



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, February 25, 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

- Join us today, immediately following Worship, for **Coffee in the Commons**. Come enjoy light refreshments and fellowship.
- 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.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 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

Behold, the promise of God!

God promises us that we are His people!

God promises us that He is our God!

God promises us that He will be with us on the journey!

Let us move into the Promised Land of His Love!

Let us worship God!

Ted Hogshead

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

You are with us, Holy God. You guide us when we are lost. You rescue us when we have fallen. You nourish us when we are hungry and thirsty. You comfort us in the midst of our tears. Come to us now, Holy God, and set our sights on Your coming Kingdom. Lead us through the Lenten journey to the bright dawning of Easter morn. Through Jesus, our risen Lord, Amen.

*HYMN 4

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Grosser Gott, Wir Loben Dich

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Almighty God, we confess our sins, those of commission and those of omission. We have dishonored Your grace with our prejudice, greed and selfishness. We have sullied Your spirit with our indifference and apathy. Spare us, O Lord, from our own devices. Restore us to Your path and keep us faithful to Your will. Re-shape us and renew us for our citizenship in Your kingdom which quickly comes. In the name of Jesus, our loving Lord, Amen.

Cover Art:

Provoost, Jan.
Abraham, Sarah, and the Angel, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=56510> [retrieved February 21, 2024]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jan_Provoost_-_Abraham,_Sarah,_and_the_Angel_-_WGA18441.jpg

Hymn 4 Note:

Based on an 18th-century German metrical version of a celebrated 5th-century Latin hymn, Te Deum laudamus, this abbreviated 19th-century English paraphrase is sung by both Protestants and Roman Catholics. It is set here to the tune composed and named for the German version.

*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 Selvidge 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 17: 1-7, 15-16

NRSV

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly

numerous.”³ Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.⁵ No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 4: 13-25

NRSV

¹³For 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) — 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Jesus, So Lowly

H. Friedell
(1905-1958)

*Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth;
Christen me wholly, Bring me new birth.*

*Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;
Teach me that only Love maketh glad,*

*Jesus, so broken, Silent and pale;
Be this the token Love will not fail.*

*Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;
Teach me how glorious death is to be.*

Hymn 215 Note:

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 8: 31-38

NRSV

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"What's in a Name?"

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

*HYMN 215

What Wonderous Love is This

Wonderous Love

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"Apostles' Creed"

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

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 361

O Christ, the Great Foundation

Aurelia

*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

Offering Note:

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

Hymn 361 Note:

The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, Hymns of Universal Praise (1936). This familiar tune invites comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).



Contact FPC

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
2/25	Ted Hogshead	Nathalie Sanders & Pam Partain	Sarah McCown
3/3	Mike Brown	Walter and Jeane Jones & Margaret Venable	TBD

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	Priscilla Brown

MISSION

The Book Spot		Little Free Pantry Pal	
3/1	Alice Ensley & Don Hoffmeyer	February	Mary Hubbs
3/8	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;

Rob Lively and family, as they mourn the death of his grandfather, Frank Reed;

John McPherson, as he recovers 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 enjoy 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

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;

The families of victims of substance abuse;

Kathy Householder, friend of Debbie and Mary Dennard, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer;

Upcoming Events

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.

Wednesday, February 28

Missions Team Meeting

5:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 29

Knitting Group

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 1

The Book Spot

7:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 3

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)

10:30 a.m.

Monday, March 4

Soup & Scripture

noon

Tuesday, March 5

Saturday Sacks

10:30 a.m.

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 7

Knitting Group

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Arden Brown, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, as they seek a cure for DMD;
Caregivers and aging parents.

Praises and Continuing Prayers!

John and Erin Swinney, on the birth of their daughter, Palmer;

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