



Worship Services

July 20, 2025
9:00 · 11:15 AM

*First Presbyterian is a Welcoming Church Community in Downtown Macon
Committed to Knowing Christ and Making Him Known.*

Welcome

TO OUR GUESTS

We want to welcome you today! More information about our church is available on our website at fpcmacon.org.

SPIRITUAL CARE

If you would like to speak to someone about what it means to know Jesus Christ or you have any spiritual need or question, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSON

We provide a Bible lesson and music for children in Pre-K through second grade during the services. Children will be dismissed from the service and escorted to their classroom before the sermon. Please pick up your children after the first service or Sunday school on the second floor of Cornerstone and after the second service in the nursery. If this is your first Sunday at FPC, please walk your child to the Bible lesson to check them in.

NURSERY

Nursery is provided for 3K and under from 8:45 AM-12:15 PM. We also provide a mother/infant room located in the nursery with a live video feed of the service, as well as a "cry room" downstairs from the sanctuary for parents of "fussy" children with an audio feed. Ushers are available to direct you.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Hearing assistance devices are in the Narthex for worshippers needing hearing assistance. You may also use a smartphone or bluetooth-enabled hearing aid to connect directly to the sound system. Connection instructions are in the Narthex. Please ask an usher or deacon for assistance.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Carolyn Durham by her daughter, Tyger Hopkins, and family.

YOUR PRESENCE

Please let us know that you're here today by scanning the QR code.



Worshippers read text in bold.

Corporate Worship

*Welcome to First Presbyterian! We are thankful you have chosen to worship with us today.
It is our hope and prayer that through the reading of God's Word, prayer,
the corporate singing and readings, and the preached Word, you
will see Christ clearly and desire to know Him more.*

GATHERING SONG

All Praise to Him

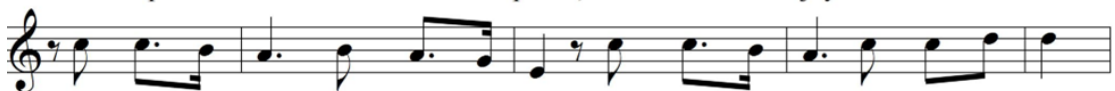
Bonar/Merker/Kauflin



All praise to Him, the God of light, who formed the moun-tains by His might.
All praise to Him, Whose love is seen in Christ, the Son, the ser-vant King,
All praise to Him, Whose pow'r im-parts the love of God with-in our hearts.



All praise to Him who names the stars, that sing His fame in skies a - far.
Who left be-hind His glo - rious throne to pay the ran - som for His own.
The Spi - rit of all truth and peace, the fount of joy and ho - li - ness.



All praise to Him Who reigns in love, Who guides the gal - ax - ies a - bove,
All praise to Him Who hum - bly came to bear our sor-row, sin, and shame,
*To Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it now our souls we lift, our wills we bow.



yet bends to hear our ev - 'ry prayer, with sov-ereign pow'r and ten - der care.
Who lived to die, Who died to rise, the all suf - fi - cient sac - ri - fice.
To you, the Tri - une God, we raise with lov - ing hearts our song of praise.*

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 9:7-11

But the LORD sits enthroned forever;
he has established his throne for justice,
and he judges the world with righteousness;
he judges the peoples with uprightness.

The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.
And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion!
Tell among the peoples his deeds!

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

HYMN OF PRAISE 95 - *Though Troubles Assail Us*

Though troubles assail us and dangers affright,
Though friends should all fail us and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
The promise assures us, "The Lord will provide."

The birds, without garner or storehouse, are fed;
From them let us learn to trust God for our bread.
His saints what is fitting shall ne'er be denied
So long as 'tis written, "The Lord will provide."

When Satan assails us to stop up our path,
And courage all fails us, we triumph by faith.
He cannot take from us, though oft he has tried,
This heart cheering promise, "The Lord will provide."

No strength of our own and no goodness we claim;
Yet, since we have known of the Savior's great name,
In this our strong tower for safety we hide:
The Lord is our power, "The Lord will provide."

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - *Heidelberg Catechism 27-28*

What do you understand by the providence of God?

**Providence is the almighty and ever-present power of God
by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures,
and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years,
food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty -
all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

**We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity,
and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father
that no creature will separate us from his love.
For all creatures are so completely in his hand
that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.**

****Seating Interlude****

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life - the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us - that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Father, we have sinned against you this past week in thought, word, and deed.
Our secret desires have not been aligned with your holy calling in our lives.
We are often selfish, impatient, and rude to those you have placed in our lives.
We have grown weary of doing good and for this we repent.
Cleanse us from our sin and help us to look up to you for healing and strength.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

1 Timothy 1:15-17

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Getty, Kauflin, Papa, Boswell, & Merker



1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-lone, Christ a-lone.
2. *What truth can calm the trou-bled soul? God is good, God is good.*
3. Un - to the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, he lives! Christ, he lives!"



