

DIVINE WORSHIP

8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28, ESV

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

PRELUDE *What God Ordains is Always Good, Partitas I–VI* Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Josh Squires (8:30 A.M.)
Rev. Bryan Bult (11:15 A.M.)

INTROIT *Come with Hearts and Voices Sounding* arranged by K. Lee Scott

Come with hearts and voices sounding;
Raise to God a hymn resounding;
He alone rules over all;
Let us now before Him fall.
O be joyful and enter with singing;
Ever praise Him with voices ringing;
Alleluia.

Great is God whose name is wondrous;
His great power is known among us:
Give Him worship due His name;
Spread abroad His glorious fame.
Laud Him, angels, with loud anthems soaring;
Join all people in praise adoring;
Alleluia.

The Junior Choir
Mrs. Ann Forrest Bowers, director
Mrs. Lenora Jeffcoat, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ **HYMN 163** *At the Name of Jesus* KING’S WESTON

+ INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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.

+ CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ **GLORIA PATRI** LADY STREET

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
Binding all the church as one!
As it was in the beginning
As is now and e’er shall be,
World without end! Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON 8:30 A.M.

CHILDREN’S HYMN 590 8:30 A.M. *Jesus, Master, Whose I Am* WELLS
(Stanza 3)

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION Dr. Neil C. Stewart

Our Father in heaven, Your Son has said, “Whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in His glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.” Too often, like Peter, we have been faithless cowards who remained silent when we should have spoken up, who shrank back when we should have stood firm. We have preferred ease to sacrifice, and the smiles of men more than the smile of God. Lord, have mercy on us. Let the blood of our brave Savior wash away the stain of our cowardice. Kindle within us a holy boldness. Let passion for Christ consume our hearts. Open our eyes to see such glory in the cross of Your dear Son that no threats of man, nor even all the amassed powers of hell, would be enough to silence our witness again. In the all-prevailing Name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The saying is trustworthy, for: if we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.
(2 Timothy 2:11–13, ESV)

MORNING PRAYER

+ **HYMN 159** *O Savior, Precious Savior* MEIRIONYDD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *God So Loved the World* John D. Horman

God so loved the world
That to us a Son was giv’n.
And whosoever believes in Him,
Shall live forevermore.

Text based on John 3:16

+ **DOXOLOGY** OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

*(During the 11:15 a.m. service, K4 and K5 children may leave for Children’s Church.
Parents should come for them in the Education Building, Room 107.)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 21:1–19
(Pew Bible page 907; Children’s Bible page 1175)

SERMON “Restoring the Backslider” Dr. Neil C. Stewart

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

+ **HYMN 457** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

+ BENEDICTION

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 580** *Lead On, O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning where’er thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o’er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

POSTLUDE *What God Ordains is Always Good, Partitas VII–IX* Johann Pachelbel

Mr. Thomas Russell, organist

SERMON NOTES

“Restoring the Backslider”
John 21:1–19 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

WORSHIP AT FIRST

Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.

The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask a deacon for a receiver.

Nurseries for children to the age of four are provided in the Education Building. A quiet room with a live video feed of the service is available in the Education Building, Room 113. There, mothers may attend to the needs of their children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are you interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church or looking to join? The Inquirers Class meets on Sunday and Wednesday. Fall sessions begin September 21 and November 2. If you plan to attend, please register on the church app or website at firstprescolumbia.org/sundayschool.

Please join us at First Presbyterian Church for the Global Ministries Conference October 10–12. This year’s conference topic is “BUILD: The Importance of Planting Churches in Every Corner of the Earth.” We are pleased to host speaker Dr. Derek W.H. Thomas. Registration and more information is available at firstprescolumbia.org/build. The deadline to register is Thursday, October 2.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 60th anniversary of Susan and Charlie Bray.

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Neil C. Stewart, Senior Minister

