

June 29, 2025
3rd Sunday after Pentecost



First Presbyterian Church Aiken, South Carolina

A community actively seeking ways to continue:

... writing new chapters in an old story ...



A Stephen Ministry Congregation.

First Presbyterian Church of Aiken extends a simple and unqualified welcome, in Christ's name, to all who seek to join us. We affirm that there can be no exclusiveness within the body of Christ, and therefore we invite all children of God into our worship, study, mission, and fellowship as we together seek ways to live in grace and respond with gratitude. We would be happy to answer any questions about our mission, ministry, and membership.

We invite you to please join us again in worship.

Call To Worship

Gathering Music: The people are called to worship God through the Gift of Music.

Congregational: The people are called to worship God. Words from scripture are spoken or sung to proclaim who God is and what God has done. We are thus reminded that our worship centers in God and not in ourselves. "Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth." (Psalm 124:8).

Prayer Of Confession

is intended to encourage people to lay down any burdens of guilt, regret, sense of failure, or inadequacy, and to reaffirm their trust in Christ's unfailing love and forgiveness.

Assurance Of Pardon

in the waters of baptism, God claimed you and named you a child of God. In the waters of baptism, we receive God's forgiveness, healing, and love.

Gloria Patri giving glory to the Good Father in thanksgiving for grace and forgiveness.

✠ Please rise in body or spirit.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

STRIKING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

GATHERING MUSIC

PACHELBEL'S CANON

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice, people of God. This is our Sabbath day.

All: **Rejoice, friends in Christ. This is our time for worship,**

One: God ordained the Sabbath, rest and restoration.

All: **God is worthy of worship, our Creator, Healer, and Inspiration.**

One: So, now, let us worship God.

✠ HYMN 35

PRAISE YE THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

✠ INVITATION TO CONFESSION OF SIN

(Silent Confession)

Almighty God, You sent Your Holy Spirit to fill disciples with faith and gifts for service. We confess that we have held back the power of Your Spirit. We have been slow to trust You, reluctant to serve You, and resistant to sharing Your Good News. Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive us. By Your Spirit, draw us together in ministry. Fill us with Your fire so that we may be a faithful and fruitful people. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

✠ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠ GLORY TO GOD 447

WE ARE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven.

We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven.

We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE - WELCOMING OUR NEIGHBORS

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Beth Yarborough

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who 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.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

✠HYMN 626

AS THE DEER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

GALATIANS 5:13-25

SECOND LESSON

LUKE 9:51-62

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Beth Yarborough

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 sits 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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

Please sign and pass the friendship register on your pew during this time.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

GABRIEL'S OBOE
Trombone Soloist, WILLS KANE

Passing of the Peace

worshippers may share signs of Christ's peace welcoming each other i.e. "The peace of Christ be with you" response "and also with you".

Prayer For

Illumination is a prayer seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to lead us to a deeper understanding of the reading, hearing, and proclaiming of God's word.

Sermon Or

Meditation when the Bible has been read, its message is proclaimed in a sermon or other form of exposition of God's Word. The God who speaks in scripture speaks to us now. The God who acted in biblical history acts today. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ is presented in the sermon, offering grace and calling for obedience.

Affirmation of Faith

the congregation speaks as one, affirming essential tenets of the reformed Christian faith.

