

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, August 2, 2026

LOVE FIRST, LOVE ALL

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. We are glad you are here!

Stay In Touch! First Presbyterian has multiple Communication Channels in addition to Face-to-Face Contact. Check them often.

- Telephone: **706-278-8161**
- U.S.P.O.: **Box 489, Dalton, GA 30722**
- E-Mail: **office@firstpresdalton.org**
- Facebook Public Page:
First Presbyterian Church Dalton
- Facebook for FPC Members:
FPC Dalton Connect
- Weekly Newsletter: **Midweek News**-sent by E-Mail unless a paper copy is requested by calling 706-278-8161

What is that person's name? Find current contact information for our members in the church directory, available on our website (www.firstpresdalton.org) under the "fellowship tab." Please email the church office for the directory password. Also, it is perfectly acceptable to ask someone's name, even if it's for the fifth or sixth time.

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**

We have several traditions within our service during which physical contact—shaking hands, joining hands, handing an item—may be an option. If, for any reason, you are uncomfortable with this kind of contact, feel free to refrain from participating. Know that our congregation is respectful and recognizes that our members and guests have different needs and comfort levels. We seek to be a “Non-Judgement Zone.”

Announcements

- Today during Worship there will be a **Blessing of the Backpacks**. Each student, preschool through college, and educator will receive a backpack tag as a reminder that they are loved and prayed for by members of their church family. All students and educators are encouraged to bring their backpacks for this service.
- There will be a **Congregational Meeting** today near the end of Worship, and on Sunday, August 9, for the purpose of electing one male and one female member of the congregation to serve on the Elder Nominating Committee. Please be prepared to nominate by secret ballot one male and one female member today. The two males and the two females who receive the most votes will appear on the second ballot for the final election, by secret ballot, on August 9. Currently active elders are not eligible for election by the congregation.
- Please join us for the **Sunday Fellowship Lunch** on Sunday, August 23 in Hollis Hall, immediately following Worship. In support of **Share a Meal Sunday**, don't forget to drop off your Little Free Pantry items in the bins under the stairwell in the Commons area. If you would like to attend the lunch, please RSVP to the church office.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026

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

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

John Bacchus Dykes
(1823-1876)

*Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove,
With all thy quickening powers;
Kindle a flame of sacred love
In these cold hearts of ours.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Joanne Lewis

Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

**From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.**

If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.

**As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.**

My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.

**I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me; hear my words.**

Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.

**As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;
when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Life-changing God, you have touched us and transformed us to reach
out to all who hunger for what only you can give. Keep our feet in your
paths and bless us to multiply blessings to others, through Jesus Christ
our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

Cover Art:

Koenig, Peter. Jacob
Wrestles with the
Angel, from Art in the
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Nashville, TN. [https://
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pl?RC=58483](https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58483) [retrieved
July 22, 2026]. Original
source: Peter Winfried
(Canisius) Koenig,
[https://www.pwkoenig.
co.uk/](https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/).

The Call to Worship is
from Psalm 17.

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

Hymn 78 Note:
This text is a paraphrase of Isaiah 55:1–11 and was created by a co-editor of the 1997 Canadian Presbyterian hymnal, The Book of Praise. The tune composed for it includes an additional line of music, allowing the final line of text to be repeated, meditated on, and savored.

*HYMN 78

You Thirsty Ones, Come

Heaven's Rain

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)
God of compassion, we are sick. We have wrestled all night with worry instead of resting in you. We have asserted our own goodness instead of awakening to yours. We have turned away those hungry for your help instead of trusting you and feeding them from your limitless supply of blessings.

Forgive us, heal us, and help us to hold on to you. We call upon you, for you will answer us, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Gloria 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.

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PROCLAIMING THE WORD

THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

God of fresh starts and new beginnings, we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you. In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils, and pointy crayons, and in our hearts, we carry big feelings, unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations. There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring— of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.

God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all. Be with us as we ride the bus. Be with us as we walk. Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes. However we get there, and whatever we wear, bless this journey into something new.

God, as these students carry their backpacks each day, may they be surrounded by the love and care this congregation has for them.

For the grown-ups going back to school, With-Us God, be with them too. Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders, and for all they do to help us learn and grow. God, our friend who’s full of wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.

May they, too, remember this congregation supports them in their roles and surrounds them with our love and care.

