to Connect

- Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. We are glad you are here!
- The session continues to monitor the current medical and scientific research and recommendations from local, state and national resources. Currently, our church observes a “Masks Optional” policy throughout the church campus with the exception of the nursery staff and volunteers. Adult teachers, volunteers, and nursery staff are asked to remain masked when they are involved in children’s Christian Education activities. We are back to observing The Peace, passing the offering plate, and joining hands to sing The Congregational Response (“God Be with You ‘Til We Meet Again”) in our traditional manner. Anyone uncomfortable with these procedures is encouraged to refrain from participation in any or all of these aspects with full knowledge that our congregation is respectful and recognizes that our members have different needs and comfort levels. Please check any of the following for updates and possible changes in our COVID protocol:

First Presbyterian Church, Dalton Communication Channels:

- “First Presbyterian Church Dalton” - Our church’s public Facebook page.
 - “FPC Connect” - Our private Facebook page for church members and staff
 - “Midweek News” - Our newsletter sent online to most members unless a paper copy is requested by calling 706-278-8161.
 - Your E-Mail
 - Your personal U.S. Postal mailbox
- Find the most current contact information on our members in the church directory. It can be found on our website (www.firstpresdalton.org) under the fellowship tab. Please email the church office for the directory password.
 - Regular team meetings will be held at the discretion of team chairs in-person and/or through video-conference. Scheduling will take place through direct communication and will be posted to the newsletter.

WI-FI



Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. There are two options available: First Pres Guest 2.4 and First Pres Guest 5. Although these will connect to the same network, 2.4 has more strength while 5 has more range. The location of the device will influence which one will automatically connect. The password for the guest network is **johncalvin**.

Announcements

- Please join us for the **Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch** on Sunday, March 12 in Hollis Hall, immediately following worship. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the church office.
- On Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 p.m., The DEO Clinic, in partnership with FPC, is hosting a concert featuring **Becky Buller & Ned Luberecki**. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer. Go to <http://woodsongsdalton.com> for ticket information.
- The story of Jesus’ death is not something we just read: we think about it, and we experience it. During the **Sundays of Lent**, using *Witness at the Cross*, by author Amy-Jill Levine, we will discover the unique memories and insights given by those who were there, at the cross with Jesus. Come join the discussion at 9:15 a.m. in Hollis Hall.
- Throughout Lent, the Christian Education Team invites members of our congregation to write a brief, one-page reflection on some aspect of Lent. Your reflections will be posted daily to our Facebook FPC Dalton Connect page, **Lenten Reflections 2023**. Please send your submissions to Jean Strain.
- This year we invite you to give to **“One Great Hour of Sharing”**. —We will receive collections for this special offering through Easter. See the Midweek News for more information.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

PRELUDE

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Lonesome Valley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

THE GREETING

At the sound of the bells, please prepare your heart and mind for worship.

INTROIT

Be Still and Know

Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Annelle Scott

We are gathered here in the light of day,

Yet there are those who can only come by night.

How do we show them God's love?

We shine the light of His son so that they may find the way.

The way home is here. Let us welcome our brothers and sisters.

For God so loved the world that we share it with all!

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We are on the journey, O Lord. Moving by day and night to find again Your love for all. Help us, in this hour, to hear Your voice reminding us that Your love is constant, Your steadfastness is eternal, and the way home is illuminated by Your vision of what we will be when we arrive. Amen.

*HYMN 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Holy Manna

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

We are poor representations, Lord Jesus. You call us to reach out to the lonely, the hungry, the poor and the diseased. You call us to reflect Your love and compassion for the lost and the least. But we have neglected Your example and hidden behind our own dreams and visions. Re-direct and refresh us with Your grace. Inspire us with Your love for the world and call us anew to be Your ambassadors to the world. Amen.

Prelude Note:

“Jesus walked this lonesome valley; He had to walk it by himself.

Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; He had to walk it by himself.”

Cover Art:

Jordaens, Jacob, 1593-1678. Christ Instructing Nicodemus, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55053> [retrieved February 28, 2023]. Original source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/oxfordshire_church_photos/6218045171/.

Hymn 509 Note:

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards, she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

*Where you see this notation, please rise in body or in spirit.

