

Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, November 17, 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

- The Friendship House reached out requesting volunteers to help serve Thanksgiving lunch to the children and their families on Thursday, November 21 beginning at 10:30 a.m. They need 6 volunteers. We have done this in the past and it is easy and a lot of fun! Please add your name to the sign up sheet located in the Midweek News or contact Alice Ensley.
- Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, November 24, after Worship for this year's **Hanging of the Greens**, hosted by the Congregational Life Team. A pizza lunch will be provided. Come help us decorate for the Advent and Christmas seasons!
- Monday, November 25, please join with our church members and many others from across Whitfield County and beyond to celebrate **Gratefull Dalton**, a community Thanksgiving meal together. This free meal is open to all and is served in Downtown Dalton near Burr Park from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If you wish to join with us, please wear your "Love First, Love All" tee-shirt or anything that says First Pres Dalton and gather at FPC at 11:15 a.m. and we will walk together.
- Salvation Army Bell Ringers needed! First Presbyterian Church will ring the bell on Friday, December 6 and Saturday, December 7 from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m at the Food City on Walnut Ave. We need 8 volunteers each day to ring the bell for one hour each. Please call Peggy Rollins to sign up! 706-280-5365.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 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

Let Us Gather and Praise the Lord!

Bronwyn Edwards

Let us gather and praise the Lord.
O sing praises to the Lord.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jodi Johnson

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me in a broad place.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in mortals.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Merciful God, you hear our cries and honor our tears. Stir in us such a passion during worship that we might vow to give you our best, for the glory of your name. Amen.

*HYMN 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Unser Herrscher

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 118.

Hymn 403 Note:

In the first stanza "Zion" is not a general synonym for Jerusalem but a reference to the part of the city where the Temple stood. It prepares the way for the interior temple of the heart in stanza two. The pre-existing tune is by a prominent German Reformed hymnwriter.

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

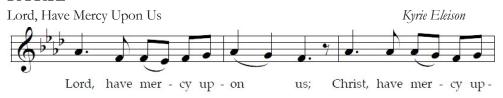
CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

O God, who is faithful and just, we have failed to help those who have little while we have much. We are boastful and haughty, and we often fail to appreciate the gifts you have given. Our arrogance has led us away from your righteous way. Forgive us, Merciful God, and lead us to a humble path, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

KYRIE





ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE



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.

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 2:1-10 NRSVUE

- ¹ Hannah prayed and said,
- "My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God.
- My mouth derides my enemies because I rejoice in your victory.
- ² There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.
- ³ Talk no more so very proudly; let not arrogance come from your mouth,
- for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.
- ⁴ The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.
- ⁵ Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.
- The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn.
- ⁶ The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- ⁷ The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low; he also exalts.
- ⁸ He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap

to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor.

- For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world.
- ⁹ He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked will perish in darkness, for not by might does one prevail.
- ¹⁰ The Lord! His adversaries will be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven.
- The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the power of his anointed."

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

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ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Carlton Young (1926-2023)

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart Naught be all else to me save that thou art Thou my best thought by day or by night Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom and Thou my True word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my Great Father and I Thy true son
O Thou in me dwelling And I with Thee one.

High King of Heaven my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys O bright heav'n's sun!
Heart of my own heart what ever befall
O still he my vision Thou ruler of all.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 13:1-8 NRSVUE

¹ As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Faith and Love in Action: Building Up Rocks and Throwing Down Stones"

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 357

The Days Are Surely Coming

Llangloffan

Hymn 357 Note:

This text uses imagery from Jeremiah 33:14–16 and Matthew 24:29–36/Mark 13:24–32/Luke 21:25–36. These passages are especially associated with the beginning of Advent, a season that looks forward to Christ's second coming while also preparing us to remember his first coming.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly...

...that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream...

- From The Confession of Belhar

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 & STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION

If able, during the playing of the offertory, come forward with your pledge card and place it in the offering plate on the Communion Table as a sign of our mutual commitment to the work of Christ in the world. Then, before returning to your seat, please take a glass stone from the bowl on the Communion Table in remembrance of your baptism, for baptism is a sign and seal of our new life in Jesus Christ, who is our Rock and our Redeemer.

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

Offering Note:

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

Hymn 769Note:

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 769

For Everyone Born

For Everyone Born

Stanzas 1,2 & 5

*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



Contact FPC

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
11/17	Jodi Johnson	Nancy Hallsworth	Susan Bisson
11/24	Rob Lively	Walter & Jeane Jones	Mary Hubbs

CHILDREN

Date	Nursery	Joy Makers	Faith Builders	
11/17	Alice	Alice Ensley &	Jeane Jones &	
	Ensley	Susan Bisson	Kayte Crocker	
11/24	Mary	Jeff & Leanna	Bjorn & Nicole	
	Hubbs	Granillo	Jiskoot	

MONTHLY

Communion (December 1)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Katie O'Gwin	November	Becky Jolly	November	Mike & Priscilla Brown
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Bob Hubbs, Susan Bisson & Walter Jones	December	Susan Bisson & Laura Allgood	December	Peggy Rollins & Alice Ensley

Upcoming

Sunday, November 17

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship - Commitment Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Session Meeting

11:30 a.m.

Monday, November 18

Morning Prayers 11:30 a.m.

The Lunch Bunch noon

Tuesday, November 19

Saturday Sacks 10:30 a.m.

Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 20

Missions Team Meeting 5:30 p.m.

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

Thursday, November 21

Get the "Greens" out of storage 10:00 a.m.

Presbyterians at the Pub 5:00 p.m.

Knitting Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 22

Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 24

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

10:30 a.m.

Hanging of the Greens w/lunch

11:30 a.m.

Monday, November 25

Gratefull Dinner

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(No Morning Prayers or Lunch Bunch)

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

Bob Hubbs, who will be receiving some long-awaited medical treatment;

Janice Sims, who is receiving physical therapy;

Jenny Crawford, who is recovering at home from knee replacement surgery;

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

Randall Dawkins, Jr., friend of Janice Sims, who is at home recovering from open heart surgery; *Jerry*, friend of Pam Partain, who is undergoing chemotherapy;

Becky Hansberry, daughter of Kaye Clark, who is receiving chemotherapy treatment for lung cancer at Emory in Atlanta.

Those affected by Hurricane Helene and Milton, especially the friends, families, and loved ones who are close to our hearts, as well as those whom we cannot name, but whose needs are known well by God;

Paula Morrow, friend of Sarah McCown and of the church, whose Leukemia 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 home from New Mexico and doing well; Arden Brown, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, as they seek a cure for DMD; Caregivers and aging parents.

Praises and Continuing Prayers!

In gratitude for the generosity of all who donated to our Hurricane Relief Love Offering, may God use our gifts to bring hope and stability to Western North Carolina;

In praise to the God who was and is and is to come, open our hearts during our Stewardship Campaign, that we may prayerfully consider pledging our gifts, time, and talents in the coming year.