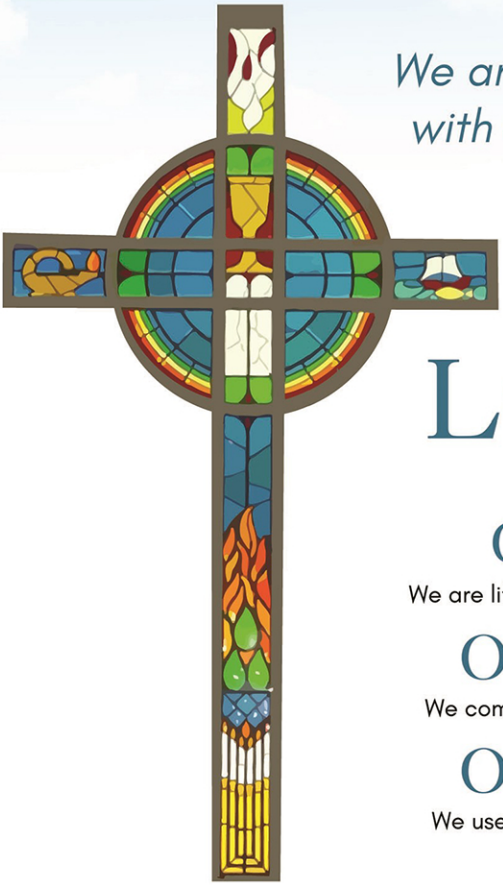
First Presbyterian

FLORENCE ✦ SOUTH CAROLINA

11 a.m. November 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

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
I Want Jesus to Walk with Me arr. Mark Hayes

GREETINGS

CHORAL INTROIT
I Will Worship the Lord John Rutter

I will worship the Lord all the days of my life. I will tell of His glory and will show forth His praise. I will sing and rejoice for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN OF PRAISE** No. 411
How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**
The Apostles' Creed front of hymnal

***THE GLORIA PATRI**
Glory Be to the Father MEINEKE
Christopher 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
O God, we come before You broken. We long to be Yours but we know we fall short. Forgive our foolishness, our pettiness, our tendency to be unkind. Heal these hardened hearts of ours so that we reflect Christ more clearly. We come without a way to become well, except by the balm of Your Spirit. (Time of silent prayer and confession.) In Christ's name. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Friends, hear God's gracious word to you and me:
All: **I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** (Romans 8:38-39)

ANTHEM
Promised Land arr. David A. White

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye to Canaan's fair
and happy land where my possessions lie.

I'm bound for the promised land, oh, who will come and go with me?
I'm bound for the promised land.

There gen'rous fruits that never fail, on trees immortal grow.
There rocks and hills and brooks and vales with milk and honey flow. **R**

All o'er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day;
there God the Son forever reigns and scatters night away. **R**

No chilling wind nor pois'nous breath can reach that beautiful shore,
sickness and sorrow, pain and death are feared no more. **R**

When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blest?
When shall I see my Father's face and in His bosom rest? **R**

Samuel Stennett

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Kaiti Bryant

Children in 3K-first grade are invited to go with a worship caregiver to attend *Children in Worship*. Children who attend *Children in Worship* must check in prior to dismissal from worship by using the QR code. Parents, please pick up your children at *Children in Worship* at the end of the service.

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT** No. 131

Surely the Presence

(Choir only first time through; second time through all join.)

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE Elder Jayne Boswell

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

How Beautiful arr. Bruce Greer

How beautiful the hands that served the wine and bread and the sons of the earth.
How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.
How beautiful is the body of Christ. How beautiful the heart that bled,
that took all my sin and bore it instead.
How beautiful the tender eyes that chose to forgive and never despise.
How beautiful is the body of Christ. And as He laid down His life we offer this sacrifice,
that we will live just as He died, willing to pay the price.
How beautiful the radiant bride that waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes.
How beautiful when humble hearts give the fruit of pure lives so that others may live.
How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King!
How beautiful the hands that serve the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.
Oh, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

Twila Paris

*The Doxology LAAST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below,
O praise Him, Alleluia. Praise Him above Ye Holy hosts, Praise Father, Son and
Holy Ghost, O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

SERMON Dr. Stuart Bond

The Next Generation
Deuteronomy 6
(Pew Bible pages 178-179)

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** No. 497

Find Us Faithful Jon Mohr

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

Seven-fold Amen K. Lee Scott

***POSTLUDE**

Praise His Greatness arr. Mark Hayes

This morning's worship is led by
Dr. Stuart Bond, Senior Pastor
Jayne Boswell, Elder
Kaiti Bryant, Program Director for Children's Ministry
The Chancel Choir
Emily Lake, soprano
Margaret Jones, flute
Randy Oswalt, percussion
Jim Fincher, Director
Betsy Johnson, Music Assistant

*Congregation is invited to stand if able.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Richard, Lucy, and Ben Thomas by Betsy Johnson and her 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 Bridgette Coates, for the loss of her father, Ben Parker; Berta Allen; Cindy Bond; Aubrey Crawford; Evans Holland; Mary Kirkpatrick; Dave and Linda Lawson; Mary Ann Nash; Ginger Owen; Linda Smiley; Ginger Sullivan; and Ronnie Welch.

