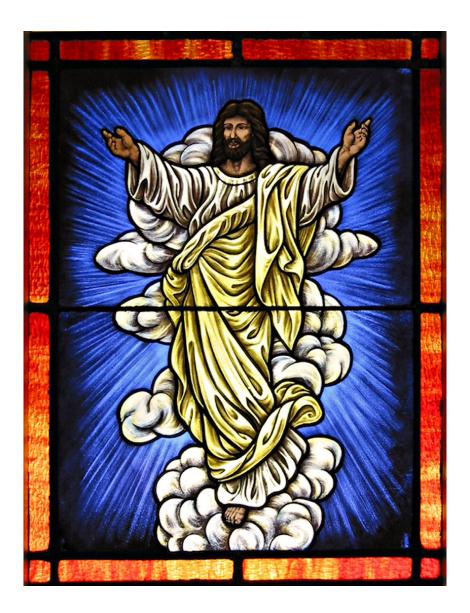


DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31, 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

• Matthew Crabtree is thrilled to be visiting First Presbyterian Church of Dalton today as our guest organist. He currently teaches middle school math in the Cumberland Co. School District. Before moving to Florida a few years ago, he was the Organist/Assistant Choirmaster at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Athens, TN. Prior to St. Paul's, he was Organist at Keith United Methodist Church in Athens, TN. He has served many churches in his community. Matthew studied under the late Dr. Douglas H. Manley while attending Tennessee Wesleyan University where he holds a B.S. and Masters degree.

• After Worship, everyone is welcomed and encouraged to take **family Easter pictures** with the flowered crosses. We would love if you posted your photos on our FPC Dalton Connect page or email the church office: office@firstpresdalton.org.

• The church office will be closed Monday, April 1. Soup and Scripture will resume on Monday, April 8.

• Please join us for the **Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch** on Sunday, April 14 in Hollis Hall, immediately following Worship and meet our new pastor, Nicole Jiskoot and her family. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the church office.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

PRELUDE

Voluntary in G Major

S. Jackson (1818-1885)

Matthew Crabtree, organ

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 "The Seventh Word" from The Seven Last Words of Christ

> (1837-1924) prever,

Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever, For on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed. Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Judi McPherson

Llanfair

T. Dubois

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Let us give thanks, praise, and worship to our God!

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection and the world was forever changed. Teach us to keep faith with them so that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep and our faith as true as that which they shared. Amen.

*HYMN 245

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

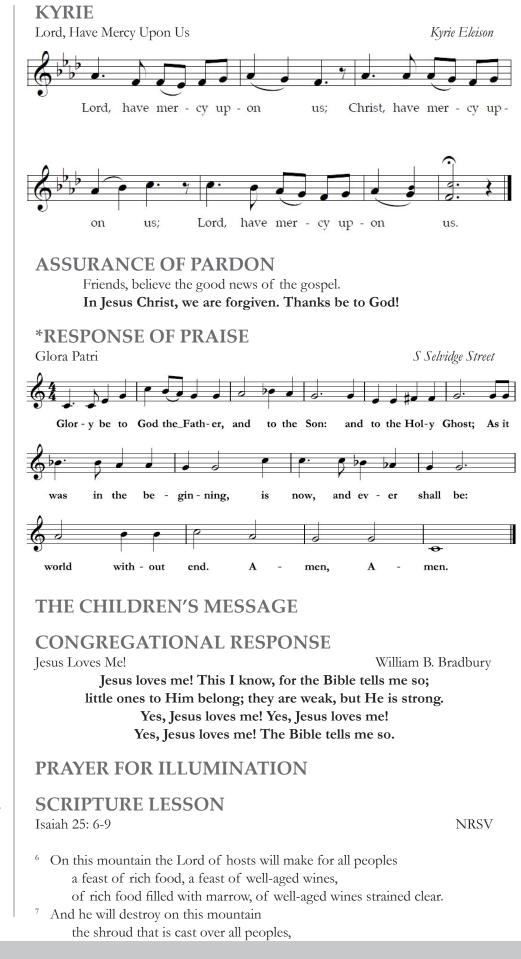
(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, You shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry; we pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace. We despise the weak and abuse the Earth you created. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust Your power to change our lives and make us new that we may know the joy of abundant life given in Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord. Amen. Hymn 245 Note: Originally printed as eleven four-line stanzas without alleluias, this Easter text was written during the first year following the author's life-changing conversion experience, yet it already shows his enduring emphasis on the theme of love. This lively Welsh tune sets it well.

