



Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 17, 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.

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."

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

- Come celebrate the end of the school year! All youth are invited this evening to an **ice cream social** at Brusters. Enjoy an evening of delicious ice cream, games, and great company from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Don't forget money for ice cream and bring a FRIEND!
- The Mission Team has purchased 20 seats for the Dalton Whitfield NAACP **Juneteenth Celebration & Gala** on Saturday, June 20 @ 6:00 p.m. If you'd like to reserve your seat, please email the church office. Tickets are first come, first serve.
- **Camp AIM** is fast approaching! It's that time of year again when we have the privilege of preparing and serving meals to children and adult teachers and counselors during Camp AIM. Each year, the Family Support Council provides a two-week healing experience for children who are victims of sexual abuse. This will be the 12th year that FPC has provided food and our loving spirits for these kids. All who have served over the years agree that we receive so much more than we give. The job only requires about an hour-and-a-half per meal, including minimal prep time and serving. No cleanup required!! Camp is always the first two full weeks in June ... this year: June 1-5 and June 8-12. Please mark your calendars and respond "YES!" when asked to serve. Thanks to all who have helped in the past and for all of you who will serve this year for the first time. We look forward to working with all of you again!!

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 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

Tami Giusto

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty;
the Lord is robed; he is girded with strength.
He has established the world; it shall never be moved;
**your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.**
The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
**the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.**
More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
**more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the Lord!**
Your decrees are very sure;
**holiness befits your house,
O Lord, forevermore.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God of glory, sovereign of all nations, the risen and ascended Christ calls us to carry your message of life to all people. Led by the power of your Holy Spirit, may we witness always to the hope to which we are called as we share Christ's love to the ends of the earth. Amen.

*HYMN 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Madrid

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 93.

Hymn 267 Note:
Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children, but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. When we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you, you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. 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 Selwidge 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.

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 1:1-11

NRSVUE

¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

NRSVUE

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

ANTHEM

Gathered in God’s Presence

Egil Hovland
(1924-2013)

Mary Ellen Gurley, Beverly Hidgon, solo

*Gathered in God’s presence in fellowship and gladness,
Let us sing our praises and pray for all the nations.*

(Refrain) *Gathered in God’s presence, gathered in God’s peace,
See a torch of promise lit within this place.*

*Gathered in God’s stillness, away from strife and unrest,
We may share the brightness of hope with all the nations.*
(Refrain)

*Gathered at God’s altar and in the Spirit’s presence
We may share the calling to go to all the nations.*
(Refrain)

*Gathered ‘round God’s calling we shall, as faithful servants,
Bear the flame now kindled as light to all the nation.*
(Refrain)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 24:44-53

NRSVUE

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

SERMON

“Why Do You Stare at Heaven?”

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 258

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Deo Gracias

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being born in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God, “Jesus Christ is Lord!” Amen.

- Philippians 2:5-11

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

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 662

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Ratisbon

Hymn 258 Note:

These stanzas have been crafted from various English translations of a much longer Latin hymn preserved in an 11th-century manuscript in the British Museum. This text celebrating Christ’s majesty is well set to a 15th-century English tune commemorating a military victory.

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.



Hymn 662 Note:

This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune’s name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

*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	Flower Guild
5/17	Tami Giusto	The Granillo Family	Susan Bisson
5/24	Kathryn Sellers	Nathalie Sanders & Berrien Long	Becky Jolly
5/31	Judi McPherson	Youth	Margaret Venable

CHILDREN

Date	Joy Makers (PreK-3 rd)	Faith Builders (4 th -5 th)	Youth (6 th -8 th)
5/17	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Jeane Jones & Kayte Crocker	Bjorn & Nicole Jiskoot
5/24	Leanna Granillo & Laura Goins	Eric Haugen & Jeff Granillo	Rob & Michelle Lively
5/31	Youth Trinity Craft	Youth Trinity Craft	Livelys & Jiskoots

MONTHLY

Communion (June 7)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	James Hoskins	May	Laura Allgood	May	Peggy Rollins & Tami Giusto
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Laura Goins and Walter & Jeane Jones	June	Peggy Rollins	June	John & Judi McPherson

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 17

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

10:30 a.m.

Session Meeting

11:30 p.m.

Monday, May 18

Lunch Bunch

noon

Tuesday, May 19

Saturday Sacks

10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 20

Morning Prayers

9:30 a.m.

Women's Book Club

noon

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 21

Presbyterians at the Pub

5:00 p.m.

Knitting Group

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 22

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 24

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship - Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

Monday, May 25

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 26

CLILA pack food boxes

10:00 a.m. - noon

Grateful Heart AA Mtg

8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27

Morning Prayers

9:30 a.m.

Christian Education

Team Meeting

5:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-8:00 p.m.

PRAYERS

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

Muriel Phillips;

John Law;

Anne Sims;

Stan Crawford;

Charles Allgood;

Wayne Alderman;

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

Jean Strain;

Janice Sims;

Walter Jones;

Nancy Rhine;

For Family and Friends of the Following Members:

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.