November is our Stewardship Emphasis month. "Your Gift Counts" is the theme, and we will be looking at how God calls each of us to give, as we are able, to support the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church. Giving is an act of worship and discipleship and involves giving our time, talent and treasure. Commitment Sunday will be November 22, when we will collect commitment cards for 2027. Please give prayerful consideration to how God would have you give to support and expand the ministries of First Presbyterian in 2027. As our giving increases, so do the ministries of our church. Thank you for your continued support of the ministry and mission of our church.

Stay Connected in Prayer! Sign up to receive occasional Associate Pastor Nominating Committee updates and weekly prayer reminders by text message. Text **START** to 864-514-8431 and stay connected with our church community.

Wednesday Nights: Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner on the menu for this week is baked potato bar, tossed salad, and pastry desserts. Educational programming begins at 6 p.m. for children and 6:15 p.m. for adults. Youth Group begins at 5:30 p.m.

Hanging of the Greens: Women in Ministry members will decorate the church from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, November 30, and 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesday, December 1. Volunteers are needed and welcomed!

Operation Christmas Child: Let's bless children around the world this season by filling a shoebox with fun toys, school supplies, personal care items, and special surprises. Please stop by the display table in the Welcome Center to pick up information. All packed shoeboxes MUST be returned to the church by November 12. Contact Kelly Hickey at 843-662-2583 for more information.

Keenagers will meet at noon Tuesday, December 1. Celebrate the holiday season with the staff leading the program. It is always fun. All covenant partners 55 and older are welcome to join for food, fun, and fellowship. Meal cost is $7.

Stewardship Update: First Presbyterian Church relies on the generosity of our covenant partners to fund our ministry activities. The information below is a snapshot of our giving through the end of October. Giving for the month of October was better; however, our average monthly giving is below our monthly budget need.

Monthly Giving Need	October Giving	YTD Surplus/(Deficit)
$163,667	$155,120	($57,289)

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Prayer Request

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." – Hebrews 11:1



We seek prayer for and with the committee this week as we are seeking to have faith in the Lord's plan with candidates, and their responses and interactions with our Associate Pastor position. Pray for the faith of the committee to be led by Him solely and not by worldly sight as we strive to discern the Lord's will for this position.
We also request a focused effort to corporally pray together for the APNC and their efforts. Mondays at noon, please pause and send up prayers for the committee and their work, should your schedule allow. If not at this designated time, please include the APNC in your regular prayer time. Thank you.

Ministry Event: Men and women are invited to join a ministry event from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, in the fellowship hall hosted by Women in Ministry. Shelley Gandy, RN, and Robert Moore will be the featured speakers, providing an end-of-life discussion. Light appetizers and refreshments will be served. RSVP requested but not required by using the QR code or calling the church office, 843-662-2583.

Christmas Centerpieces: Join the Women in Ministry for a seasonal workshop from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 1, in the fellowship hall. Materials will be provided. Bring your own container or pick one. Light refreshments will be served, and there will be a Christmas lesson. Cost is $5. Register using QR code or call the church office, 843-662-2583.

Handbell Concert: Ring in the Advent season at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 2, with our talented Chancel Handbell Choir! This is a First Presbyterian Church tradition rich with Christmas melodies from around the globe.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
10:00 AM First Connections: Jenkins Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
12:00 PM New Officer Training: JFH
12:30 PM WiM Salty Sisters
1:00 PM Living Nativity (sixth grade only) cast rehearsal
5:00 PM Youth: Small Groups

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9:00 AM CDC bookmobile
9:30 AM CDC Chapel
2:30 PM Prayer Group: Price Classroom
5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
6:30 PM WiM Women of Grace: off campus
7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Scout Room
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Meeting: Room 100
10:00 AM WiM Joyful Hearts: Room 100
10:00 AM Staff meeting
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: Lawson-Rain Chapel
5:00 PM Small Group Bible Study: Parlor
5:30 PM Enabling Team Meeting
6:00 PM End of Life talk: JFH

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 Veterans Day

8:00 AM Veterans Brunch Meeting: LR
12:15 PM Missions Team Meeting: LR
4:45 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner: baked potato bar, tossed salad
5:30 PM Youth Group
6:00 PM WiM Prayer Warriors: Women's Only Classroom
6:00 PM WiM Wednesday Night Women: parlor
6:15 PM Wednesday Night Electives
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: LR
7:00 AM Youth: Coffee at F.E. Pop's
7:30 AM Men's Book Study: WOC
8:00 AM Faith in Motion Men's Bible Study
10:30 AM Women's Bible Study: WOC

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Youth Fall Retreat: Montreat, N.C.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Youth Fall Retreat
6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission: HopeHealth Parking Lot
2:00 PM Private Event

ECO
A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians