



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, September 29, 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](http://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

- The Congregational Life Team will once again host **Lemonade on the Lawn**. Join the congregation for light refreshments after Worship today.
- Join us next Sunday, October 6, for **World Communion Sunday**. Every year on the first Sunday in October, Christians around the globe celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is a day to remember that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and that every Christian Church and any denomination that promotes Christian unity are one. On this day, people draw faith and inspiration from seeing that they are part of a community that boasts millions of believers and worshipers.
- Immediately following Worship, Sunday, October 13, please join us for the **Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch** in Hollis Hall. Please RSVP to Laura Allgood if you’d like to attend. After lunch stay for the **Connection Team meeting** and see how you can help.

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORLD

### 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

Joanne Lewis

If it had not been for God, who was on our side,  
**we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us;**  
we would have been swept away by sadness and fear.

**Blessed be the Lord, our protector!**

Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey.

**God has broken the snare that took away our freedom.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**Blessed be God's holy name!**

### \*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**God of courage, you gave Esther the strength to speak out and the intelligence she needed to save her people. Help us to believe that you are still present and active in this world and that your grace remains as an everlasting force in our lives. In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

### \*HYMN 308

O God in Whom All Life Begins

Noel

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)*

**God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity. We often move toward the latter, trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us. Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different. Give us the eyes of our Teacher, who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one, for it is in his name that we pray. Amen.**

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 124.

### Hymn 308 Note:

Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshipping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

\*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.

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

## THE 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

Esther 7:1-6; 9:20-22

NRSV

7 <sup>1</sup> So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. <sup>2</sup> On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” <sup>3</sup> Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. <sup>4</sup> For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” <sup>5</sup> Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” <sup>6</sup> Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

9 <sup>20</sup> Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, <sup>21</sup> enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, <sup>22</sup> as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday, that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit

W. L. Dawson  
(1899-1990)

Hayden Poe, solo

### Refrain

*Ev'ry time I feel the spirit, Moving in my heart, I will pray;  
Yes, Ev'ry time I feel the spirit, Moving in my heart, I will pray.*

*Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,  
Out of His mouth came fire and smoke;  
Looked all around me, It looked so fine,  
Till I asked my Lord if all was mine. Refrain*

*Jordan river is chilly an' cold,  
It chills the body, but not the soul;  
There ain't but one train upon this track,  
It runs to heaven an' right back. Refrain*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 9:38-42, 49-50

NRSV

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup> “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.

<sup>49</sup> “For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup> Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

“Be Salty”

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### \*HYMN 766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

*McKee*

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Jesus is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord and our God. 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.**

#### Hymn 766 Note:

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

## THE OFFERING

[www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/](http://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

## FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*HYMN 410

God is Calling through the Whisper

*W z łobie leży*

### \*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

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### Offering Note:

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

### Hymn 410 Note:

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.



### **Contact FPC**

101 S. Selvidge Street Phone: 706-278-8161

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Pastor: [njiskoot@firstpresdalton.org](mailto:njiskoot@firstpresdalton.org)

Hye Jeong Kwon, Director of Music: [hkwon@firstpresdalton.org](mailto:hkwon@firstpresdalton.org)

Erin Witt, Office Manager: [office@firstpresdalton.org](mailto:office@firstpresdalton.org)

#### **Mailing Address:**

PO Box 489 • Dalton, Georgia 30722

[www.firstpresdalton.org](http://www.firstpresdalton.org)



# VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

## WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
9/29	Joanne Lewis	Nathalie Sanders, Peggy Rollins and Valerie George	Mary Hubbs
10/6	Ted Hogshead	Joanne Lewis	TBD

## CHILDREN

Date	Nursery	Joy Makers	Faith Builders
9/29	Kathryn Sellers	Leanna Granillo & Laura Goins	Laura Allgood & Kathryn Sellers
10/6	Rob Lively	Michelle & Rob Lively	Jean Lowrey & Priscilla Brown

## MONTHLY

Communion (October 6)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Jean Lowrey	September	_____	September	Kathryn Sellers & Annelle Scott
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Rob Lively, Mary Ellen Gurley & Sarah McCown	October	Mary Hubbs	October	Jean Lowrey & Carol Houston

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, September 29

Sunday School  
9:15 a.m.  
Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.  
Worship  
FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)  
10:30 a.m.

### Monday, September 30

Morning Prayers  
11:30 a.m.  
The Lunch Bunch  
noon

### Tuesday, October 1

Grateful Heart AA Mtg  
8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, October 2

Choir Rehearsal  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

### Thursday, October 3

Presbyterians at the Pub  
5:00 p.m.  
Knitting Group  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

### Sunday, October 6

Sunday School  
9:15 a.m.  
Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.  
Worship  
FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)  
10:30 a.m.

### Monday, October 7

Morning Prayers  
11:30 a.m.  
The Lunch Bunch  
noon

### Tuesday, October 8

Saturday Sacks  
10:30 a.m.  
Grateful Heart AA Mtg  
8:00 p.m.

### October 9-15

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot out of the office

### Wednesday, October 9

Choir Rehearsal  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

## PRAYERS

### **For Healing and Comfort for our Members:**

*Jenny Crawford*, who is recovering at home from knee replacement surgery;  
*The Elder Nominating Committee*, as they begin their work;  
*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;

### **For Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton**

*Paula Morrow*, friend of Sarah McCown and of the church, who's Lukemia has relapsed and is awaiting a plan for a bone marrow transplant;  
*Margaret Spivey*, sister-in-law of Sue Spivey and Aunt of Kathy Bridges, who is receiving radiation treatment for breast cancer  
*Mark A. Spivey*, brother-in-law to Sue Spivey, who was hospitalized in Norfolk, VA following a fall and a stroke;  
*Martha Bracey Henson*, cousin of Mary Hubbs, who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor, is recovering from surgery and is receiving treatment;  
*Emily Bringardner*, friend of Kathy Bridges and Sue Spivey, who has returned home and is having physical therapy for her hip surgery. Her Parkinson problems continue;  
*The peace of Israel and Palestine and the well-being of Ukraine*;  
*The families of victims of substance abuse*;  
*Kathy Householder*, friend of Debbie and Mary Dennard, who is undergoing treatment in New Mexico;  
*Arden Brown*, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, as they seek a cure for DMD;  
*Caregivers and aging parents*.

### **Praises and Continuing Prayers!**

Our new pastor *Nicole*, and her family, as they transition into our church family and add finishing touches prior to moving into their new home;  
*Becky Hansberry*, daughter of Kaye Clark, who has moved to Atlanta, and is continuing her cancer treatment at Emory.