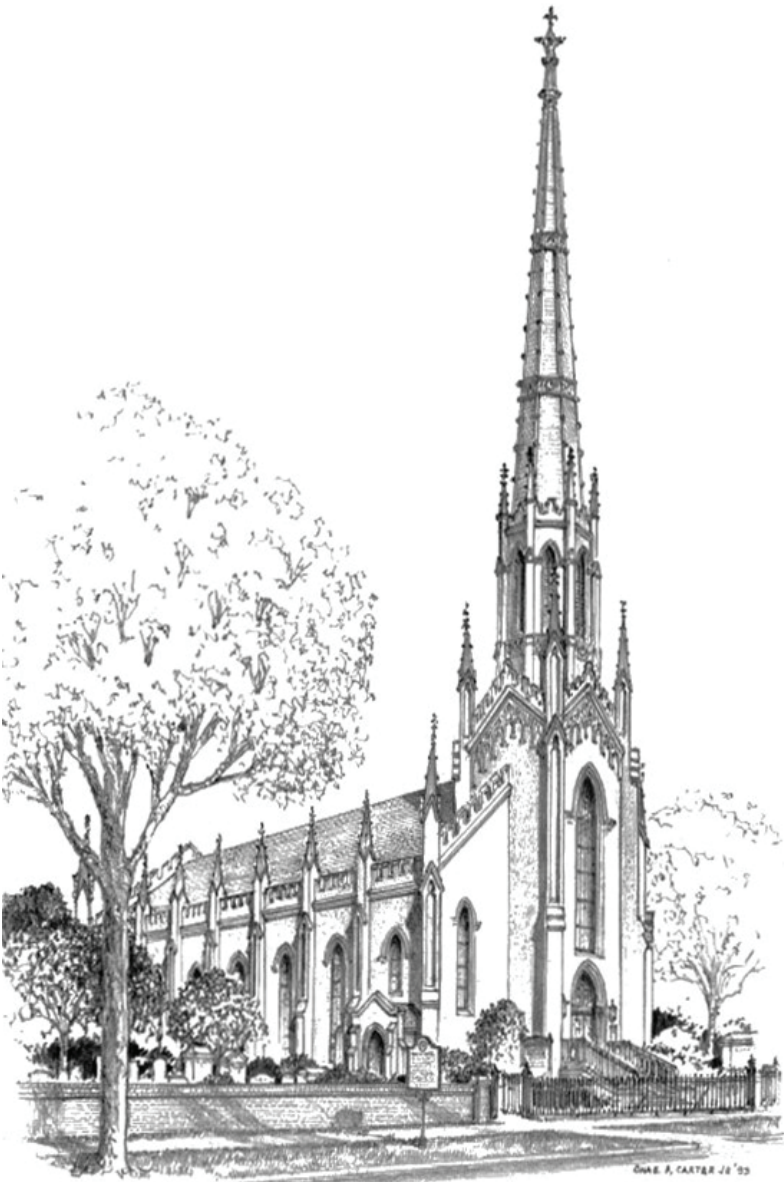
Rev. Bryan Bult, Associate Minister to Seniors
Rev. David Henderson, Associate Minister of Discipleship
Rev. Sean Henderson, Associate Minister of Missions
Dr. David Lauten, Senior Associate Minister of Congregational Care
Rev. Josh Squires, Associate Minister of Counseling

JOIN US AT 6:00 P.M. FOR EVENING WORSHIP

The Way of Wisdom: An Overview of Proverbs
“Her Home: A Haven or a Hell”
Proverbs 9 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

