First Presbyterian Church

Dalton, Georgia Est. 1847



Commitment Sunday

Sunday, November 15, 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

• Today's flowers are **in memory of Rev. Dr. Walter Jones**, from his loving wife Jeane and family.

• Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, November 22, after Worship for this year's **Hanging of the Greens**, hosted by the Congregational Life Team. A pizza lunch will be provided. Come help us decorate for the Advent and Christmas seasons!

• Monday, November 23, please join with our church members and many others from across Whitfield County and beyond to celebrate **Gratefull Dalton**, a community Thanksgiving meal together. This free meal is open to all and is served in Downtown Dalton near Burr Park from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If you wish to join us, please wear your "Love First, Love All" tee-shirt or anything that says First Pres Dalton and gather at FPC at 11:15 a.m. and we will walk together.

• As Thanksgiving and Christmas approach, so do holiday parties and the question of what to do with all the leftover food. **The City of Refuge** is more than happy to come pick up any leftovers you may have. Any amount is gladly accepted. You can contact them at 706-226-1301.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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

Lead me, Lord, in Thy Righteousness — Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness,
Make Thy way plain before my face.
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only,
That makest me dwell in safety.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Nancy Farrow

Oh! Teach us to live well!
Teach us to live wisely and well!
Come back, God—how long do we have to wait?—
and treat your servants with kindness for a change.
Surprise us with love at daybreak;
then we'll skip and dance all the day long.
Make up for the bad times with some good times;
we've seen enough evil to last a lifetime.
Let your servants see what you're best at—
the ways you rule and bless your children.
And let the loveliness of our Lord, our God, rest on us,
confirming the work that we do.
Oh, yes. Affirm the work that we do!

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 90, The Message.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, the gift of your Son is the life-changing treasure that is truly beyond all value. Your generosity and goodness astound us! Inspire us to teach your commandments and share your gospel, that all may enter into the joy of Christ. Amen.

*HYMN 612

We Praise You, O God — *Praise to the Lord*

Hymn 612 Note:
This text from Korea affirms that the shared adoration of God fosters a sense of common purpose. The second stanza ends with an allusion to Ephesians 4:3, a further reminder of Christian unity, reinforced earlier by an echo of Christ's prayer that "all may be one" (John 17:21).

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

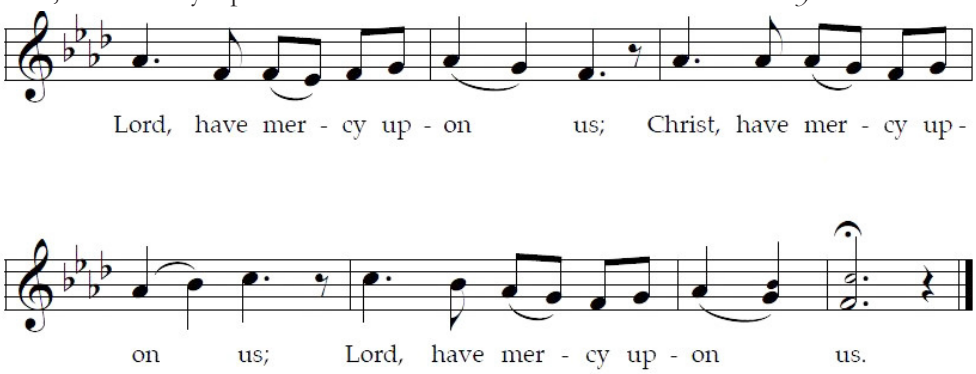
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned against you by not honoring you or one another. When we place our iniquities before you, it is your love that sheds light on our wayward deeds. As we stand in awe of your constancy for us, we ask your forgiveness through the mercy of Christ, in whose 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*



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.

Permission to reprint/ podcast/stream music in this service is obtained from One License with license #A-722902. All rights reserved.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"Stewardship in the Future"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Zephaniah 14-18 CEB

14 The great day of the Lord is near;
it is near and coming very quickly.
The sound of the day of the Lord is bitter.
A warrior screams there.
15 That day is a day of fury,
a day of distress and anxiety,
a day of desolation and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloominess,
a day of clouds and deep darkness,
16 a day for blowing the trumpet and alarm against their invincible cities
and against their high towers.
17 I will make humanity suffer;
they will walk like the blind
because they sinned against the Lord.
Their blood will be poured out like dust
and their intestines like manure.
18 Moreover, their silver and their gold won't be able to deliver them
on the day of the Lord's fury.
His jealousy will devour the entire land with fire;
he will make an end,
a truly horrible one,
for all the inhabitants of the land.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 CEB

1 We don't need to write to you about the timing and dates, brothers and sisters.
2 You know very well that the day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. 3 When they are saying, "There is peace and security," at that time sudden destruction will attack them, like labor pains start with a pregnant woman, and they definitely won't escape. 4 But you aren't in darkness, brothers and sisters, so the day won't catch you by surprise like a thief. 5 All of you are children of light and children of the day. We don't belong to night or darkness. 6 So then, let's not sleep like the others, but let's stay awake and stay sober. 7 People who sleep sleep at night, and people who get drunk get drunk at night. 8 Since we belong to the day, let's stay sober, wearing faithfulness and love as a piece of armor that protects our body and the hope of salvation as a helmet. 9 God didn't intend for us to suffer his wrath but rather to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 10 Jesus died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with him. 11 So continue encouraging each other and building each other up, just like you are doing already.

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

Select liturgy reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion. Copyright 2015.

ANTHEM

Come, My Savior, Come My King — Stan Pethel

Come, my Savior, come, my King,
Come, O light, to You we sing
Songs of adoration true;
Come, my Savior, make us new.

