

Lord's Day Worship
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 28, 2025
10:30 AM

Chiming the Hour

Prelude: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*.....arr. Larry Sue
Jane Jude and Gloria LaCoe, handbells

Welcome.....Rev. Elizabeth Johnson

Introit: *Come! Join Our Cheerful Song!*.....Dale Wood
Sanctuary Choir

Come! Join our cheerful song! Lift up your voices strong! Rejoice, be glad, give praise!

***Call to Worship** (from Psalm 27 and John 1)

One: The Lord is our light and our salvation—

All: whom shall we fear?

One: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives—

All: of whom shall we be afraid?

One: The light shines in the darkness

All: and the darkness will *not* overcome it.

One: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

All: Let us worship the Lord!

***Hymn:** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* No. 377

Prayer of Confession

God of Light, we are children of light, but we confess that we've stepped back into the darkness by hurting others, holding grudges, letting jealousy get the best of us, being self-centered and otherwise avoiding what's pleasing to You. Forgive us for these and all of our sins and missteps. Through Your Spirit, illumine us *anew* so that we would walk in step with Your Son, producing the Spirit's fruit in our lives. Through Christ, the Light of the world, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness (based on Ephesians 5:8-14)

One: Hear the Good News! You were once darkness, but now—in the Lord—you are *light*. Live as children of light, for the Spirit's fruit is evident in *all* that is good and right and true.

All: Believe the Good News! In our Savior, we are *forgiven*! Thanks be to God!

***Response:** *Glory Be to the Father* No. 581

***Passing the Peace**

Scripture: Ephesians 5:8-14

Sermon: *Light It Up!*..... Rev. Dr. Will Robinson

Anthem: *Awake, My Soul*.....Elaine Hagenberg

Sanctuary Choir

Awake, my soul, awake! Awake, my soul, I will awaken the dawn!

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let Thy glory be over all the earth.

For Thy steadfast mercy is great. Thy faithfulness reaches to the skies. Thy steadfast mercy is great reaching to the heavens.

Awake, my soul, awake! I will awaken the dawn!

***Affirmation of Faith:** *Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not created, of one Being with the Father; through Him all

things were created. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Jackie Wilhelm, Director of Faith Formation

Offertory: *Come Ye Disconsolate* Moore/Hastings

Josh Hamilton, tenor

***Response:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 606

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn:** *When Morning Gilds the Skies* No. 667

Commissioning of the Swannanoa Mission Team

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response:** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* Peter Christian Lutkin

Sanctuary Choir

*The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you peace.
The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. Amen.*

Postlude: *Heavenly Sunlight* arr. Diane Bish

(You're invited to remain seated and enjoy today's Postlude.)

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

† † †

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (FPC)!

We're glad you're here. We don't look or act alike. God knows we don't think alike. We come with questions, burdens and joys. But every Sunday we worship as one—in person and online. We pray you'll experience God's presence and strengthen your faith through today's service.

In-person worshipers: Complete the maroon fellowship register at the end of your pew and wear your name tag if you're a member or friend so we can greet one another by name. (If you need a new name tag, just contact the church.) After worship, enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the Gathering Space.

Online worshipers: Use the QR code you'll see on the screen at the beginning of worship or click on the light green "Connect" button on our website's homepage and complete the brief pop-up form so we can connect with you.

"LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME"

We value children in worship and encourage them to sit with their parents/ guardians or to join staff in the Family Worship Center (in James Chapel under the south balcony in the Sanctuary) which helps engage children in worship. Faith formation is available for children ages 3-7 in Room 113/115 of the Day School wing. A nursery is available for children through age 3.

THESE MAY HELP

Large-print bulletins are available; just ask an usher. Hearing devices are available as well. FPC also has a smartphone option that may work with your hearing aid. To use it, go to the App store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android) and download

WaveCAST Receiver by Williams Sound. Then log into the FPC Member wifi network (password firstpres [case sensitive]); open WaveCAST; click on FPC Sanctuary; adjust the volume and enjoy the service. Need help? Just ask an usher!

ABOUT WORSHIP

Worship the Lord with us each Sunday at our 9 AM CrossRoads contemporary service in Fellowship Hall or at this 10:30 AM traditional service here in the Sanctuary. Or worship online by livestream or through a recording of these services via our website's homepage or on our YouTube channel.

The flowers are in memory of Richard "Dick" Bloom and Charles "Chuck" Fay who entered the Church Triumphant on September 19 and September 20, 2025, respectively. (Contact the church to give flowers for Sunday worship in memory or in honor of a loved one or in celebration of a particular event.)

