First Presbyterian Church

Dalton, Georgia Est. 1847



Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, November 8, 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 join us for the **Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch** today 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!

• As **Veteran's Day** approaches, we give heartfelt thanks for the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces, offering their courage and sacrifice in the pursuit of peace. May God bless them for the steadfast devotion with which they have protected and uplifted our nation and our communities.

• The Staff Team is excited to announce the addition of **Priscille Mikala**, our new Accompanist. With a lifelong passion for music, Priscille began studying piano and violin at the age of seven. Originally from Paris, France, she studied at several conservatories before moving to the United States to pursue her musical education at Southern Adventist University, where she graduated in May 2026 with a Bachelor of Science in Music Performance, specializing in piano.She has been involved in church music from an early age, accompanying worship services since childhood. Her musical experience also includes orchestral and chamber music performances. Priscille is passionate about using her musical gifts to serve God and contribute to the worship ministry of the church.

Announcements are continued in the bulletin insert.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 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

Rob Lively

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.
O Lord, make haste to help me!
Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

The Call to Worship is from Psalm 70.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O great and loving God, your wisdom is radiant and unfading, easily discerned by all who seek your way. When faithful people live in love and work for justice, heaven breaks into earth. Give us the grace to live confidently and expectantly, trusting that the Lord of history, who has been approaching from all eternity, comes into life continually with compassion, redemption, and hope. Amen.

*HYMN 299

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim — *Hanover*

Hymn 299 Note:
This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9–11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714–1901.

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

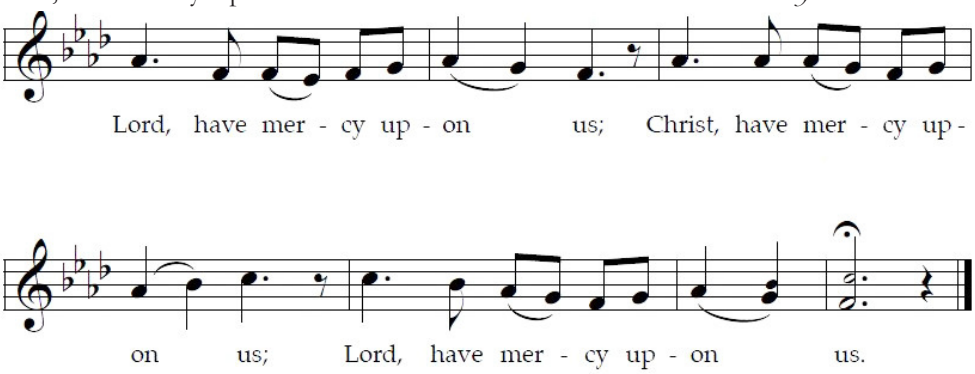
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned against you by not honoring you or loving one another. When we ignore injustice in the world, our worship brings you no delight. Make haste to help us, that we may stand in right relationship with you and the whole of your creation and sing praises through the mercy of Christ, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us — *Kyrie Eleison*
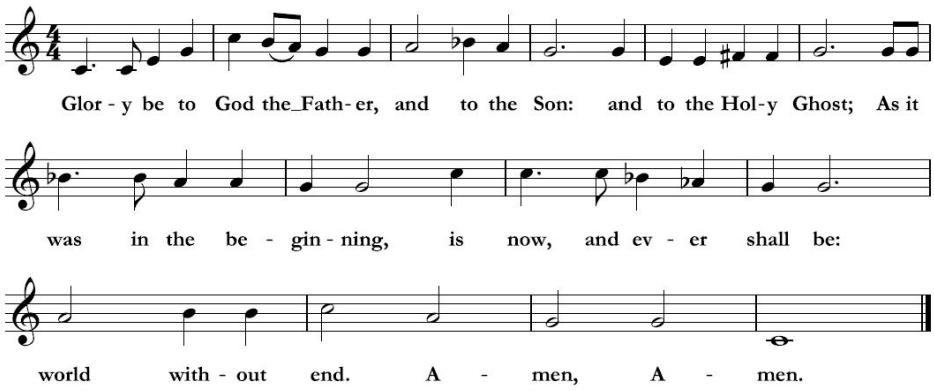


ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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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STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"Stewardship in the Present" Rob Lively

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Amos 5:14-15a, 21-24 NRSVUE

14 Seek good and not evil,
that you may live,
and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
15 Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NRSVUE

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

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ANTHEM

Come, Ye That Love The Lord — arr. Alice Parker (1925-2023)

Come, ye that love the Lord,
And let your love be known;
Join in a song of sweet accord
And thus surround the throne,

The sorrows of the mind
Be banished from this place;
Religion never was designed
To make our pleasures less.

Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our God;
But favorites of the heav'nly King
May speak their joys abroad.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:1-13 — NRSVUE

[1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

SERMON

"Choose This Day" — Rev. Nicole Jiskoot

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 350

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning — *Keep Your Lamps*

Hymn 530 Note: This African American spiritual has a biblical basis in the parable of the ten maidens (Matthew 25:1–13), but the text actually sung could vary greatly. Such variation can be seen here in the annexing of an often freestanding spiritual based on Jacob's vision (Genesis 28:10–17).

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

- Colossians 1:15-20

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

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 295

Go to the World! *Sine Nomine*

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

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 295 Note:
Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19–20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.

*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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847

Contact FPC

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www.firstpresdalton.org

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flower Guild
11/8	Rob Lively	Jean Lowrey & Michelle Lively	Robyn Bryant
11/15	Nancy Farrow	Kathryn Sellers & Mary Hubbs	Mary Hubbs
11/22	Robert Smalley	The Hubbs Family	Sarah McCown

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
11/8	Youth Connect Service Project	Youth Connect Service Project	Rob & Michelle Lively	Hilliard Jolly
11/15	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Jean Lowrey & Priscilla Brown	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot & Grace Johnson	Beverly Higdon
11/22	Leanna Granillo & Laura Goins	Eric Haugen & Jeff Granillo	Rev. Nicole Jiskoot & Grace Johnson	Steve Farrow

Announcements Continued:

• A time capsule, buried in 1976 containing items from First Presbyterian Church, inspired this year's **Stewardship Campaign**, "Stewardship Past, Present, and Future…Glancing Back, Forging Ahead." The challenge this year is to forge ahead, growing our outreach to the community, and the involvement and support of our congregation.

• Join us in Worship for our **Commitment Sunday**, November 15, as we offer and dedicate our pledges for the upcoming year. We also invite you to remember your baptism as you dedicate your pledge during the service. A financial pledge card has been sent to your home address or post office box. You can mail in your card or return an electronic pledge card which can be found in the Midweek News. You can also give through our website: firstpresdalton.org/giving. Please prayerfully consider how your resources, passions and talents can be used to further the kingdom of God, for such a time as this.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 8
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
10:00 a.m.
Worship
10:30 a.m.
Second Sunday
Fellowship Lunch
11:30 a.m.
Connections Team
Meeting
12:30 p.m.

Monday, November 9
Lunch Bunch
noon

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

Wednesday, November 11
Choir Rehearsal
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 12
Knitting Group
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 13
Grateful Heart AA Mtg
8:00 p.m.

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.

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:
The Alderman Family;
Janice Sims;
Bjorn Jiskoot;
Peggy Rollins;
Sue Spivey;
Walter Jones;
Nancy Rhine;

For Family and Friends of the Following Members:
Sarah McCown, Sandy McCown;
Nicole Jiskoot, Jon Ballast and family;
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;
Ken McKenzie;
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.