

First Presbyterian

FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

11 a.m.

September 14, 2025



*We are called to love God
with our head, our heart,
and our hands*

LOVING *with* OUR HEAD

We are lifelong learners shaped by God's Word

OUR HEART

We commit to loving God and loving people

OUR HANDS

We use our God-given gifts to serve others

700 Park Avenue ✦ Florence, SC 29501

843.662.2583 ✦ 843.662.1726 Fax

www.florencefirst.org

Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly.
Leave Gracefully. Serve Christ Faithfully.

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune in C Major

David Lasky

GREETINGS

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Elder David Spivey

INTROIT

The Lord Reigns

Dale Wood

The Lord reigns! He is robed in majesty!
O let us come into his presence with song!
The Psalms

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN OF PRAISE

O Worship the King

No. 2

LYONS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

in front of hymnal

*THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

No. 733

MEINEKE

Christoph Meineke

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.
second century Gloria Patri

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, when we have run away, when we have turned our backs on love,
when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, help us.
Merciful God, when we have been selfish, when we have been mean, when we
have closed our ears to the cries of others, forgive us.
Powerful God, when we are so broken we cannot move, when we don't know
how to not hurt others, when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us.
Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope to accept your grace and hear
your call in Christ. (Time of silent prayer and confession). In Jesus' name, Amen.
(Adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, *Hold Fast to What is Good*. Used with
permission.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends. Sisters, brothers: hear this good news and see the grace of God:
You are forgiven. You are free to go and live in the light of love.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANTHEM

O God Beyond All Praising

THAXTED

Gustav Holst, *The Planets*, 1918

setting by Dan Forrest

O God beyond all praising, we worship You today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at every gift You send,
At blessings without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your Word,
We honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord.
For we can only wonder at every gift You send,
At blessings without number and mercies without end:
For Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,
and we through Him are given the final victory.
Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
To marvel at Your beauty and glory in Your ways,
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Michael Perry

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Kaiti Bryant

☞ Children in 3K-5K are invited to go with a worship caregiver to attend *Children in Worship*.
If this is your child's first visit, please fill out and follow the instructions on the
"First Presbyterian Church Loves Children" sticker located in the friendship pad.
Parents, please pick up your children at Children in Worship at the end of the service.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

My Soul Waits for the Lord

K. Lee Scott

My soul waits for the Lord more than they that watch for morning.
Psalm 130:6

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Elder Brandon Hylton

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Arise, My Soul, Arise

CHODAN

Dan Forrest

Arise, my soul, arise, Shake off thy guilty fears:
The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears: Before the Throne my Surety stands.
My name is written on His hands. Five bleeding wounds He bears,
received on Calvary, They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me:
"Forgive Him, O, forgive," they cry, "nor let that ransomed sinner die."
My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear; He owns me for His child,
I can no longer fear; With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry. Arise, my soul, arise!
Charles Wesley

**The Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

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. Amen.

SERMON

Dr. Stuart Bond

Rebuilding Our Broken World:

True Leadership

Nehemiah 5:14-19

(Pew Bible page 476)

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

With Singing and Praying

John Horman

Now let us go and make our way with singing and praying.
Now let us go and make our way with singing and praying before our God.

***POSTLUDE**

God of Grace, Opus 14

CWM RHONDDA
setting by Paul Manz

This morning's worship is led by
Dr. Stuart Bond, Transitional Pastor
Mr. Brandon Hylton, Elder
Kaiti Bryant, Program Director of Children's Ministry
Ann Rodgers Chandler, Director of Music and Organist
The Chancel Choir
Dr. Fran Coleman, soprano
Jennifer Foxworth, violin

*Congregation is invited to stand if able.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers for the services today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gordon Dalsbo by the Dalsbo Family.

Welcome guests! If you're visiting us for the first time this morning, we would like to give you a small gift. As you leave the sanctuary, deacons (with name tags on) will have a *Jesus Calling* book ready for you. We are glad you're with us.

Lord, Hear Our Prayer. Those in need of prayer include Bonnie Stuber, for the loss of her sister; Clara Alexander; Aubrey Crawford; Steve Edwards; Frank Hodges; Barry Jenkins; Keith Jones; Dave and Linda Lawson; Bob McLean; Mary Ann Nash; Ginger Sullivan; and Clara Williamson.

Missions Week: Today through Sept. 21, First Presbyterian will be highlighting missions we support in the community and around the globe. Join us for our **Missions Fair on September 17** during our Wednesday night programming to learn more about the meaningful work we are involved with and how you may be included. Then on **September 21, Actionnel Fleurisma** with Operation Force for Christ Bayonnais in Haiti will lead a Combined Sunday School at 10 a.m. in the CLC.

Congregational Meeting: There will be a Congregational Meeting at 10:40 a.m. Sunday, September 28, in the Sanctuary to receive the report of the Officer Nomination Committee for Elders and Deacons and to elect church officers for the class of 2028.

Church Directory: It's time for us to update our pictorial church directory, and it won't be complete without you. We will be photographing all families September 24-27. Schedule your photography session online at www.ucdir.com. Log in after clicking Photography Session Sign-Up by using username **sc311** and **photos** as the password. You can call Kimberly Brauss or Emily Reed in the church office to set up an appointment or provide other assistance, as well, 843-662-2583.



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and be with me.

— Revelation 3:20

Pray for our Pastor Nominating Committee that they will not only hear God's voice but will act upon it and not dismiss the clear direction the Lord is leading them.

Weekly family meals are held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays before our mid-week educational programming. The cost of meals is \$7/person with a \$30 family maximum.

Help Us Get in Touch with Our College Students: The Women in Ministry would like to encourage our church's college students throughout the school year. If you have a child in college or graduate school, please send his or her name, address, and email address to Tara Newton, tarabecknewton@gmail.com.

Wednesday Night Adult Classes: Dr. Stuart Bond and Dr. Bill Cain will be offering two classes at 6 p.m. Wednesdays this fall.

From Pastor Stuart: Steve Macchia is a pastor and author of many books. For our class I want us to work on *Becoming a Healthy Disciple: Ten Traits of a Vital Christian*. Here are the 10 elements we want to see in our lives:

1. Experiences God's Empowering Presence
2. Engages in God-Exalting Worship
3. Practices the Spiritual Disciplines
4. Learns and Grows in Community
5. Commits to Loving and Caring Relationships
6. Exhibits Christlike Servanthood
7. Shares the Love of Christ Generously
8. Manages Life Wisely and Accountably
9. Networks with the Body of Christ
10. Stewards a Life of Abundance

I thought this quote says it all: "If I wanted to answer the biblical question, 'How shall we then live?' It would be difficult to find a more comprehensive and well-thought through response than that given by Steve Macchia in this excellent book. I want to please Jesus in my life; like most of us I need to know how. At last, courtesy of Steve Macchia, I have an answer." Clive Calver, former president of World Relief where Macchia explores the 10 traits of a healthy disciple, including a vital prayer life, evangelistic outreach, worship, servanthood, and stewardship.

From Bill Cain: What is the MOST IMPORTANT GIFT you can give to your child? It's a question that deserves our full attention. We can do many things wrong as parents and survive. But this is an issue essential to our child's well-being throughout their life. Their sense of IDENTITY and PURPOSE is wrapped around this issue. On Wednesday evening, September 24, we begin a 6-week class on "Leaving a Legacy." This class is open to all parents, regardless of the age of your child(ren). If you have questions, call 407-473-0912 or email wvcain50@gmail.com. Spoiler: If the only legacy you plan to leave is money ... it won't be ENOUGH!

A Message to Elders — You should have each received a "Save The Date" for our Dinner Meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, September 29. We will meet in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall to enjoy a nice meal and time together. Please plan to be there! Even though we have "rolled off" of the Session, we are all still Elders. It is encouraging to see how so many of you have stayed involved in our church and the community. Thank you for your service! Let's come together for food and fellowship with our current Session and our Pastor. Let us consider how we may spur one another on ... encouraging one another. Hebrews 10:23-25. Contact Debbie Jackson or Janet Brand with any questions or suggestions. We look forward to seeing you September 29!

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Missions Week

- 8:30 AM Women's Retreat
- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service: Moment for Mission (David Spivey)
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service: Moment for Mission (David Spivey)
- 12:15 PM Mentor-Confirmand Lunch: JFH
- 2:00 PM WiM Sunday Salty Sisters: off campus
- 5:00 PM Youth: Small Groups
- 5:30 PM Embracing God's Word: CLC

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 9:00 AM CDC Florence County Library Bookmobile
- 9:30 AM CDC Chapel
- 12:00 PM Weekly Prayer: Sanctuary
- 12:15 PM CDC Bible Study
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Price Classroom
- 5:15 PM CDC Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Meeting
- 11:00 AM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 1:30 PM Evangelism & Discipleship Team Meeting: WOC
- 1:30 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Fellowship Team Meeting

WEDSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Missions Fair

- 8:15 AM Personnel Team Meeting
- 2:00 PM Staff Meeting: WOC
- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Missions Fair (Food: fried chicken, green beans, bread, and dessert)
- 6:00 PM Children's Programs
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: Coffee at F.E. Pop's
- 10:45 AM CDC Grandparents Day
- 2:00 PM United Way set up for Day of Caring breakfast: CLC

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 8:00 AM United Way Day of Caring breakfast: CLC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Combined Adult Sunday School with Actionnel Fleurisma: CLC
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM First Connections: JFH
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 5:00 PM Youth: Wheeldateens!
- 5:30 PM Embracing God's Word: CLC