The Offering is a

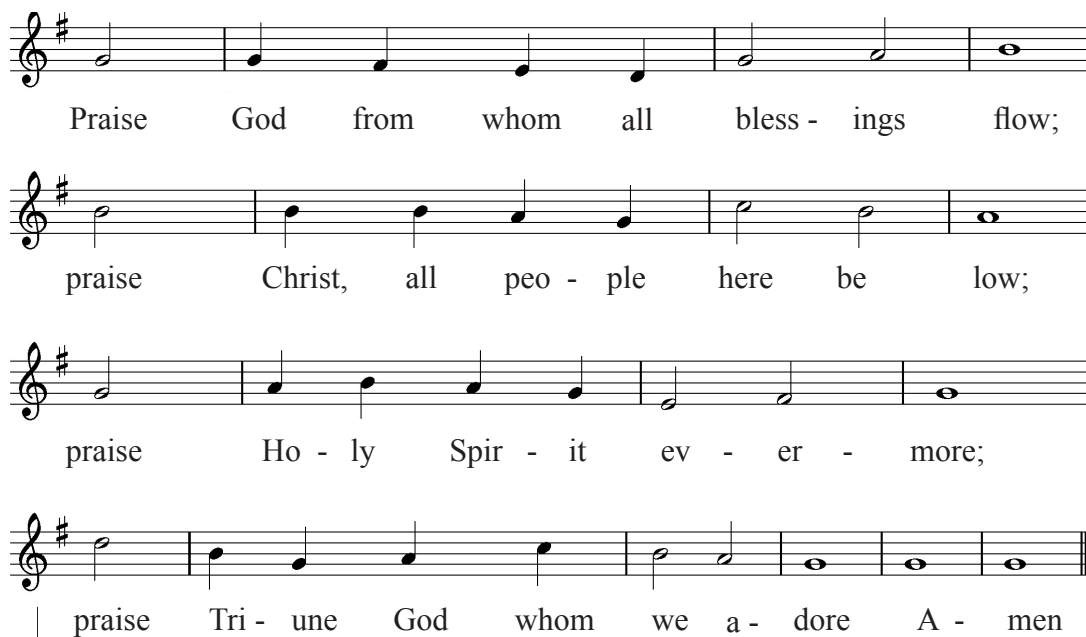
significant part of our response to the Gospel. As we present the financial gifts that represent our commitment to the work of the church. We resolve to maintain this community of worship, fellowship, and service.

The Doxology is sung, ascribing glory to God in three persons - praising Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Charge And Benediction are delivered from the pulpit, font, or table. The charge is a challenge to take the lessons learned in worship, and apply them to our lives. The benediction concludes the worship service, and confers the Triune God's blessing upon the congregation.

Congregational Blessing we join hands and voices as we acknowledge God's blessing which binds us together in ministry.

✠ DOXOLOGY 607



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow;
 praise Christ, all peo - ple here be low;
 praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;
 | praise Tri - une God whom we a - dore A - men

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

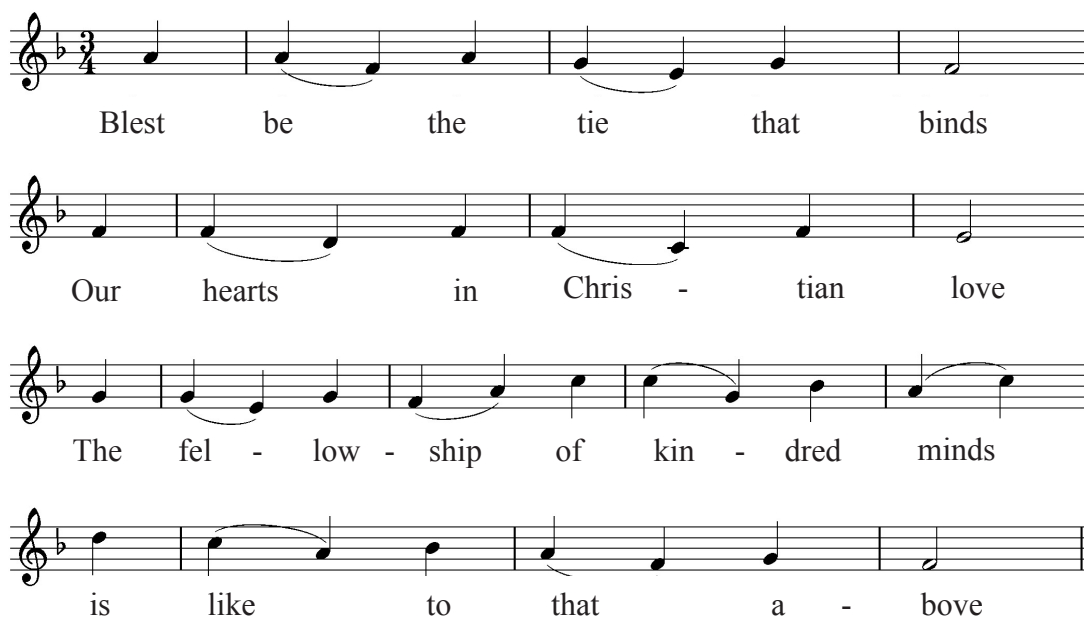
✠ HYMN 327

FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES

BEARING AND FOLLOWING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING 306 BLEST BE V 1.



