



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Baptism of the Lord
Second Sunday After Epiphany
Sunday, January 19, 2025

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

- Today during Worship we install and ordain John McPherson (Facilities), James Hoskins (Connections) and Priscilla Brown (Missions) into the **Session Class of 2027**.
- Please join us today for **Sunday Fellowship Lunch** in Hollis Hall, immediately following Worship. After lunch we will pack 300 **“Blessing Bags.”** The intent is to provide each member with several bags to keep in their cars to distribute as needed to our community members in need.
- On Saturday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m., The DEO Clinic, in partnership with FPC, is hosting a concert featuring **Zoe & Cloyd**, award-winning original and traditional bluegrass and klezmer music by Natalya Zoe Weinstein and John Cloyd Miller from Asheville NC. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact the church office if you are interested in volunteering. Go to <http://woodsongsdalton.com> for ticket information.
- Plan to join us Thursday, January 30, at 7:00 p.m. when we launch a new community offering: **Selvidge Street Forum**. Our inaugural program will be Professor Jerry Drye from Dalton State College on “Life Ever Laughter: Humor as a Life Skill.” Forums will be more conversation than lecture, and will take place in the foyer area of the Martin House.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

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

Annelle Scott

The voice of God resounds upon the water.

The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.

The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"

Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.

Let us worship God in holy splendor.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan, the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice affirmed your love in Jesus for the healing of the human race and all creation. By water and word you lovingly invite us into this same life-giving mission. May your Spirit, moving like a stream of water flowing from its source, work in us this day to realize your vision of a world made new in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 96

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Winchester New

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Almighty God, we confess that we have been led astray by the idols of our world. We have depended on our possessions and have not placed our trust in your grace. We have carelessly consumed the gifts you offer and have failed to be faithful stewards of the earth's resources. We have sought security in the might of the sword rather than the strength of your Holy Spirit. Forgive us, we pray. Lead us to true repentance that we may serve you faithfully. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Cover Art:

Baptism in the River Jordan during pilgrimage, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55206> [retrieved January 7, 2025]. Original source: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Israel_Defense_Forces_-_Christian_Pilgrims_Celebrate_the_Epiphany_in_the_Jordan_Valley,_Jan_2011_\(1\).jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Israel_Defense_Forces_-_Christian_Pilgrims_Celebrate_the_Epiphany_in_the_Jordan_Valley,_Jan_2011_(1).jpg).

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 29 and Luke 3:21-22.

Hymn 96 Note:

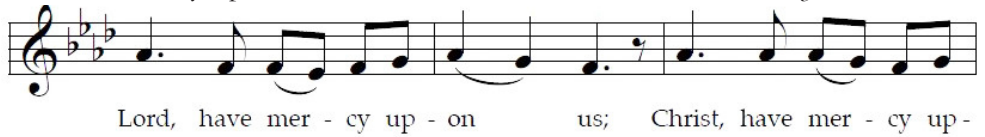
This hymn shows how once-unconnected parts can work together. The text about John the Baptist was written in Latin in the 18th century and translated into English in the 19th century. Similarly, the 17th-century melody was adapted to its present form in the 19th century.

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

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Kyrie Eleison



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

S Selwidge Street



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

Luke 3:15-22

NRSVUE

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with

the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

¹⁹ But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother’s wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Wade in the Water

Roger Emerson
(b. 1950)

Refrain

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children,
Wade in the water, God’s agonna trouble the water.*

*River Jordan is chilly and cold,
God’s agonna trouble the water.
Chills the body but not the soul,
God’s agonna trouble the water. Refrain*

*If you get up there before I do,
God’s agonna trouble the water.
Just tell my friends I’m comin’ too,
God’s agonna trouble the water. Refrain*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

NRSVUE

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. ²You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to

Select liturgy
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Worship Companion.
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another the interpretation of tongues.¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

SERMON

“Baptized and Ready to Serve”

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift Every Voice

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION OF NEW ELDERS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“Apostles’ Creed”

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Hymn 339 Note:

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln’s birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?
Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept Priscilla Brown, James Hoskins, and John McPherson as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

PRAYER OF ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

All previously ordained teaching and ruling elders are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands during the prayer.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Baptized in Water

Bunessan

**Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit,
we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S 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.

Offering Note:

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

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

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 300

We Are One in the Spirit

They'll Know We Are Christians

*CHARGE & BLESSING

*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



DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847

Contact FPC

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers
1/19	Annelle Scott	Robert & Rachel Smalley	Margaret Venable
1/26	Priscilla Brown	Kathy Bridges & Janice Sims	Joanne Lewis

CHILDREN

Date	Nursery	Joy Makers	Faith Builders
1/19	Alice Ensley & Jean Lowrey	Alice Ensley & Susan Bisson	Jeane Jones & Kayte Crocker
1/26	Jeane Jones & Leanna Granillo	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Bjorn & Nicole Jiskoot

MONTHLY

Communion (February 2)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Mary Hubbs	January	Sue Neelly	January	Eric & Lena Haugen
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Jeff Granillo, Jack and Pam Partain	February	Laura Allgood	February	Mary Hubbs

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 19

Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship
10:30 a.m.
Sunday Fellowship
Lunch & Pack Blessing Bags
11:30 p.m.
Session Meeting
1:00 p.m.
Session "Retreat"
2:00-4:30 p.m.

Monday, January 20

Church Office Closed
No Morning Prayers or Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, January 21

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

Wednesday, January 22

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

Thursday, January 23

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

Friday, January 24

Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 25

DEO Clinic Concert
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 26

Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship
10:30 a.m.
Coffee in the Commons
11:30 a.m.

Monday, January 27

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

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

Verutzka Soza, who continues to recover from outpatient surgery;
Jenny Crawford, who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease;
Bob Hubbs, who will be receiving some long-awaited medical treatment;
Janice Sims, who was diagnosed with Macular degeneration and is having cataract surgery soon;
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

Those affected by the raging fires in Southern California, may God bring rain to quench the earth and bring urgent relief to all who have lost their homes and loved ones, especially for those most vulnerable of being overlooked;

For the family and friends of Patsy Burns, a beloved friend of many in our congregation, as all mourn her passing;

Dana Easley, friend of Sherri Stafford and many in our congregation, for unspoken prayers - may God bless her and keep her in his tender care;

The family and friends of Rita Norville, step-mother of Nancy Hallsworth, as they mourn her passing on Saturday, December 7, 2024;

The family and friends of Rick King, brother-in-law of Jean Lowrey, as they mourn - Rick passed away suddenly in his home on Friday evening, November 29, 2024;

For Janine Vogel, friend of Janice Sims, who is having a heart catheter procedure on Thursday and surgery for a heart aneurysm;

Linda Leslie, friend of Sue Spivey, who is battling Pancreatic Cancer;

Patsy Townsend, friend of Janice Sims, who is at home recovering from walking Pneumonia;

Randall Dockins, 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 who 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 continues to receive treatment for a brain tumor;

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;

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

Caregivers and aging parents.

Praises and Continuing Prayers!

Janice Sims, whose heart catheter procedure revealed no problems;

Kathy Householder, friend of Debbie and Mary Dennard, who is home from Mexico and doing well.