

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 3, 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

- Please join us today for the **Sunday Fellowship Lunch** 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. All are welcome!
- Church Women United is having their annual **May Friendship Day** on Tuesday, May 12 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Each year, this national ecumenical committee puts together a theme for the program. This year's theme is "Shelter Me: See, Hear, Respect, Protect." Join women from churches all over Dalton to hear a panel discussion on fair and accessible housing in our community while enjoying some light refreshments. Donations of non-perishable foods and personal toiletries will be collected on behalf of local organizations and food banks (including our own Little Free Pantry). For more information, please contact Reba Jackson at RBJackson74@gmail.com.
- **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 3, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

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

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.
Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me;
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.
Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.
Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

Annelle Scott

Cover Art:
Munch, Edvard, 1863-1944. Sun, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/56306> [retrieved April 30, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edvard_Munch_-_The_Sun_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 31.

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

Hymn 624 Note:
The original French text, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn, not a typical practice for him. Yet this text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) clearly date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life. Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly; through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory. Amen.

***HYMN 624**

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

Toulon

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Almighty God, your word offers freedom from sin, but we confess that we have not obeyed your word. We have harbored malice toward our enemies; we have been deceitful in our relationships; we have been insincere in our commitments; through gossip we have slandered our friends.

Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance. Help your children long for your pure, spiritual milk that we may grow into the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ. 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!

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***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.

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

Acts 7:55-60 NRSVUE

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 2:2-10 NRSVUE

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a

spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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

ANTHEM

Cast Thy Burden upon the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

*Cast thy burden upon the Lord,
And he shall sustain thee.
He never will suffer the righteous to fall.
He is at thy right hand.
Thy mercy, Lord, is great
And far above the heav’ns.
Let none be made ashamed
That wait upon thee.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:1-14

NRSVUE

¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have

told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.”
⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

SERMON

“A Temple of Living Stones”Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 440

Jesus, Lover of My Soul*Aberystwyth*

*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

Hymn 440 Note:
Originally titled “In Temptation,” these four stanzas (of five) call to mind how a spiritual and emotional tempest can move from turmoil to tranquility. This tune was first used with this text in a cantata by the composer in 1910, and since then has become the standard one.

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

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.

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 give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe. At your word the earth was made and spun on its course among the planets. Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us among all your creatures to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful to you, you kept faith with us. When we were slaves in Egypt, you broke the bonds of our oppression, brought us through the sea to freedom, and made covenant to be our God. By a pillar of fire you led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You spoke of love and justice in the prophets, and in the Word made flesh you lived among us, manifesting your glory. He died that we might live, and is risen to raise us to new life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

O Lamb of God

Land of Rest

(All sing together)

O Lamb of God, you take away

the sins of the world;

have mercy on us, Lamb of God

and grant us your peace.

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.



Select liturgy
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You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to save us. He came with healing in his touch and was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in his voice and was mocked as one despised. He came with peace in his heart and met with violence and death. By your power he broke free from the prison in the tomb, and by his sacrifice, death was defeated. The one who was dead now lives. The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation – the Lamb upon the throne. The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised.

Nourished at this table, O God, may we know Christ’s redemptive love and live a new life in him. Give us who are fed at this hand grace to share our bread with the hungry and with the hungry of heart. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy 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.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 634**

To God Be The Glory *To God Be The Glory*

***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 634 Note:
This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 3

Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship
10:30 a.m.
Sunday Fellowship
Lunch & Share a Meal
Sunday
11:30 p.m.

Monday, May 4

Lunch Bunch
noon

Tuesday, May 5

Saturday Sacks
10:30 a.m.
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Morning Prayers
9:30 a.m.
Christian Education
Team Meeting
5:00 p.m.

Children/Youth Choir
Rehearsal w/ Dinner
5:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 7

Church Women United
11:00 a.m.
Presbyterians at the Pub
5:00 p.m.
Knitting Group
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 8

Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 10

Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Children/Youth Choir
Rehearsal
9:30 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship - Mother's Day
10:30 a.m.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flower Guild
5/3	Annelle Scott	John Beazle & Curtis Rivers	Mary Hubbs
5/10	Alice Ensley	Larry & Sharon Cooper	Jones & McDonald
5/17	Tami Giusto	The Granillo Family	Susan Bisson

CHILDREN

Date	Joy Makers (PreK-3 rd)	Faith Builders (4 th -5 th)	Youth (6 th -8 th)
5/3	Leanna Granillo & Laura Goins	Jean Lowrey & Priscilla Brown	Bjorn & Nicole Jiskoot
5/10	Choir Rehearsal & Youth Connect	Choir Rehearsal & Youth Connect	Choir Rehearsal & Youth Connect
5/17	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Jeane Jones & Kayte Crocker	Bjorn & Nicole Jiskoot

MONTHLY

Communion (May 3)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Julie Tharpe	May	Laura Allgood	May	Peggy Rollins & Tami Giusto
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Laura Allgood and Henry & Julie Tharpe	June	Peggy Rollins	June	John & Judi McPherson

PRAYERS

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

John Law;
Anne Sims;
Stan Cranford;
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 (Please do not reach out to the Brooks family in any way. Instead, contact the church office or Mary Ellen for details);
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

101 S. Selvidge Street Phone: 706-278-8161

Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Pastor: njiskoot@firstpresdalton.org

Hye Jeong Kwon, Director of Music: hkwon@firstpresdalton.org

Erin Witt, Office Manager: office@firstpresdalton.org

Mailing Address:

PO Box 489 • Dalton, Georgia 30722