Leading in worship: Dr. Gerald Anderson, piano; Rev. Elizabeth Johnson, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Evangelism; Jane Jude, AV/Tech Coordinator; Chad Martin, Director of Music and Organist; Rev. Dr. Will Robinson, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff; Jackie Wilhelm, Director of Faith Formation

See something, say something! If you have concerns in the church or on our campus, please notify an usher, pastor or other staff.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join FPC at our new member class **TODAY AT 11:45 AM IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY!**

FPC's Healthy Hour Speaker Series—Mondays at 4 PM in Fellowship Hall. October 20: Behind the Scenes of the ER; November 17: Diabetes 101. To learn more, visit our website; to register, contact the church.

IN THE LIFE OF FPC

JOYFUL WORSHIP

We've begun a new worship-preaching series based on our Mission statement, "Changing Lives...Making Disciples." From now until Advent, we're in Part 1: "Changing Lives"—How the Gospel Transforms Us.

PRAYERFUL STUDY

Have you ever wanted to be in a small group at church? Small groups are the lifeblood of connections at FPC. They provide opportunities for fellowship as well as spiritual growth. Small groups, like people, come in all shapes and sizes. They meet in person or by Zoom; they meet at church, in homes or in public places agreed to by the group. They meet seasonally or year-round; they have one leader or shared leadership. Whatever you're looking for, we have a group for *you*! Visit our website or contact the church to learn more about small groups and all of our faith formation opportunities for adults, youth and children.

SACRIFICIAL SERVICE

"Feed My Sheep" is the first Sunday of the month: bring non-perishable items to the Gathering Space for local food pantries, including our own PIN (People In Need), or drop off items at your convenience in the cart by the elevator. PIN especially needs small bottles of laundry detergent and dishwashing liquid, canned fruit, pasta and meatballs, Spam, paper towels and one- or two-pound bags of rice, as well as sweet peas and beets. Please no glass containers or opened items. Thank you!

Help us change lives and make disciples by giving via 1) a check made payable to FPC (540 William Hilton Parkway, HHI, SC 29928), 2) the Give button at fpchhi.org, 3) QR code (on the screen and the card in the pew racks) or 4) texting "FPCHHI" to 77977.

CARING CONNECTIONS

Church merch is back! To purchase your church merch— FPC t-shirts, sweatshirts and tumblers—visit the ministry table in the Gathering Space **TODAY** and on October 5 and 12. Proudly wear your FPC gear, especially when you serve in the community. Help us shine our light for all to see!

Submit prayer requests for our staff prayers and our confidential prayer chain via:

- Prayer boxes in Fellowship Hall and the narthex (the area outside the Sanctuary)
- Email info@fpchhi.org or a pastor (ejohnson@fpchhi.org, wrobinson@fpchhi.org)
- QR code (on the card in the pew racks)

If you or a family member will be in the hospital, had a recent hospitalization or would like pastoral care or to receive communion, contact Pastor Elizabeth Johnson (cell, 336-314-2555; church, 843-681-3696, ext. 234).

To learn how a Stephen Minister might help you or someone you love, contact Pastor Elizabeth Johnson (cell, 336 314-2555) or Steve Hasley (stephenministry@fpchhi.org).

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THIS WEEK AT FPC!

To learn more, go to fpchhi.org or contact the church.

Monday, September 29

- 10:00 AM Book of Samuel: "One Nation Under God" study (Library/Zoom)

Tuesday, September 30

- 1:30 PM Knitting Ministry (Library)
- 2:00 PM Women Growing in Faith (Room 202/Zoom)
- 4:00 PM Son-Light Singers rehearsal (Choir Room)

Wednesday, October 1

- 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
- 4:15 PM Lowcountry Lessons class (Zoom)
- 5:30 PM Carillon Handbell rehearsal (Bell Choir Room)
- **5:30 PM Welcome to the Lord's Table (Honey Horn Chapel)**

Thursday, October 2

- 2:00 PM Bereavement Support Group (Gathering Space)
- 3:15 PM FPC Kids Thursdays (various rooms)
- 4:00 PM Meditation Group (South Room)
- 6:00 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)

Saturday, October 4

- 10:30 AM Youth Group Fall Retreat (Shelter Cove Marina)
- 2:00 PM Jeff Ernico memorial service (Sanctuary; reception to follow)

Sunday, October 5

World Communion Sunday

- 8:30 AM Fellowship time (Gathering Space)
- 8:45 AM Nursery opens (Room 109)
- **9:00 AM CrossRoads contemporary worship (Fellowship Hall/ livestream)**
- 9:00 AM Seekers class (Room 202)
- 9:00 AM Work in Progress class (Library/Zoom)
- 9:00 AM FPC Kids Sunday for ages 3-7 (Room 113/115, Day School Wing)
- 10:00 AM Fellowship time (Gathering Space)
- 10:30 AM FPC Kids Sunday for ages 3-7 (Room 113/115, Day School Wing)
- **10:30 AM Traditional worship (Sanctuary/livestream)**
- 11:30 AM Fellowship time (Gathering Space)
- 11:30 AM JOY class (Zoom)
- 5:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Space/Room 202)



A Stephen Ministry Congregation



An Earth Care Congregation