

WORSHIP OF GOD

First Presbyterian Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2016

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Michael Burkhardt

God Himself is Present

WELCOME & LIFE IN THE CHURCH

(Both members and guests are invited to complete the Friendship Pad and pass it to those seated next to you.)

INTROIT

Arr. by Anna Laura Page

In Christ There Is No East or West

Joy Ringers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

(Please stand)

Sarah Margaret Branham

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord our God,
the Maker of heaven and earth,

**Many: who comes to our aid in times of need,
who gives us the courage to do what we know is right,**

One: who invites us to turn away from the influences of the world
around us and confess Jesus alone as Messiah, Son of the
Living God.

**Many: This is our Lord!
Let's worship together.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE 353

SOLID ROCK

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Seated)*

Reverend Ashley Cheek, Liturgist

When we don't know how or what to pray, the Spirit knows. When we
feel that we aren't even worthy to approach God, the Spirit goes before
us and God welcomes us with open arms. Let us confess our sins
together . . .

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

God of compassion, we confess our struggle to name you as our
Lord and Savior. The desires of the world often shape us into people
you would not recognize. The demands of our society pull us away
from your heart. We look to other gods for purpose, instead of to
you.

Forgive us, Merciful God, for believing that living for money, power
or for ourselves will bring us life. Revive our weary hearts. Refresh
our fatigued spirits that we might boldly proclaim Jesus as our Lord
and Savior. Empower us to go forth to serve your people, in Christ's
name. *(Silent reflection)*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 427 (Sing twice)

LOE DI ÍSÁ

Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Reverend Ashley Cheek

* GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA PATRI

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.

THE PEACE: *We share signs of care, love and respect with one another.*

One: The peace of God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Reverend Ashley Cheek

Jesus Loves Me (Children come forward during singing.)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Sarah Margaret Branham

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Sarah Margaret Branham

Romans 12:1-2, 9-16, 21

Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 162

* HYMN OF PREPARATION 300

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We Are One in the Spirit

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20

Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 18

SERMON

"The Most Important Question"

Reverend Nick Cheek

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Reverend Nick Cheek

The Apostles' Creed

**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.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Response: One: In joy or in sadness,

Many: We do not walk alone.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Reverend Nick Cheek

Call to Giving

All we have and all we are is God's. Let us give thanks for the Lord's
provision and joyfully give back to the one who has given so much
to us.

The Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Anthem

Karen Thompson

Be Thou My Vision

Joy Ringers

*The Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*The Offertory Prayer

Reverend Nick Cheek

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN OF COMMITMENT 697 (Verses 1-5)

Take My Life

HENDON

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 697 (Verse 6)

HENDON

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;

Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,

Ever, only, all for thee.

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

HENDON

Improvisation on "Take My Life"

Margy Carpenter

Landee Roth

Janet Kuhlmann

Lee Craig

JOY RINGERS

Dee Dailey

Kayleigh Jordan

Sue Fienning

Lauren Decker

Norma Abbott

Kenny Jordan

Michael Baier

Glenn Fisher

WELCOME!

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you
to provide us with your contact information in the Friendship Pad. This
allows us to say more formally, "Thanks for sharing worship with us." We
invite you to share any part of our life together, and look forward to learning
how we may serve you in your faith journey. If you have particular
questions, please speak to our pastor.

* Please stand as you are able.

Bold type indicates congregational response.

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We Care: Please take a gold **Prayer Card** from the pew rack, and write a word of encouragement, congratulations, or a thank you to someone or group. Please include the first and last name of the person you wish to receive the card and your name. You may place your Prayer Card in the offering. On Monday morning, we will send your note of care to that person or group. Prayer Cards bring great joy to those who receive them! So, "let us encourage one another."



**CHILDREN'S CHOIR
KICK OFF!**
Today
11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

We will be practicing to sing during worship on World Communion Sunday, October 2. Parents, please drop off children in the choir room and then meet with Nick and Ashley in the Sanctuary.

Youth Bells will meet today at 5:00 p.m. All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome.



YOUTH GROUP MEETS TONIGHT!
6:00 p.m. in the West Building
Supper will be served.

**LECTIONARY LUNCH
WITH PASTOR NICK**
Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
In the McLaurin Room

Bring your lunch and enjoy a led discussion on the lectionary reading for the following Sunday. All ages are welcome.



