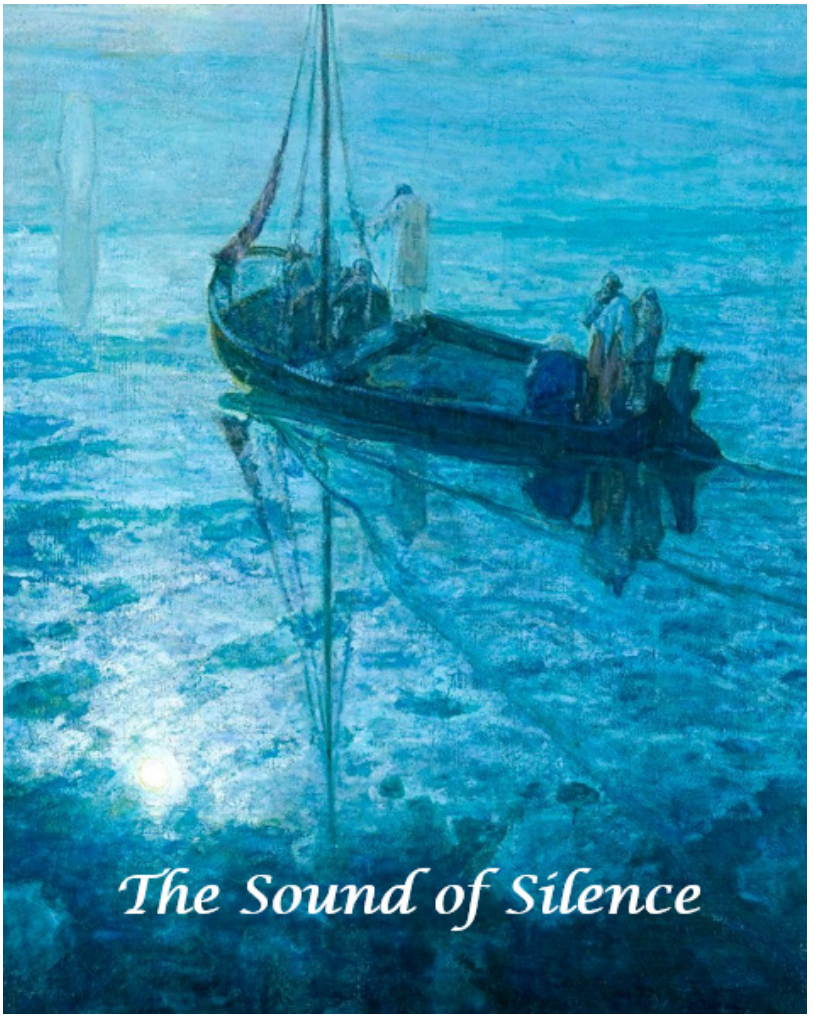
First Presbyterian Church

Dalton, Georgia Est. 1847



Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, August 9, 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

• Please welcome our new **Director of Children and Youth Ministries**, Grace Johnson. Grace recently graduated from Mercer University's McAfee School of Theology with her Master of Divinity and is currently a candidate for ordination in the PC(USA) to become a Minister of the Word and Sacrament. As she continues to discern where God may be calling her to serve, she is excited to work with the youth and children of First Presbyterian of Dalton. She brings fresh energy and enthusiasm and will be a great addition to our church family.

• The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** today, towards the end of Worship, for the purpose of voting on the nominations for the Elder Nominating Committee. The nominees include: Hilliard Jolly/Robert Smalley (tied) and Henry Tharpe, and Alice Ensley and Kathy Bridges.

• 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 9, 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

Renee Schuette

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.
The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.
Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, you speak to us in a voice unexpected and come to us in ways we do not recognize. Never leaving us to our own devices or defenses, you are the ever-present, all-powerful God. Call us out in faith again and again, until we learn to walk with you in steadfast love and faithfulness, and in peace. In the name of him who comes to us upon the waters, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 410

God is Calling Through the Whisper — *W Żłobie Leży*

Cover Art:
Tanner, Henry Ossawa, 1859-1937. Disciples See Christ Walking on the Water, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/55904 [retrieved August 6, 2026]. Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Henry_Ossawa_Tanner,_The_Disciples_See_Christ_Walking_on_the_Water,_c._1907.jpg.main_page.htm.

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 85.

Hymn 410 Note:
This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

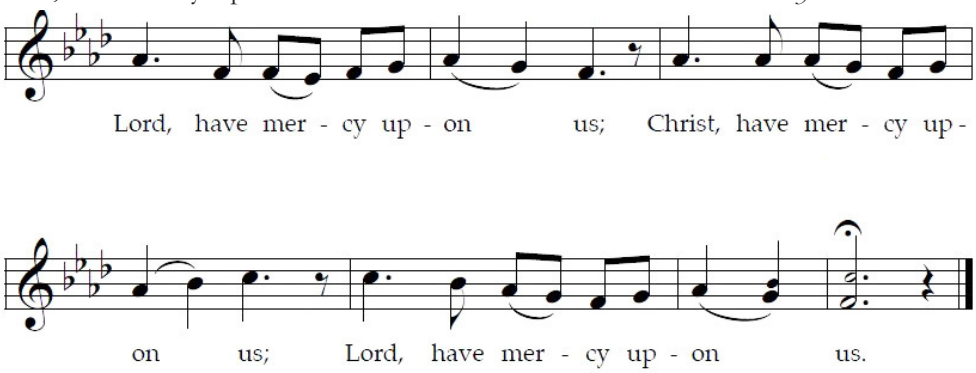
(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Gracious God, you call us to step out in faith, trusting in you for all things. We respond to your command but then sink in doubt and fear. We hide from the challenges of bold discipleship. We are not able to fulfill your commandments, for our purposes are never in full accord with yours.