Loving and merciful God, surround our children and their leaders with your protection. May our schools always be safe places for all who enter. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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 32:22-31

NRSVUE

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob’s

hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” ²⁷ So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed.” ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved.” ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 9:1-5

NRSVUE

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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

ANTHEM

Day By Day

K. Lee Scott
(b. 1950)

*Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly, day by day.*

*Thanks be to thee, Lord Jesus,
For all the benefits which thou hast won for us;
For all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us,
O merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother.*

*Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly, day by day, day by day.*

Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 14:13-21

NRSVUE

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.”
¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

SERMON

“Wrestling with the One Who Feeds Us”Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 182

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*Kingsfold*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“Nicene 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.

THE OFFERING & RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Please place this week’s page of the Friendship Register in the plate, along with your tithes and offerings, so that we may keep you informed about the life and ministry of this community of faith.

You may also give online at www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/

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.

Hymn 182 Note:
Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10–14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

Offering Note:
Copy and paste the link under the Offering onto your browser to easily submit your online offering or scan the QR code below.



INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to praise you, O God, creator of the universe. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power. You formed us in your image to love and serve you and to live in peace with your creation. When we rebelled against you, you did not abandon us, but sent prophets to call us back to your way. Then in the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to redeem us and heal our brokenness. Therefore, we join our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever praise your name:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Land of Rest

(All sing together)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, we thank you for Jesus Christ, your Son. In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. He lived as one of us, knowing joy and sorrow. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, welcomed sinners, and proclaimed good news to the poor. Dying on the cross, he gave himself for the life of the world. Rising from the grave, he won for us victory over death. Seated at your right hand, he reigns with you in glory and will come again to make all things new.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh, in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

We invite you to come forward for communion via the nearest accessible main aisle and return to your seat the way you came. Communion is served by intinction. Take a piece of bread held by one elder, dip it in the cup held by another, and then, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Gluten-free elements are available from the left aisle.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 295

Go to the World!

Sine Nomine

*CHARGE AND 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



Hymn 295 Note:
Based on Christ’s great commission (Matthew 28:19–20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.

Upcoming
Events

Sunday, August 2
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship - Blessing of
the Backpacks
10:30 a.m.
Congregational Meeting
11:30 a.m.

Monday, August 3
Lunch Bunch
noon

Tuesday, August 4
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 5
Choir Rehearsal
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 6
Presbyterians at the Pub
5:00 p.m.
Knitting Group
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 7
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 9
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship
10:30 a.m.
Congregational Meeting
11:30 a.m.

Monday, August 10
Lunch Bunch
noon

Tuesday, August 11
CLILA Food Boxes
10:00 a.m. - noon
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 12
Choir Rehearsal
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 13
Knitting Group
5:30-7:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flower Guild
8/2	Joanne Lewis	The Swinney Family	Jeane Jones
8/9	Renee Schuette	The Hubbs Family	TBD
8/16	John Beazle	Daniel Kim & The Jiskoot Family	Margaret Venable

MONTHLY

Communion (August 2)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Becky Jolly	August	Mary Hubbs	August	Eric & Lena Haugen
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Tate O’Gwin, Kathryn Sellers & Kaye Clark	September	Bobbie Anderson	September	Walter & Jeane Jones



PRAYERS

For Family and Friends of Those Who Joined the Church Triumphant:

Jean Strain;
Muriel Phillips;
John Law;
Anne Sims;
Stan Cranford;
Charles Allgood;
Wayne Alderman;

For Healing, Comfort, and Ongoing Concerns for our Members:

Sue Spivey;
Berrien Long;
Walter Jones;
Nancy Rhine;

For Family and Friends of the Following Members:

Nicole Jiskoot, family and friends of David Pipkin, Nicole’s Godfather, as they mourn his death;
Leanna Granillo, Robert Stromberg;
Mary Ellen Gurley, Dusty Eggleston and family; Tommy Brooks and family;
Janice Sims, Sharon and Debbie Bragg, Rodger and Brenda Boswell, Patsy Townsend; the family of
Karen Vaught; the family of Flosy Beard;
Kaye Clark, Becky Hansberry;
Kathy Bridges and Sue Spivey, Emily Bringardner;

For the Larger Community and the World:

Pete Wilson;
Arden Brown;
Those affected by climate disasters;
Peace in Iran, Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine;
The victims and families of victims of substance abuse;
The victims of gun violence;
Caregivers and aging parents.

Praises and Continuing Prayers:

For all our members and visitors, we offer our thanks to God.



Contact FPC

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