Upcoming Events at FPC

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

12:00 p.m. Capital Improvements..... Parlor

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

7:00 a.m. Middle School Prayer Breakfast Baker's Sweets
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting..... Parlor
11:30 a.m. Book Discussion Parlor
6:00 p.m. Executive Council Parlor

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:00 a.m. High School Prayer Breakfast Chick Fil-A
12:00 p.m. Lectionary Lunch with Pastor Nick.....McLaurin Room
12:15 p.m. Preschool Staff MeetingFriendship Class
5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers..... Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir..... Sanctuary

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:00 a.m. Care and Prayer Session Room
9:30 a.m. Sunday School ~ Classes for All Ages
10:30 a.m. Worship..... Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. Children's Choir Choir Room
5:00 p.m. Youth Bells Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. Youth Group..... West Building

We ask for your help in keeping this calendar current. This is the calendar to which many individuals refer, including our Pastor. Please be sure to contact Shirley in the church office (swood@fpcsumter.org or 803-773-3814) to add your meeting dates and times. The weekly deadline for the bulletin is Wednesday at 12:00 noon.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Tuomey: Terry Hill, Blaney Coskrey,
Charles Shaw, Claire Richards

Brookdale: Marion Young

Melbourne, Florida: Mitch Cantrell (Marcè Musser's brother)

At Home: Aggie White, Margaret Hunter, Linda Montague,
Helen Brookes-Futrell, Gordon Rettke,
Patty Lowery (Furman Thames' mother)

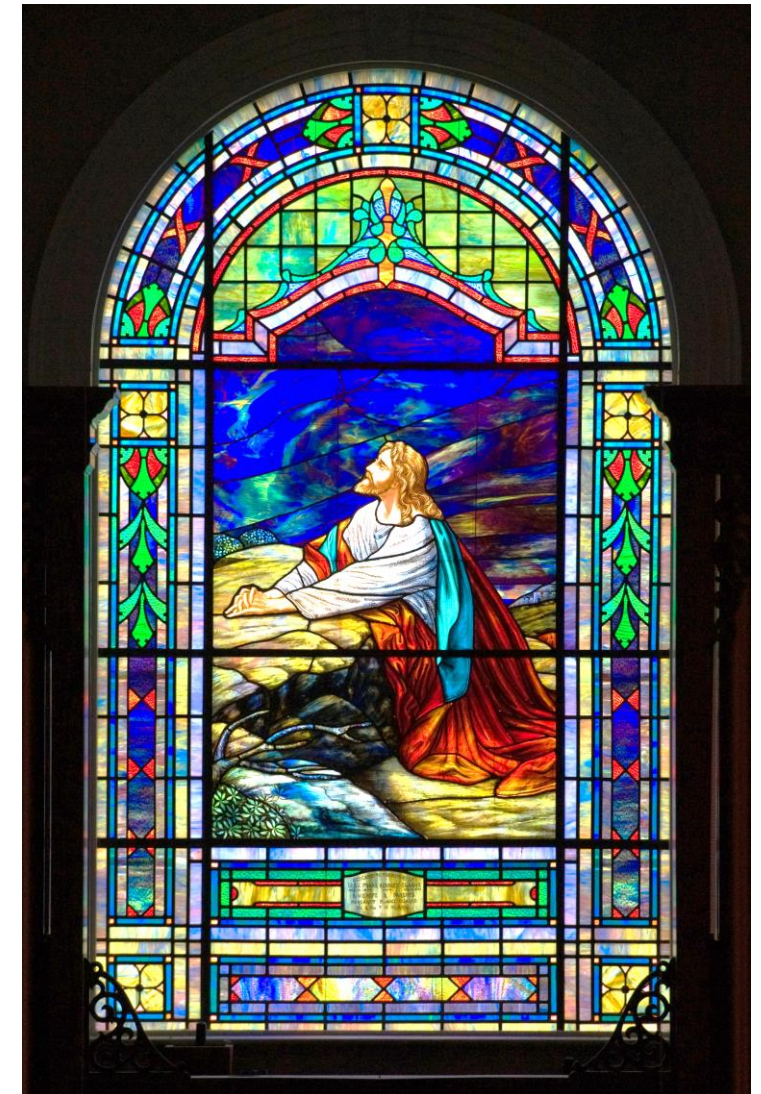
Our worship services can be seen on Time Warner Channel 2 Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or FTC Channel 26 Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 10:00 a.m.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 18, 2016



**The mission of First Presbyterian Church is to
know Christ and make Him known by
living faithfully, worshiping joyfully
and serving gladly.**



**27th ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
RETREAT**
February 17-19, 2017
Springmaid Beach Resort
Mark your calendars now and
plan to attend!



A Stephen Ministry Congregation