What is our on - ly con - fi - dence? That our souls to him be - long.
Where is his grace and good-ness known? In our great Re-deem - er's blood.
And what re - ward will heav - en bring? Ev - er - last - ing life with him.



Who holds our days with - in his hand? What comes a - part from his com-mand?
Who holds our faith when fears a - rise? Who stands a - bove the storm - y trial?
There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be de - stroyed,



And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand. _
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh un - to the shore, the Rock of Christ?
and we will feast in end - less joy when Christ is ours for - ev - er - more. _



O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O _ sing hal - le -



lu - jah! Now and ev - er we con-fess Christ our hope in life and death.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Online giving may be done by texting **fpcmacon** to 73256 or through the church website.

A Hymn of Praise to the Creator Eric H. Thiman

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation.
Come, ye who hear, Brothers and sisters, draw near,
Praise Him in glad adoration.*

*Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;
Hast thou not seen? All that is needful hath been
Granted in what He ordaineth.*

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

Children K4-second grade are welcome to leave the worship service for a Bible Lesson in Cornerstone (BLC). Children in the 11:15 BLC class may be picked up in the nursery. We encourage children third grade and above to continue in corporate worship with their parents.

HYMN OF PREPARATION 691 - *It Is Well*

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain:

It is well with my soul; It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul. (*Refrain*)

(Continued next page)

My sin - O the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *(Refrain)*

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
“Even so” - it is well with my soul. *(Refrain)*

PREACHING OF GOD’S WORD - Clif Wilcox

Don’t Worry, Be Happy

Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

BENEDICTION

DOXOLOGY 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Clif Wilcox is our guest preacher today. Clif is the associate director of Bent Tree which is a community of pastors who are committed to supporting one another in their journey toward renewal and encouragement in their calling to serve Jesus.
Clif is a former RUF campus minister for eleven years at the University of Florida and former church planter for Gulf Coast Presbytery (Circle PCA) for ten years.

PASTORAL STAFF

Chip Miller

Senior Pastor
cmiller@fpcmacon.org

Justin Leslein

Executive Pastor
jleslein@fpcmacon.org

Parker Agnew

Assistant Pastor to Senior Adults
pagnew@fpcmacon.org

Elliott Everitt

Assistant Pastor to Middle Adults
eeveritt@fpcmacon.org

STAFF

Dru Bloodworth

Security/Maintenance
dbloodworth@fpcmacon.org

Mercy Chamberlin

Administrative Assistant
mchamberlin@fpcmacon.org

Chris Gerwig

Director of Young Adult Ministry
cgerwig@fpcmacon.org

Alan Harris

Facilities Manager
aharris@fpcmacon.org

Tammy Jones

Pastoral Assistant
tjones@fpcmacon.org

April Kitchell

Missions Secretary
missions@fpcmacon.org

Rebecca Lanning

Choir Director
Rebecca.s.lanning@gmail.com

Landis Mauldin

Youth Assistant
lmauldin@fpcmacon.org

Michael McGhee

Music Director/Organist
michaelclarkmcghee@gmail.com

Katie Miller

Communications Director
kmiller@fpcmacon.org

Wade Miller

Financial Director
wmiller@fpcmacon.org

Calleene Newberry

Administrative Assistant
cnewberry@fpcmacon.org

David Newberry

Director of Student Ministries
dnewberry@fpcmacon.org

Spring Rawlings

Director of Children's Ministry
srawlings@fpcmacon.org

Tom Rule

Pianist
tom@tomrule.info

Mary Anne Shipley

Director of Women's Ministry
maryanneshipley1@gmail.com

Mary Frances Stanford

Nursery Administrator/Children's Music
mstanford@fpcmacon.org

Leading in Worship Today
Chip Miller, Senior Pastor
Clif Wilcox, Guest Preacher
Michael McGhee, Music Director/Organist
Rebecca Lanning, Choir Director
Tom Rule, Pianist
Chancel Choir

CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

Class of 2025

Paul Cable
Sam Jones
Matt Kitchell
Kort Peterson
Jerome Strickland
William White

Class of 2026

Chuck Duggan
Mike Hall
Bobby Newman
Nick Rios
Tony Rodriguez
Blake Sullivan

Class of 2027

Ves Berry
Kevin Bridges
John Carey
Hal Foshee
Mike Peed
Kim Thompson

The Diaconate

Class of 2025

Jave Bjorkman
Joey Brumbelow
Eric Hunt
Kent McCormick
David Milligan
Caleb Peed

Class of 2026

Dave Grant
Darrell Hallman
Jeremy Johnson
John David Miller
Gray Widstrom
Jeff Wilhelm
Calder Willingham

Class of 2027

Chris Anderson
Cameron Garvin
Jeff Hill
Kevin Lennon
Jim Self
Brian Stone

Trustees

Rob Danner
Bruce Jones

Buddy Ponder
Ray Pearson

Lowry Tribble

YOUTH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Class	Description	Topic	Room Location
Canterbury	70s-80s	Studies in the Psalms	Education Building E104
Children	4K-6th Grade	New Testament	Cornerstone
Connections	Mixed Ages	Acts	Gathering Place
Covenant	70s+	Fundamentals of Faith	Education Building E105
Generations	Mixed Ages	Various Topics	Ballroom
Grad & Career	College/20s-30s	Gospel In Life	Chapel
Immanuel	Mid 40s-50s	Hosea	Education Building E102
Nursery & Special Needs		New Testament	Nursery
Pathways	Intergenerational	Luke	Brickyard M103
Shepherds	50s-60s	I & II Peter	Brickyard M102
Trinity	60s+	Equipping Yourself	Education Building E103
Young Marrieds	20s-30s	Acts	Education Building E100
Middle School Youth	6-8 Grades	God's Promises	Education Building 2nd Floor
High School Youth	9-12 Grades	Christian Doctrine	Education Building 3rd Floor

Announcements

Grad and Career Summer Schedule

G&C SUMMER 2025

Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 PM - unless otherwise marked*

- Thursday, June 12 - Neighborhood Hangouts
- Thursday, June 19 - Sand Volleyball @ Mercer
- Thursday, June 26 - Pickleball @ Tattnall Square Park followed by dinner @ Margaritas Mercer Village
- Thursday, July 10 - Men's Event @ FPC/Girls Night @ TBD
- Thursday, July 24 - Trivia @ Just Tap'd
- Thursday, July 31 - Lake Day @ Lake Tobosofkee
- Thursday, August 7 - Game Night @ The Newberrys
- Thursday, August 14 - Worship Night in the Chapel

For more information about each event contact
Chris Gerwig (cgerwig@fpcmacon.org) or
Calleene Newberry (cnewberry@fpcmacon.org).

Scotland Mission Trip

Please be in prayer for the following participants **on the Scotland Mission Trip, July 19-29**: Bobby, Allison, Sam, Bradley, and Charlotte Newman; Chris, Tara, Caroline, Mary Katherine, and Rebecca Anderson; Will, Anna Lyn, and Gracie Stanford; William and Liam White

Casa Hogar Mission Trip

Please be in prayer for the following participants **on the Casa Hogar Mission Trip, July 15-22**. Rory Brumbelow, Megan Casey, Katherine Cudnik, Chuck Duggan, Kate Kitchell, Abee Leslein, Elcee Leslein, Adelle Marbutt, Landis Mauldin, David Newberry, Ansley Smith, Ava Spillers, Tara Spillers, Avery Thaxton

Budget Giving Update

Thank you for your faithful support of the work and ministries of First Presbyterian Church to make disciples in Macon and to reach the world for Christ. Our fiscal year begins August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025. To meet our ministry needs, our Budget Giving Goal for this fiscal year is \$2,740,000. Giving through July 15, 2025 is noted below.

Actual Giving Year-To-Date July 15, 2025	\$2,501,000
Budget Goal for Fiscal Year July 31, 2025	\$2,740,000
Budget Giving Needed for July 2025.	\$239,000

Photo Directory

Beginning this Sunday, and for the **next 3 Sundays (July 20, July 27, August 3, August 10.)**, please stop by the photo booth located outside the Fellowship Hall to take **you and/or your family's photo**. This directory will be **for members and regular attenders**. We plan to publish an updated **photo directory** later this fall. There will be a QR to input your contact information. You can also go to www.fpcmacon.org/photodirectory to enter your contact information.

Upcoming Events

July 19-29 – Scotland Mission Trip

August 3 – Promotion Sunday

August 10 – Joint Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall

September 3 – Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study begins

September 3 – Wednesday Night Activities begin

September 19-21 – Equip Conference

October 26 – Proclaim! An Evening of Congregational Singing

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

682 Mulberry Street · Macon, GA 31201 · 478.746.3223 · www.fpcmacon.org