

First Presbyterian

FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

11 a.m.

February 8, 2026



*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

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www.florencefirst.org

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

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

Prelude in C Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

GREETINGS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Ella Ward, House of Hope

INTROIT

The Good Lord Made It All!

Song of Hope

John Carter
He's God The Whole World
Traditional spiritual
Argentine folk melody

First Presbyterian Children's Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

O Worship the King

No. 2

LYONS

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

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

Oh Lord our God, we confess that we are afraid to act on our principles. We want to stand up for you but we also want things to be nice. Where you invite us to move forward, we hesitate. Forgive us our fear, and remind us of our calling. (Time of silent prayer and confession). In Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: You are precious to God. In fact, this is how he describes you:
All: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2: 9-10)

ANTHEM

When I Can Read My Title Clear

PISGAH

Joseph C. Lowry, *Kentucky Harmony*
setting by Tim Sharp


When I can read my title clear to mansions in the sky,
I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes.
Should earth against my soul engage, and fiery darts be hurled,
then I can smile and face a frowning world.
Let cares like a wild deluge come and storms of sorrow fall!
May I but safely reach my home, my God, my heaven, my all.
There shall I bathe my weary soul in seas of heaven rest,
and not a wave of trouble roll across my peaceful breast.
I'll bid farewell and wipe my weeping eyes.
Isaac Watts
Isaiah 25:8

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Harry Edward Spencer,
son of Rhett and Eliza Spencer

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.

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Elder Chris Scott

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Howard Helvey

Jesus, the very thought of Thee with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far Thy face to see, and in Thy presence rest.
No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the memory find,
a sweeter sound than Jesus' Name, the Savior of mankind.
O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, to those who fall,
how kind Thou art: how good to those who seek!
But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is, none but who love Him know. Jesus, our only joy be Thou,
as Thou our prize wilt be; in Thee be all our glory now, and through eternity.
Bernard of Clairvaux, 12th century

*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.

SCOUT RECOGNITION

Will Bratton

SERMON

Dr. Stuart Bond

For Such a Time as This
Esther 4
(Pew Bible page 491)

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

For a Time Such as This

ST. ANNE
William Croft

1. A hymn of joy today we raise
For ministries and gifts
For all the ways you bid us join
Your cloud of witnesses.
2. Your faithful life O Christ inspires
Your brokenness makes whole
Your resurrection calls us forth
And opens long-closed doors.
3. For all the saints whose lives shine forth
As templates of your grace
We give you thanks and pledge our lives
In gratitude to trace.
4. Our world cries out to hear your name
The church in mission risks
As men and women join to serve
For such a time as this.

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

The Trees of the Field

GOING FORTH
William P. Rowan

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands while you go out with joy.
Isaiah 55:12

***POSTLUDE**

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Graham Kendrick
arr. Lloyd Larson

This morning's worship is led by
Dr. Stuart Bond, Senior Pastor
Mr. Chris Scott, Elder
Kaiti Bryant, Program Director for Children's Ministry
Ann Rodgers Chandler, Director of Music and Organist
The Chancel Choir
Emily Lake, soprano
Laura Anne Hofler, alto
Daniel Hubbs, tenor
Dr. Curt Boswell, bass
Betsy Johnson, flute
Danielle Holland, clarinet
Christa Godwin, percussion
Dr. Stuart Bond, conga drums

First Presbyterian Children's Choir
Laura Anne Hofler, director
Emily Lake, director
Stuart Snow, director
Bruce Hubbs, director and guitar

*Congregation is invited to stand if able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of C. Richmond Wilhoit, Sr., Aaron W. Leland and Daisy B. Leland by Richie and Ellen Wilhoit.

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 Kathy Hatfield and Debbie Wilson, for the loss of their mother, Helen Brown; Melanie Neal, for the loss of her mother, Myrnth Noble; Aubrey Crawford; Rainey Josey; Clariann Kellam; Quincy Kennedy; Dave and Linda Lawson; Bob McLean; Lalla Saleeby; Bob Silver; Ginger Sullivan; Zack Turner; Phyllis Williams; and Mary Lynn van Witzenburg.

Today is Scout Sunday, a celebration of 116 years for the Boy Scouts of America and 68 years for Troop 477 at First Presbyterian.

New Members Class: On Sundays between services in February, you are invited to join our New Members (New Covenant Partners) class at 10 a.m. in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall. Pastor Stuart will lead this class, culminating with an opportunity to meet the Elders of First Presbyterian. Simply contact Emily Reed at the church, ereed@florencefirst.org, or write New Members on the pew pad, and we will get the information to you.

Birds & Bees: Join us from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 8, in the sanctuary for a parent education talk with nationally known speaker Mary Flo Ridley, who will equip parents of young children to have successful dialogs about sex. This talk is for parents of children of all ages — from toddlers to teens — and focuses on simple, everyday conversations rather than “one big talk.” You’ll leave feeling prepared, empowered, and relieved. Childcare will be provided for children from nursery to 2 years old, 3K–5K, and first–fifth grade during this event. The Birds & the Bees Family Ticket for \$20 admits two adults to the event and is perfect for parents or family members attending together. Tickets are available for purchase by scanning the QR code. For more information, contact Brittany Mimms at brittany-mimms1@gmail.com or 843-496-7901.



Wednesday Nights at First Presbyterian: Join us for dinner and classes on Wednesday nights. Dinner this week will be chicken tenders, mac and cheese, green beans, rolls, and banana pudding. Dinner service starts at 5:30 p.m. and is \$7 per person, with a family cap at \$30. Educational classes for children follow at 6 p.m. and adults at 6:15 p.m. We are offering two classes this season. Pastor Stuart Bond leads a study on the *Book of Luke* in the Lawson-Rain Chapel and Kelly Hickey, director of Children’s Ministries, leads a class on parenting in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall.

Valentine’s Family Dance: Mark your calendars for a fun evening of fellowship and celebration. First Presbyterian Church Children’s Ministry is partnering with our Child Development Center to host a dance for families from both ministries. Join us at 5 p.m. Thursday, February 12, in the Christian Life Center for music, dancing, and a special opportunity to celebrate love, family, and community together. We hope you will join us. RSVP is required. Please email Kelly Hickey at khickey@florencefirst.org by Monday, February 9, with the number of people who will attend from your family. Any questions, please call 843-799-1263.



Giving is an act of worship! Did you know you can SCAN this QR code from your mobile device and be directed to our online giving site. Thank you for your support of the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church!



CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 AM First Connections: JFH
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service: Scout Sunday
- 12:00 PM Confirmand Mentor Lunch: JFH
- 2:00 PM WiM Salty Sisters: off campus
- 5:00 PM Youth ski trip returns

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 9:30 AM CDC Chapel
- 12:15 PM CDC Bible Study: Youth Room
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Price Classroom
- 4:00 PM CDC Advisory Team Meeting: WOC
- 4:30 PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting
- 5:00 PM Worship Team Meeting
- 5:15 PM CDC Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 5:30 PM WinShape Planning Leadership Meeting
- 6:30 PM WiM Women of Grace
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Meeting
- 10:00 AM WiM Joyful Hearts: Room 100
- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting: WOC
- 11:00 AM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM WiM Soul Sisters: Price Classroom
- 1:30 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 3:00 PM WiM Serenity: LR
- 5:30 PM Enabling Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 8:00 AM Veterans Brunch
- 9:00 AM CDC CPR Training: JFH
- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Dinner: chicken tenders, mac and cheese, green beans, rolls, and banana pudding
- 5:30 PM Youth Group
- 6:00 PM Wednesday Children's Programs
- 6:00 PM WiM Wednesday Night Women: Parlor
- 6:15 PM Wednesday Adult Electives
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: LR
- 7:00 AM Youth: Coffee at F.E. Pop's
- 7:45 AM Faith in Motion Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 AM CDC CPR Training: JFH
- 10:30 AM Women's Bible Study: WOC
- 5:00 PM Family Valentine Dance: CLC

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission
- 9:00 AM WiM Bread & Fish: Room 100