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

Cover Art:

He is Risen, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library. vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58028 [retrieved March 26, 2024]. Original source: https://www.flickr. com/photos/apmethodist/4354910684 - CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.



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. the sheet that is spread over all nations;

he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited;

SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Corinthians 15: 1-11

8

NRSV

¹Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

ANTHEM An Easter Celebration

> O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing, Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; Now is the victor's triumph won! Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu'ring Son; Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave clothes Where Thy body lay. Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu'ring Son, Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won! C. Courtney (b. 1948) Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia! Earth and heav'n in chorus say: Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia! Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia! Praise Him, all ye heavn'ly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20: 1-18

NRSV

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

Hymn 250 Note:

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T.S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/ composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

Offering Note:

Copy and paste the link under the Offertory onto your browser to easily submit your online offering. **SERMON** "And, so it is!"

*HYMN 250 In the Bulb There Is a Flower

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

"The 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

O divine Redeemer

C. Gounod (1818-1893)

Adam Stark, Tenor

Ah! Turn me not away, receive me, tho' unworthy! Hear Thou my cry, hear Thou my cry, behold, Lord, my distress! Answer me from thy throne, haste Thee, Lord, to mine aid, Thy pity show in my deep anguish! Let not the sword of vengeance smite me, tho' righteous thin anger, O Lord! Shield me in danger, O regard me! On Thee, Lord, alone will I call.

O, divine Redeemer! O, divine Redeemer! I pray Thee, grant me pardon, and remember not my sins! Forgive me, O, divine Redeemer! I pray Thee, grant me pardon, and remember not, O Lord, my sins!

Night gathers round my soul; fearful, I cry to Thee; Come to mine aid, O Lord! Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help me! Hear my cry, hear my cry! Save me, Lord, in Thy mercy, Hear my cry, hear my cry! Come and save me, O Lord!

O, divine Redeemer! O, divine Redeemer! I pray Thee, grant me pardon, and remember not, O Lord, my sins!

Save, in the day of retribution, from Death shield Thou me, O my God! O, divine Redeemer, have mercy! Help me, my Savior!

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.

Hymn 248 Note:

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

Promise

*DOXOLOGY Doxology with Alleluias

> Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

***CHARGE AND 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

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Matthew Crabtree, organ

Last Uns Erfreuen

Hymn to Joy

Traditional

H.Purcell (1659-1695)



Contact FPC

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PO Box 489 • Dalton, Georgia 30722 www.firstpresdalton.org

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
3/31	Judi	Margaret Venable &	Jeane
	McPherson	Nathalie Sanders	Jones
4/7	Rachel	Larry & Sharon	Mary
	Smalley	Cooper	Hubbs

MONTHLY

Communion (April 7)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Kathryn Sellers	March	Priscilla Brown	March	Alice Ensley & O'Gwins
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Sarah McCown and Jeff & Leanna Granillo	April	Mary Hubbs	April	Laura Allgood & Priscilla Brown

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

Charles Allgood, as he battles lung cancer;

Ongoing Concerns for our Members:

Nancy Rhine, in assisted living located near her daughter; *Stan Crawford,* multiple health challenges including spinal stenosis;

Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

John Hinkle, who was recently diagnosed with bladder cancer; *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;

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.

Upcoming **Events** Sunday, March 31 Fellowship & Flowering of the Cross 9:45 a.m. Worship - Easter FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream) 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 1 Church Office Closed Staff Team Meeting 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 2 Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 3 Congregational Life Team Meeting 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30-:800 p.m. Thursday, April 4 Presbyterians at the Pub 5:00 p.m. Knitting Group 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:00 a.m. Worship FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream) 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 8 Soup & Scripture noon Tuesday, April 9 Saturday Sacks 10:30 a.m. Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 10 Choir Rehearsal 6:30-:800 p.m. Thursday, April 11 Knitting Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.