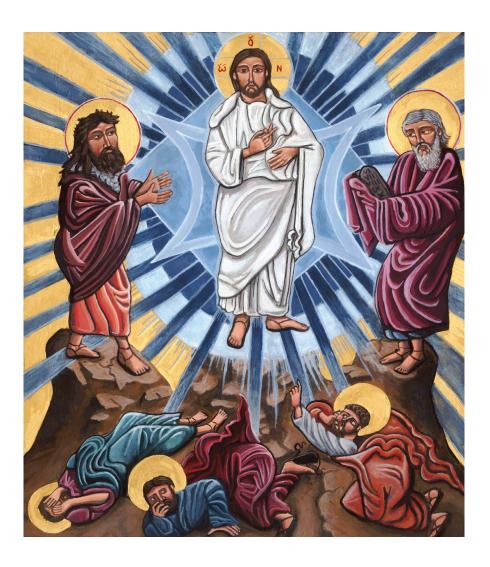


DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Transfiguration of the Lord

Sunday, February 11, 2024

How to Connect

• Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. We are glad you are here!

• 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, if they are unvaccinated, are asked to remain masked when involved in children's Christian Education activities. Some may still opt to wear a mask even if they are vaccinated. Additionally, we have returned 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 this approach 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 Dalton 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 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 videoconference. 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

• You can help the children of the church raise money for a good cause and pull for your favorite team. Today the children will be collecting funds for the **Souper Bowl of Caring** after Worship in the Commons. All proceeds will be donated to the Northwest Georgia Branch of the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

• A **congregational meeting** is called for Sunday, February 18, 2024, immediately following Worship, for the purpose of receiving the 2023 annual financial report and the 2023 annual report of the activities of the church.

• Please join us for the **Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch** today in Hollis Hall, immediately following Worship. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the church office.

• Join us for **Ash Wednesday Worship** at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, as we begin our observance of Lent, a forty-day season of preparation for Easter. The service will include communion and the imposition of ashes. The nursery will be available. All are welcome!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

PRELUDE

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

B. Edwards

Laura Allgood

Be still, and know that I am God

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called to climb a mountain.
Why would we want to do that?
Because there is something we need to see.
What is it?
The Transfiguration of the Lord. And, just perhaps, the transfiguration of ourselves.
Let us worship God!

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

We are journeying with You, O Lord. From valley depths to mountain summits we walk, wander, pound and pray our way on the path. As we pause now to rest and reflect, equip us afresh for the continuing tasks. Set our vision on You alone so that, as You are transfigured for kingdom service, we also may find ourselves restored, renewed and re-created as Your servants. Amen.

*HYMN 159 O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

Kingsfold

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

We are quickly exhausted when climbing mountains of life, O Lord. We much prefer the gentle slopes and green pastures in the valley of ease. We love to see the ridgelines but fear the difficult work of ascending the summit. Forgive our fears and strengthen our limbs for the tasks ahead. Set us upon Your path and encourage us in the work which leads to Your transfiguration and ours, through Jesus Christ, Amen.

Cover Art:

Latimore, Kelly. Transfiguration, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library. vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57114 [retrieved February 6, 2024]. Original source: Kelly Latimore Icons, https://kellylatimoreicons.com/.

Hymn 159 Note:

This hymn created by a noted Presbyterian hymnal editor and scholar employs place names and sensory images (light, fragrance, wind) to sketch the events of Christ's life. The tune name commemorates the village in Sussex where the arranger first heard the traditional melody.

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



and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away

from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Today's music is reprinted with permission to reprint/ podcast/stream music in this service is obtained from One License with license #A-722902. All rights reserved. ⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

II Corinthians 4: 3-6

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

ANTHEM

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy God to order and provide; In ev'ry change, He faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'nly Friend Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake To guide the future as He has the past. Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; All now mysterious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He was below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on When we shall be forever with the Lord. When disappointment, grief and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored!

Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, All safe and blest we shall meet at last. NRSV

H. Sorenson

II Corinthians Scripture Lesson: ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. 6For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 9: 2-9

NRSV

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

SERMON

*HYMN 187

"Just When We Thought We Knew What to Expect" Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

Bradbury

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church could and would have to acknowledge as a source of its proclamation, apart from and besides this one Word of God, still other events and powers, figures and truths, as God's revelation.

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures.

We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords—areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him. "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body [is] joined and knit together." (Eph. 4:15, 16.)

- from "The Theological Declaration of Barmen"

Hymn 187 Note:

This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1–18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

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

www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/

THE OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow 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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 190

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again 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.

*POSTLUDE

Offering Note:

Copy and paste the link under the Offertory onto your browser to easily submit your online offering.

Hymn 190 Note:

The first two stanzas of this 20th-century Transfiguration hymn guide singers through a contemplation of the disciples' experience of that event. The final stanza becomes a corporate prayer for enlightenment and for a renewed sense of commitment to doing God's will.

Old 100th

Traditional

Geneva



Contact FPC

101 S. Selvidge Street Phone: 706-278-8161 Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Interim Pastor: mckenzie.ken@att.net Jean Strain, Director of Christian Education: jstrain@firstpresdalton.org Hye Jeong Kwon, Director of Music: hkwon@firstpresdalton.org Erin Witt, Office Manager: office@firstpresdalton.org **Mailing Address:** PO Box 489 • Dalton, Georgia 30722

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
2/11	Laura Allgood	Jean Lowrey	Becky Jolly
2/18	Michelle Lively	TBD	Bobbie Anderson

MONTHLY

Communion (March 3)		Congregational Care	
Prep	Jeane Jones	February	Joanne Lewis
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Margaret Venable, Kim Epps and Greg Epps	March	TBD

MISSION

The Book Spot		Little Free Pantry Pal	
2/16	Kathryn Sellers & Mary Ellen Gurley	February	Mary Hubbs
2/23	TBD	March	Alice Ensley & O'Gwins

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

Erin Swinney, expectant mother;

Rob Lively and family, as they mourn the death of his grandfather, Frank Reed; John McPherson, as he recovers at home from shoulder surgery; Jeff Granillo and family, as they mourn the death of his uncle, Dennis Moore; Noel Temples and family, as they mourn the death of Coy Temples; Bob Hubbs, as he recovers at home from hip replacement surgery; Charles Allgood, as he battles lung cancer;

On-Going Concerns for our Members:

The Pastor Nominating Committee, as they faithfully continue our search for a new pastor;

Cecilia Passmore and her parents, *Kristen and Chance,* as they settle into their new home in Dawsonville to be closer to family;

Nancy Rhine, in assisted living located near her daughter;

Stan Crawford, multiple health challenges including spinal stenosis;

Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

Rhonda Smith and family, as they mourn the death of her father, Gene Smith; *Nikki Collins and her family,* as they go through the difficult experience of losing their home in a house fire;

The peace of Israel and Palestine;

Upcoming Events Sunday, February 11 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:00 a.m. Worship - Souper Bowl FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream) 10:30 a.m. Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch 11:30 a.m. Connection Team Meeting 12:30 p.m. Monday, February 12 Soup & Scripture noon Tuesday, February 13 Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 14 Ash Wednesday Service 5:30 p.m Thursday, February 15 Women's Book Club noon Presbyterians at the Pub 5:00 p.m. Knitting Group 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, February 16 The Book Spot 7:30 a.m. Sunday, February 18 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:00 a.m. Worship FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream) 10:30 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting 11:30 a.m. Session Meeting 11:45 a.m. Monday, February 19 Soup & Scripture noon

The families of victims of substance abuse;

Kathy Householder, friend of Debbie and Mary Dennard, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer; *Arden Brown,* son of Amanda and Chris Brown, as they seek a cure for DMD; *Caregivers and aging parents.*

Praises and Continuing Prayers!

Becky Hansberry, daughter of Kaye Clark, who has moved to Atlanta, and is continuing her cancer treatment at Emory.

Cover Art Notes:

Commissioned by Fr. Tom Fehr for the Community of the Transfiguration in Glendale, OH.

"I started painting icons in 2011 while I was a member of the Common Friars from 2009-2013. Our collective work was about being more connected: to ourselves, each other, our surrounding community and the land. This manifested itself as a place called "The Good Earth Farm" where we held weekly services and meals, and grew produce for our community and local food pantries.

Iconography has since become a practice of more considerations: of color and light, of brush stroke and form, symbol and meaning...However, I do not wish to approach Iconography as an art form that simply follows an inherited tradition, knowledge and practice. I want it to be a creative process, meditation, and practice that brings about new self knowledge for the viewer and myself. Who are the saints that are among us here and now?

I was not taught by a traditional Iconographer, and so to some, I am breaking many rules. There are icons here that people may find theologically unsound and wrong, or for others, helpful and inspiring. I think both reactions are important. My hope is that these icons do what all art can potentially do, which is, to create more dialogue.

The other may have something to teach us about what we know, about who God is, the world we live in and who are our neighbors. This is the real work of being human and of art. Being more present."

- 2014, Kelly Latimore