First Presbyterian Church

Dalton, Georgia Est. 1847



Reign of Christ Sunday

Sunday, November 22, 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 we welcome **guest minister,** Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie. Rev. McKenzie is an Honorably Retired Minister Member of Cherokee Presbytery. He has served five parishes as pastor and Savannah Presbytery as General Presbyter. He and his wife, Vicki, reside in Blue Ridge, GA and are active in the Faith Presbyterian Church. He also served as interim pastor for FPC between 2022 and 2024.

• Everyone is invited to join us today 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!

• On 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.

• **Salvation Army Bell Ringers** needed! First Presbyterian Church will ring the bell on Friday, December 11 (10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.) and Saturday, December 12 (10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m). at the Food City on Walnut Ave. We need 6 volunteers on Friday and 8 volunteers on Saturday to ring the bell for one hour each. Please call Peggy Rollins to sign up! 706-280-5365.

Announcements are continued in the bulletin insert.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE
Redeemed — arr. William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)

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
Robert Smalley

The Lord God is our shepherd.
We are the people of God's pasture,
the sheep of God's hand.
God will seek the lost,
feed the hungry,
and strengthen the weak.
But the proud and power-hungry
will be fed with justice.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION
God of majesty, you love us with an everlasting love and show us the way to justice and peace. In Jesus Christ you have reconciled the whole world to you and claimed us as your own, that we may live as his body on earth and, with all the saints, enter into your glory on the last day. Amen.

*HYMN 258
A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! — *Deo Gracias*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Cover Art:
Mauve, Anton, 1838-1888. Landscape with Shepherd and Sheep, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/51139 [retrieved November 16, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:%27Shepherd_and_Sheep%27_by_Anton_Mauve,_Cincinnati_Art_Museum.JPG..

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.

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

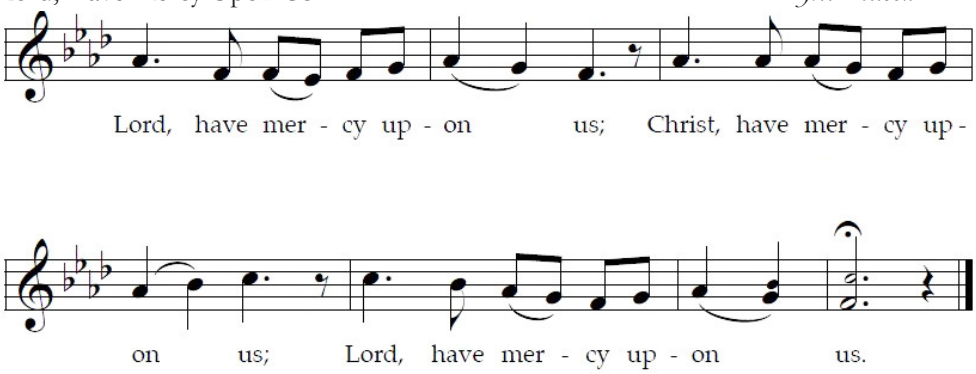
(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You guide us toward right paths, but we refuse to follow where you lead. You love and feed and care for us, but we fail to love and serve others.

Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne. 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.

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 NRSVUE

11 For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort
them out. 12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered
sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which
they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring
them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them
into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the
watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with
good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there
they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on
the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will
make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring
back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but
the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the
fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and
butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and
wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge
between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed
them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their
God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

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.

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ANTHEM

Choral Fanfare for Christ the King — H. Hamilton Smith

He shall rule from sea to sea,
And from the river to the ends of the earth.
All kings shall pay him homage.
All nations shall serve him.

He shall rule from sea to sea,
And from the river to the ends of the earth.

Alleluia, alleluia.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion
That shall not be taken away.
And his kingdom shall not be destroyed.

Alleluia, alleluia!

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46 — NRSVUE

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then
he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before
him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates
the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the
goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come,
you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from
the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was
thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed
me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of
me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him,
'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and
gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw
you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly
I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of
mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who
are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his
angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave
me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and
you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or
thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?'
45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of
the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal
punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

SERMON

"Sheep Unaware" Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is *St. Columbia*

Stanzas 1, 2, 5, and 6

*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 & 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

Prelude No. 3 in C-sharp Major, BWV 848 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*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

Hymn 802 Note:
Since its creation in the mid-19th century, this text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English-speaking world. That popularity increased in the early 20th century when The English Hymnal, 1906, first joined these words to this flowing Irish melody.

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 363 Note:
Each stanza of this enthronement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4. "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 363

Rejoice, the Lord is King! *Darwall's 148th*

*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

Fantasy on "Sweet By and By" arr. Joseph P. Webster (1819-1875)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847

Contact FPC

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Mailing Address:
PO Box 489 • Dalton, Georgia 30722
www.firstpresdalton.org

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flower Guild
11/22	Robert Smalley	The Hubbs Family	Sarah McCown
11/29	Sue Spivey	Youth	Flower Guild
12/6	Steve Farrow	Steve & Carol Houston	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
11/22	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal	Jean Lowrey
11/29	Advent Craft Project	Advent Craft Project	Advent Craft Project	Steve Farrow
12/6	Alice Ensley & O'Gwins	Grace Johnson & Kayte Crocker	Rob & Michelle Lively	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

Announcements Continued...

• Join us for our annual **Lessons and Carols** service on Sunday, December 6, at 5:00 p.m., preceeded with a Prelude beginning at 4:45 p.m. We will hear the message of God's love for us made manifest in creation, in covenant with God's people, and in the birth of a baby boy. We will sing those old familiar carols of joy and peace, as well as hear some new renditions of classic favorites. The evening will end with Silent Night, sung by candlelight. Come celebrate the joy of the season as we await the coming of our Lord!

• The **church office will be closed** November 23-27 and will resume normal business hours on Monday, November 30..

Upcoming Events

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 23-27
Church Office Closed
Monday, November 23
Gratefull Dalton
11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, November 24
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 25
No Choir Rehearsal
Friday, November 27
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 29
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship - Advent I
10:30 a.m.
Presbytery Youth Connect
5:00-6:30 p.m.
Monday, November 30
Lunch Bunch
noon
Tuesday, December 1
Saturday Sacks
10:30 a.m.
Carol Singing at Crown Gardens
6:30 p.m.
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 2
Ladies Luncheon
11:30 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 3
Presbyterians at the Pub
5:00 p.m.
Knitting Group
5:30-7:30 p.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.