Come, in mercy come in might,
Bathed in truth and holy light.
Bringing life in fullest glow
That the world Your love may know.

Crowned with glory like the sun,
Heaven's joy to us has come.
Break the silence, raise the strain;
Christ the Lord has come to reign.

Come, in mercy come in might,
Bathed in truth and holy light.
Bringing life in fullest glow
That the world Your love may know.

Come, my Savior, come, my King.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30 — CEB

14 "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was leaving on a trip. He called
his servants and handed his possessions over to them. 15 To one he gave five
valuable coins, and to another he gave two, and to another he gave one. He gave
to each servant according to that servant's ability. Then he left on his journey.

16 "After the man left, the servant who had five valuable coins took them and went
to work doing business with them. He gained five more. 17 In the same way, the one
who had two valuable coins gained two more. 18 But the servant who had received
the one valuable coin dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money.

19 "Now after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled
accounts with them. 20 The one who had received five valuable coins came
forward with five additional coins. He said, 'Master, you gave me five valuable
coins. Look, I've gained five more.'

21 "His master replied, 'Excellent! You are a good and faithful servant! You've
been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.'

22 "The second servant also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two
valuable coins. Look, I've gained two more.'

23 "His master replied, 'Well done! You are a good and faithful servant. You've
been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.'

[24] "Now the one who had received one valuable coin came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man. You harvest grain where you haven't sown. You gather crops where you haven't spread seed. [25] So I was afraid. And I hid my valuable coin in the ground. Here, you have what's yours.'

[26] "His master replied, 'You evil and lazy servant! You knew that I harvest grain where I haven't sown and that I gather crops where I haven't spread seed? [27] In that case, you should have turned my money over to the bankers so that when I returned, you could give me what belonged to me with interest. [28] Therefore, take from him the valuable coin and give it to the one who has ten coins. [29] Those who have much will receive more, and they will have more than they need. But as for those who don't have much, even the little bit they have will be taken away from them. [30] Now take the worthless servant and throw him out into the farthest darkness.'

"People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

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

SERMON

"Investing in the Future" Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending *Beach Spring*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Confession of Belhar*

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit…

We believe

- **that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another…**
- **that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways;**
  - *** in that we love one another;**
  - *** that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another;**
  - *** that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another…**
  - *** together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ…**
  - *** together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ;**
  - *** that we need one another and upbuild one another…**

To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

Hymn 716 Note:
This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

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 769 Note:
This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

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 & STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION

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

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 769

For Everyone Born *For Everyone Born*

*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

101 S. Selvidge Street Phone: 706-278-8161
Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Pastor: njiskoot@firstpresdalton.org
Hye Jeong Kwon, Director of Music: hkwon@firstpresdalton.org
Grace Johnson, Director of Children & Youth Ministries: gjohnson@firstpresdalton.org
Priscilla Mikala, Accompanist: pmikala@firstpresdalton.org
Erin Witt, Office Manager: office@firstpresdalton.org
Mailing Address:
PO Box 489 • Dalton, Georgia 30722
www.firstpresdalton.org

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flower Guild
11/15	Nancy Farrow	Laura Allgood & Mary Hubbs	The Jones Family
11/22	Robert Smalley	The Hubbs Family	Sarah McCown
11/29	Sue Spivey	Youth	Flower Guild

MONTHLY

Communion December 6		Congregational Care		Little Free Pantry Pal	
Prep	Katie O'Gwin	November	Joanne Lewis	November	Mary Hubbs & Valerie George
Servers	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot, Mike & Priscilla Brown and Margaret Venable	December	Nancy Farrow	December	Mike & Priscilla Brown

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Date	Joy Makers (PreK- 3rd)	Faith Builders (4th - 5th)	Youth Connect (6th - 12th)	Adult
11/15	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Jean Lowrey & Priscilla Brown	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot & Grace Johnson	Beverly Higdon
11/22	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot & Grace Johnson	Steve Farrow
11/29	Advent Craft Project	Advent Craft Project	Advent Craft Project	Jean Lowrey

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 15
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship - Commitment Sunday
10:30 a.m.
Session Meeting
11:30 a.m.
Monday, November 16
Lunch Bunch
noon
Elder Training
5:30-7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 17
Saturday Sacks
10:30 a.m.
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 18
Women's Book Club
noon
Missions Team Meeting
5:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 19
Presbyterians at the Pub
5:00 p.m.
Knitting Group
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Friday, November 20
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 22
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship - Christ the King
10:30 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens
11:30 a.m.
November 22-23
Pastor Nicole out of the office
Monday, November 23
Gratefull Lunch
11:30 a.m.

PRAYERS

For Family and Friends of Those Who Joined the Church Triumphant:
Walter Jones;
Jean Strain;
Muriel Phillips;
John Law;
Anne Sims;
Stan Crawford;
Charles Allgood;
Wayne Alderman;

For Healing, Comfort, and Ongoing Concerns for our Members:
The Alderman Family;
Janice Sims;
Bjorn Jiskoot;
Peggy Rollins;
Sue Spivey;
Nancy Rhine;

For Family and Friends of the Following Members:
Sarah McCown, Sandy McCown;
Leanna Granillo, Robert Stromberg;
Mary Ellen Gurley, Dusty Eggleston 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:
Elsilynn Barber;
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:
In praise to the God who was and is and is to come, open our hearts during our Stewardship Campaign, that we may prayerfully consider pledging our gifts, time, and talents in the coming year;
For expectant mothers: Hye Jeong Kwon, Lucy Partain Brown and Emma Ensley;
For all our members and visitors, we offer our thanks to God.