ESTABLISHED 1795

First Presbyterian Church

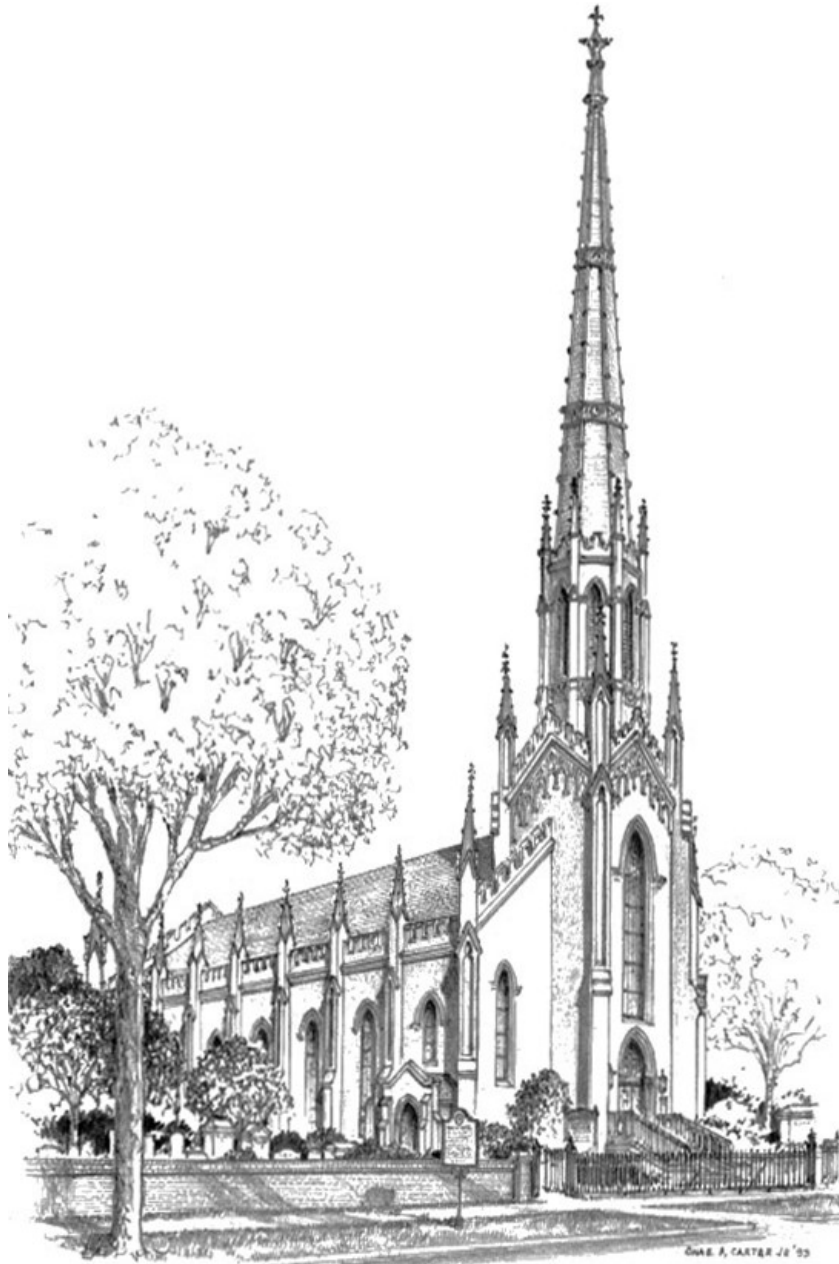


LORD’S DAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

ESTABLISHED 1795

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1324 Marion Street, Columbia, SC

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and I will give you rest.*

MATTHEW 11:28, ESV

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

PRELUDE

Johann Pachelbel

What God Ordains is Always Good, Partitas I–VI

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Josh Squires (8:30 A.M.) Rev. Bryan Bult (11:15 A.M.)

INTROIT

Come with Hearts and Voices Sounding

Come with hearts and voices sounding;
Raise to God a hymn resounding:
He alone rules over all;
Let us now before Him fall.
O be joyful and enter with singing;
Ever praise Him with voices ringing:
Alleluia.

Carlton R. Young

Great is God whose name is wondrous;
His great power is known among us:
Give Him worship due His name;
Spread abroad His glorious fame.
Laud Him, angels, with loud anthems soaring;
Join all people in praise adoring:
Alleluia.

The Junior Choir
Mrs. Ann Forrest Bowers, director
Mrs. Lenora Jeffcoat, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ **HYMN 163** *At the Name of Jesus*

KING'S WESTON

At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess him King of Glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces, all the hosts of light,
Thrones and dominations, stars upon their way,
All the heav'nly orders in their great array.

Humbled for a season to receive a name
From the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
Faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious, when from death he passed.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
All that is not holy, all that is not true:
Crown him as your Captain in temptation's hour:
Let his will enfold you in its light and pow'r.

Brothers, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
With his Father's glory, with his angel train;
For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
And our hearts confess him King of glory now.

+ INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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.

+ CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ GLORIA PATRI

LADY STREET

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Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
Binding all the church as one!
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CHILDREN'S SERMON 8:30 A.M.

CHILDREN'S HYMN 590 8:30 A.M.

Jesus, Master, Whose I Am (Stanza 3)

WELLS

Jesus, Master, whom I serve,
Though so feebly and so ill,
Strengthen hand and heart and nerve
All thy bidding to fulfill.
Open thou mine eyes to see
All the work thou hast for me.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dr. Neil C. Stewart

Our Father in heaven, Your Son has said, "Whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in His glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels." Too often, like Peter, we have been faithless cowards who remained silent when we should have spoken up, who shrank back when we should have stood firm. We have preferred ease to sacrifice, and the smiles of men more than the smile of God. Lord, have mercy on us. Let the blood of our brave Savior wash away the stain of our cowardice. Kindle within us a holy boldness. Let passion for Christ consume our hearts. Open our eyes to see such glory in the cross of Your dear Son that no threats of man, nor even all the amassed powers of hell, would be enough to silence our witness again. In the all-prevailing Name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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(2 Timothy 2:11–13, ESV)

MORNING PRAYER

+ **HYMN 159** *O Savior, Precious Savior*

MEIRIONYDD

O Saviour, precious Saviour,
Whom yet unseen we love,
O Name of might and favor,
All other names above;
We worship you, we bless you,
To you alone we sing;
We praise you, and confess you
Our holy Lord and King.

O bringer of salvation,
Who wondrously have wrought,
Yourself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought;
We worship you, we bless you,
To you alone we sing;
We praise you, and confess you
Our gracious Lord and King.

In you all fulness dwelling,
All grace and pow'r outpours;
The glory all-excelling,
O Son of God, is yours;
We worship you, we bless you,
To you alone we sing;
We praise you, and confess you
Our glorious Lord and King.

O grant the consummation
Of this our song above
In endless adoration,
And everlasting love;
Then shall we praise and bless you
Where perfect praises ring,
And evermore confess you
Our Savior and our King.

OFFERTORY *God So Loved the World*

John D. Horman

God so loved the world
That to us a Son was giv'n.
And whosoever believes in Him,
Shall live forevermore.

Text based on John 3:16

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 21:1–19

(Pew Bible page 907; Children's Bible page 1175)

¹ After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

SERMON

Dr. Neil C. Stewart

“Restoring the Backslider”

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart; O take and seal it;
Seal it for thy courts above.

+ BENEDICTION

+ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 580

Lead On, O King Eternal

LANCASHIRE

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

POSTLUDE

What God Ordains is Always Good, Partitas VII–IX Johann Pachelbel

Mr. Thomas Russell, organist

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