



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Service for the Lord's Day
Sunday, February 18, 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 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

- A **congregational meeting** is called for today, immediately following Worship, for the purpose of receiving the 2023 annual financial report and the 2023 annual report of the activities of the church.
- All are welcome each Monday at noon in Hollis Hall for **Soup & Scripture**. The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7, contains some of Jesus’ most profound and memorable teachings. During Lent, we will explore these unique teachings using *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginners Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* by noted author and scholar Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. Join us and the discussion!
- 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, **#LentenReflections2024**. 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.
- On Saturday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m., **The DEO Clinic**, in partnership with FPC, is hosting a concert featuring **Pam Gadd, Irene Kelly and Brennan Leigh** - 3 talented singer songwriters. Please contact the church office if you are interested in volunteering. Go to <http://woodsongsdalton.com> for ticket information.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 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

Be still, and know that I am God

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Michelle Lively

One does not live by bread alone;
But by every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Let us Worship God!

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Draw near to us, loving God. Strengthen us for the season of Lent so that our reflections may cause us to perceive who we really are; not what we wish we were. Set us on the path of renewal and redemption during these somber weeks so that our joy in Easter may be full and finished with Your grace. Amen.

*HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

Nicaea

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

God of the covenant, as the forty days of deluge swept away the world's corruption and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life, so in the saving flood of baptism we are washed clean and born again. Throughout these forty days, unseal within us the wellspring of Your grace; cleanse our hearts of all that is not holy and cause Your gift of new life to flourish once again. Grant this through Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Cover Art:

Kramskoï, Ivan
Nikolaevich, 1837-1887.
Christ in the Wilderness,
from Art in the Christian
Tradition, a project of
the Vanderbilt Divinity
Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-link.pl?RC=54297>
[retrieved February 15, 2024]. Original source:
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kramskoi_Christ_dans_le_d%C3%A9sert.jpg

Hymn 1 Note:

Much of the imagery of this hymn comes from Revelation 4:2–11, which its author, an Anglican bishop, knew as a reading appointed for Trinity Sunday. The tune, written specifically for this text, reinforces the Trinitarian theme by strong dependence on the D-major triad.

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

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Kyrie Eleison



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Glora Patri

S Selwidge Street



Glor - y be to God the Fath - er, and to the Son: and to the Hol - y Ghost; As it



was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be:



world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

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 9: 8-17

NRSV

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the

sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Peter 3: 18-22

NRSV

¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Jesu, by Thee I Would Be Blessed

M. Franck
(1573-1639)

*Jesu, by Thee I would be blessed;
Jesu, pray give my spirit rest;
The springs of life I fain would know
That from Thy pierced side do flow.*

*Jesu, in mercy be my guide, Jesu,
When I by grief am tried;
Be Thou my refuge from this day,
That I may ever near Thee stay.*

*Jesu, when foes encompass me,
Jesu, be near to comfort me;
Protect me with Thy grace divine;
No help avails save only Thine.*

*Jesu, grant me eternal bliss;
Jesu, I ask no joy but this:
My heart and voice on high to raise
To Thee in never ending praise.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1: 9-15

NRSV

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Fulfillment of Our Time"

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

*HYMN 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

Austrian Hymn

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"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.

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/

Hymn 23 Note:

This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God," is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.

Offering Note:

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

THE OFFERTORY

*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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 166

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*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.

*POSTLUDE

Hymn 166 Note:

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.



Contact FPC

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
2/18	Michelle Lively	Kathryn Sellers	Bobbie Anderson
2/25	Ted Hogshead	Nathalie Sanders	Sarah McCown

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	
2/23	TBD & Don Hoffmeyer	February	Mary Hubbs
3/1	TBD	March	Alice Ensley & O'Gwins

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

Wayne Alderman, as he mourns the death of his sister, Ruth;

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*;

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 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

Tuesday, February 20

Saturday Sacks

10:30 a.m.

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 21

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 22

Knitting Group

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 23

The Book Spot

7:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 24

DEO Clinic Concert

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 25

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)

10:30 a.m.

Coffee in the Commons

11:30 a.m.

Monday, February 26

Soup & Scripture

noon

Tuesday, February 27

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

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:

The poet and cultural critic, Rainer Maria Rilke, was profoundly affected upon seeing Kramskoi's painting of Christ in the Wilderness. "The painting portrayed a lonely Jesus sitting on a stone in a desert, lost in melancholy meditation. Russian art does not become more narrow with its growing nationalism," Rilke concluded. On the contrary, "it may be in a better position to express the higher human universals if it completely abandons everything foreign, accidental, and un-Russian." Rilke's advocacy of Russian nationalism has often been misinterpreted by his critics. He was not proposing a return to the confines of a cult or mindless ritual, but he believed in art as a channel or a system of canals for focusing generally unformed national feelings and intuitions. To be authentic, Russian artistic images had to be intimately linked with millions of individual Russian souls." [from: Rilke's Russia: A Cultural Encounter, Anna A. Tavis. Northwestern University Press, 1997. p. 77.]