Forgive us, we pray, when we confess with our lips but do not believe in our hearts. Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Lift us out of sin into the arms of your mercy. Though we are distracted by noise all around, allow us to hear your voice, even when it is the sound of sheer silence. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us — *Kyrie Eleison*

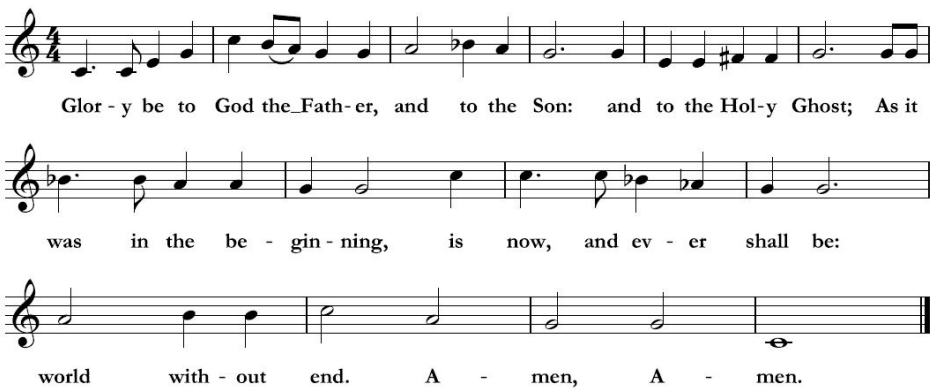


ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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*



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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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 37:1-4, 12-28 NRSVUE

1 Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of
Canaan. 2 These are the descendants of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers;
he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and Joseph
brought a bad report of them to their father. 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than
any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him
an ornamented robe. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more
than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

12 Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. 13 And
Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem?
Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." 14 So he said to him,
"Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring word
back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, 15 and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man
asked him, "What are you seeking?" 16 "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell
me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." 17 The man said, "They have
gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after
his brothers and found them at Dothan. 18 They saw him from a distance, and
before he came near to them they conspired to kill him. 19 They said to one
another, "Here comes this dreamer. 20 Come now, let us kill him and throw him
into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and
we shall see what will become of his dreams." 21 But when Reuben heard it, he
delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." 22 Reuben said
to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay
no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him
to his father. 23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his
robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, 24 and they took him and threw him
into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

25 Then they sat down to eat, and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites
coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their
way to carry it down to Egypt. 26 Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit
is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? 27 Come, let us sell him to the
Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh."
And his brothers agreed. 28 When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew
Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty
pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18 NRSVUE

9 At that place [Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 10 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

11 He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. 13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 14 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." 15 Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. 16 Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. 17 Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. 18 Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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

ANTHEM

City Called Heaven — Josephine Poelinitz (b. 1942)

Beverly Higdon, soloist

Anthem:
I am a poor pilgrim, a poor pilgrim of sorrow,
I'm left this old wide world, this wide world a lone!
Oh, I ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow
I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord.
Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn,
Oh, I heard of a city, of a city called heaven,
I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 14:22-33 NRSVUE

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. 25 And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

[28] Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." [29] He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. [30] But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" [31] Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" [32] When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. [33] And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

SERMON

"The Sound of Silence" Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 815

Give to the Winds Thy Fears *Festal Song*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In life and in death, we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel…

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community…

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray with out ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Excerpts from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Hymn 815 Note:
This text uses selected stanzas from sixteen four-line English stanzas based on the original German text, which was twice as long. The German hymn was constructed as an acrostic on Martin Luther's translation of Psalm 37:5, and much of the spirit of that psalm is retained here.

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 305 Note:
This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme "Celebrate the Journey." The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

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 & 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/

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 270

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy *Jerusalem*

*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
8/9	Renee Schuette	The Hubbs Family	Becky Jolly
8/16	John Beazle	Daniel Kim & The Jiskoot Family	Margaret Venable
8/23	Julie Tharpe	Jean Lowrey & Janice Sims	Kathryn Sellers

MONTHLY

Communion (September 6)		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Kathryn Sellers	August	Mary Hubbs	August	Eric & Lena Haugen
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Steve Farrow, Annelle Scott & Mary Ellen Gurley	September	Bobbie Anderson	September	Walter & Jeane Jones

Upcoming Events

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.
Connection Team 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.

Friday, August 14
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 16
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship
10:30 a.m.
Session Meeting
11:30 a.m.

Monday, August 17
Lunch Bunch
noon

Tuesday, August 18
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 19
Women's Book Club
noon
Missions Team Meeting
5:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal

PRAYERS

For Family and Friends of Those Who Joined the Church Triumphant:
Jean Strain;
Muriel Phillips;
John Law;
Anne Sims;
Stan Crawford;
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.