

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Sixth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, July 5, 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

• It's summertime and that means several **team meetings** and activities will not meet in the month of July. Please be sure to check the church calendar!

• **Wednesday night choir practice** will be on hiatus until July 29. But don't worry! They'll still grace us with their beautiful voices each Sunday during Worship throughout July.

• You may not be aware, but our **church website** has been down for quite some time. The Connections Team is happy to announce that the new and improved website is up and running! Of course there are still a few changes and updates to be made. If you see anything that looks out of place, please don't hesitate to contact the church office. Thank you for your patience as this transition takes place.

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 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**

Robert Smalley

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 145.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The Lord is faithful in all his words
and gracious in all his deeds.
The Lord upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Author of life, you cast your glory all around us; you invade our sleep; you reveal yourself in ancient stories and the give-and-take of common life. By the power of your Spirit, come to us now, for you have called us to this place. We pray in the name of Jesus, our hope, our confidence, and your beloved Son. Amen.

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

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

National Hymn

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

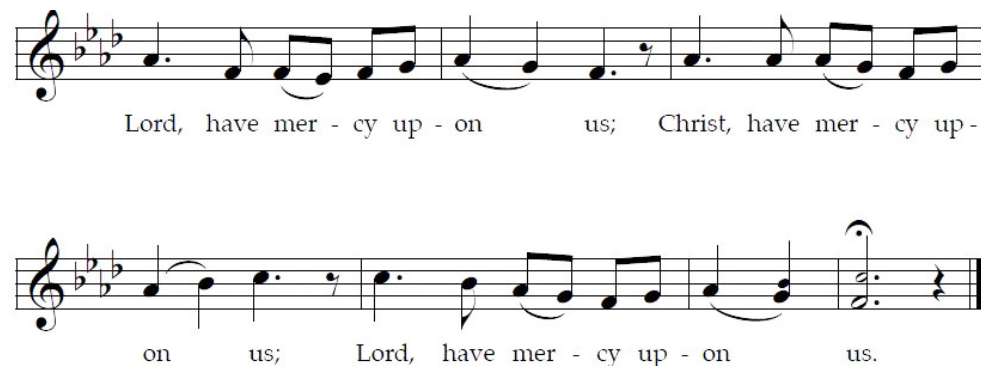
Lord, we marvel at the thought of a well-fitted yoke, a burden scaled to match our frames. We do not know how to rest in the promise of such labor. Some of us are weary from unceasing responsibility; others find no welcome in the marketplace. We confound your vision for our common life.

Forgive our blind striving, our stifled concern, the judgments we cast on others. Make yourself known to us in the silence. Shape your children for the commonwealth of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

Glora Patri

S Selvidge Street



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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

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

NRSVUE

³⁴ So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. ³⁶ And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old, and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites in whose land I live, ³⁸ but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

⁴² "I came today to the spring and said, 'O Lord, God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! ⁴³ I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,' ⁴⁴ and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also'—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'

⁴⁵ "Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder, and she went down to the spring and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' ⁴⁶ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹ Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

⁵⁸ And they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." ⁵⁹ So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

“May you, our sister, become
thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes.”

⁶¹ Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man, and the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

⁶² Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi and was settled in the Negeb.

⁶³ Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field, and, looking up, he saw camels coming. ⁶⁴ And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel ⁶⁵ and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

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

ANTHEM

Then Shall the Righteous Shine forth Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Scarlett Mumford, solo, James Hoskins, piano

*Then, then shall the righteous shine forth
As the sun in their heav’nly Father’s realm,*

*Joy on their head shall be for everlasting,
And all sorrow and mourning shall flee away,*

*Then, then shall the righteous shine forth
As the sun in their heav’nly Father’s realm.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 NRSVUE

¹⁶ “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’;

¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

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

SERMON

“Yoked With Love”

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 418**

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Softly and Tenderly

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

“Nicene Creed”

We believe in one God, The Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again; in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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/

Hymn 418 Note:

This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus’ parable in Luke 15:11–32, commonly called “The Prodigal Son.” Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

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.



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.**

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.

Blessed are You, God, faithful and strong. All Your works, the height and depth, echo the silent music of Your praise. In the beginning Your Word summoned light, night withdrew, and creation dawned. Then, as if ages had passed unseen, waters gathered on the face of the earth and life appeared. When at last the days had ripened and the earth was grown full in abundance, You created in Your image man and woman, the stewards of all creation. You gave us breath and speech, that all the living might find a voice to sing Your praise, and to celebrate the creation You made and called good:

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.**

All-holy God, how wonderful is the work of Your hands! Because sin rose up to leave a fault-line, even in the earth, You stepped forward to enter into a covenant of peace that can renew the whole creation. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, as a father joyfully welcomes his own, You embraced a people as Yours, filling them with a longing for peace that will last, a justice that will never fail. Through countless generations Your people hungered for the bread of freedom. From them You raised up Jesus, Your Son, the living bread, in whom ancient hungers are satisfied. He healed the sick, though He Himself would suffer; He offered life to sinners, though death would hunt Him down.

But with a love stronger than death, He opened wide His arms and surrendered His spirit.

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Eternal God, let Your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over these earthly gifts of bread and wine that we may have communion in the body and blood of Christ, that we may become one in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. 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.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 745

Now Go in Joy *Junkanoo*
Sing Twice

*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 745 Note:
With its themes of bearing witness in the world, this lively sending song works especially well when sung in canon. The tune name refers to a street parade with music that occurs in many Bahamian towns on Boxing Day (December 26), New Year’s Day, and sometimes in the summer.

Upcoming
Events

Sunday, July 5

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

10:30 a.m.

Monday, July 6

Lunch Bunch

noon

Tuesday, July 7

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 8

Morning Prayers

9:30 a.m.

No Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, July 9

Knitting Group

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, July 10

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 12

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

10:30 a.m.

Facilities Team Meeting

11:30 a.m.

Monday, July 13

Lunch Bunch

noon

Tuesday, July 14

CLILA Food Boxes

10:00 a.m. - noon

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

July 15-19

Montreat Middle

School Retreat

Wednesday, July 15

Morning Prayers

9:30 a.m.

Women’s Book Club

noon

No Choir Rehearsal

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flower Guild
7/05	Robert Smalley	Nathalie Sanders & Peggy Rollins	Becky Jolly
7/12	James Hoskins	Janice Sims & Nancy Farrow	Joanne Lewis
7/19	Margaret Venable	Mike & Priscilla Brown	Margaret Venable

MONTHLY

Communion (July 5)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Annelle Scott	July	Priscilla Brown	July	Beverly Higdon & Tami Giusto
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Hilliard Jolly, Robert & Rachel Smalley	August	Mary Hubbs	August	Eric & Lena Haugen

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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