Kyrie Note:

Our Lenten Kyrie was composed for and is dedicated to Mrs. Jean Lowrey.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Castle Road

A. Burnette (b. 1982)

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems, each with a Cantor part and a Congregation part. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy;' for the first system, '*Christ, have mer - cy;' for the second, and 'Lord, have mer - cy;' for the third and fourth. The Cantor parts are melodic lines, while the Congregation parts are simpler, often starting with a rest before the lyrics.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

**Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me!

William B. Bradbury

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.**

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 12, 1-4a

NRSVUE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

NRSVUE

⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about,

but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

T. Tallis
(c1505-1585)

DFPC Choral Scholars

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3: 1-17

NRSVUE

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Anthem:

*If ye love me, keep my
commandments;
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you
another comforter,
that he may abide with you
forever,
even the spirit of truth.*

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Affirmation of Faith:

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.

Hymn 417 Note:

This text is among the oldest hymns in this book; its original Greek version dates from around the beginning of the 5th century. The stanzas used here come from a 19th-century paraphrase, whose simplicity and directness are well complemented by a 16th-century psalm tune.

Offering Note:

Copy and paste the link under the Offering into your browser to easily submit your online offering.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Nicodemus Quandry”

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

***HYMN 417**

Lord Jesus Think on Me

Southwell

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

“Apostles’ Creed”

THE OFFERING

www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/

OFFERTORY

Sonata in f minor K. 466

D. Scarlatti
(1685-1757)

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Old 100th

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, indeed it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image; male and female you created us.

When we sinned and turned away, you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. By his death on the cross, he made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world and freed us from the bondage of sin.

You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory. In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Schubert

(All sing together)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord. God of power and might.
Holy, holy, holy, Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory;
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory;
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

Recalling your great goodness to us, loving God, in Jesus Christ: in his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise. Blessing, honor, and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

We invite you to come forward for communion via the nearest accessible main aisle and return to your seat the way you came. Communion is served by intinction. Take a piece of bread held by one elder, dip it in the cup held by another, and then, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Gluten-free elements are available from the left aisle.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Feed Us, Lord

Feed Us

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN 547

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

Ar Hyd Y Nos

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

"The Great Thanksgiving" adapted from A New Zealand Prayer Book, Harper One, 1997.

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.

Hymn 547 Note:

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Traditional

**God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

*There will be no postlude during the season of Lent.
Please leave the church in a spirit of prayer.*



Contact FPC

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers	Joy Makers	Faith Explorers
3/5	Annelle Scott	Kathryn Sellers & Joanne Lewis	The Flower Team	Alice Ensley Lively	Jean Strain Jeane Jones
3/12	Priscilla Brown	Jean Lowrey	The Flower Team	Leanna Granillo Judi McPherson	Jeff Granillo Eric Haugen

MONTHLY

Communion (March 5)		Congregational Care	
Prep	Jeane Jones	March	Becky Jolly
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Margaret Venable, Greg & Kim Epps	April	TBD

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

The family of Fran Lewis, as they mourn her death;

Cecilia Passmore, recovering from surgery;

Nancy Rhine, in assisted living located near her daughter;

Bill and Kaye Clark & family, as they mourn the death of Bill's brother, Roddy Joseph Haynes Clark;

Mary Dover, in rehabilitation at Regency Park;

Greg George, kidney disease and recent surgery;

Noel and Coy Temples, as they continue to adjust together to his being in Assisted Living;

Stan Crawford, multiple health challenges including spinal stenosis;

Kristen Weiss, complications of Crohn's disease.

For Healing and Comfort for Family and Friends of our Members:

Roger and Peggy Rollins

The family of Shirley Owens, friend, as they mourn her death;

Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

The family of Tom Phillips, as they mourn his death;

Bill Johnson and his wife Mae express their deep gratitude for your prayers and happily share the news that Bill's most recent PET scan was amazingly clear seven months after he was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer that had metastasized to the bones throughout his body. He continues to recover at home;

Arden Brown, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, has been accepted into a clinical trial for a drug which hopefully will prove to be a cure for Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy;

Wilson Kennedy, Cherokee Presbytery General Presbyter;

Families affected by COVID-19;

Caregivers and aging parents.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 5

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)

10:30 a.m.

CPR "Hands Only"

Training

11:45 a.m.

Monday, March 6

Soup & Scripture

noon-1

Tuesday, March 7

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8

Missions Team Meeting

5:30 p.m.

Handbell Rehearsal

5:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 12

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)

10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday

Fellowship Lunch

11:45 a.m.

Connection Team Meeting

1:00 p.m.

DEO Clinic Concert

2:00 p.m.

Monday, March 13

Soup & Scripture

noon-1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 14

Saturday Sacks

10:00 a.m.

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

Becky Hansberry, daughter of Kaye Clark, is moving to Atlanta in June and will continue her cancer treatment at Emory;

Comer Turley, brother-in-law of Fran Lewis, received a good report from oncologist;