Blest be the tie that binds
 Our hearts in Chris - tian love
 The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds
 is like to that a - bove

POSTLUDE

JOSHUA FOUGHT THE BATTLE OF JERICO

WORSHIP NOTES

Lay Reader: Peggy Thome

Head Usher: Jimmy Guerry

Large print hymnals, bulletins, and wireless assisted hearing receivers are available from any usher.

Childcare is available during Sunday school and worship for our youngest members (infant through kindergarten). Join us in Room 6.

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for children through 5th grade.

Offering Cards have been added to the pews for our online givers. Please use these during the offering as the plates are passed.



CHURCH AT WORK

Kathy Clark Retirement - After worship please join us in the Fellowship Hall for the reception to celebrate her years of service.

Art Wall - It is a privilege to showcase the artwork of over 35 of our FPCA children and youth. Over the past several months, the kids have been talking about all the places we see and feel God. The result is a collection of inspiring pieces from artists age 2 to 18 years old. Please stop by The Art Wall anytime and enjoy their beautiful pieces.

Summer Choir - Love to sing? Want to be in the choir but don't want to commit to the schedule? Then the summer choir is the perfect opportunity for you! We will meet on the first and third Sundays of each month - June, July and August - to learn an easy anthem and sing during the worship service. Rehearsal will begin at 9:30 AM on rehearsal days. We hope to see you there! Email Daniel Hamilton for more information.

ACTS Donations - Please leave your contributions for ACTS in the baskets in the narthex wings or at the Henderson Lane office entrance. June: Macaroni & Cheese

Summer Prayer Cards - We have "summer" prayer cards available for anyone who wants to send one. They are in the office supply, outside Chris' office on the counter. Please feel free to fill out a card (name and address) and leave it on the counter. When you are visiting the Church please take a moment and sign any cards you see laying there.

As you head out this summer on all your adventures be sure to take FPCA with you!

Whether you worship via livestream or listen to our new podcast channel, whatever you do this summer - Let's stay connected no matter how far apart!

Podcast information: To listen, search "Faithful Connections at First Presbyterian Aiken" in your podcast app or visit our website then click the podcast button on the home page.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, June 29, 2025

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Worship
11:30 AM - 12:30 AM	Kathy Clark
	Retirement Reception
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Indoor Soccer
7:15 PM - 9:00 PM	Men's Basketball

Monday, June 30, 2025

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Pickleball
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Stephen Leader Meeting
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Book Group

Tuesday, July 1, 2025

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Pickleball
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Stephen Ministry Meeting
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Boy Scout Troop 110

Thursday, July 3, 2025

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Pickleball
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	BSA GA-CA Roundtable

Friday, July 4, 2025

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Office Closed
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Sunday, July 6, 2025

9:15 AM - 9:30 AM	Coffee
9:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Nursery
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Summer Choir
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Focus Class
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Worship
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Indoor Soccer
7:15 PM - 9:00 PM	Men's Basketball

CHURCH OFFICERS AND STAFF

Church Officers the congregation of the PCUSA operate using a model of shared leadership and responsibility. Ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament work along side men and women called to serve in the ordained officers of Elders (the Session) and Deacon (the Diaconate). In the PCUSA, the gifts of leadership and ministry are affirmed and celebrated in all people and the service of all is appreciated.

First Presbyterian Church

224 Barnwell Ave. NW Aiken, SC 29801 (803) 648-2662

E-mail: aikenpresbyterian@aikenpresbyterian.org

Website: www.aikenpresbyterian.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aikenpres>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aikenpres/>

Office hours Monday- Thursday 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

The Church Organized For Work

Pastor/Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Christopher Erde
Parish Associate	Rev. Dr. Beth Yarborough
Director of Operations and Media	Joanna Hamilton
Director of Christian Education	Tamra Erde
Director of Music	Daniel Hamilton
Director of Finance	Jaimie Dandridge
Office Manager	Debby Dugan
Organist/Accompanist	Kathy Clark
Preschool Director	Mary Maddrey
Finance	Suzanne McLeod

The Session

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Christopher Erde

Clerk of Session: Clark McCants

Class of 2025

Katie Brown
Trey Brown
Suzanne McLeod
Connor Patterson
Melissa Patterson
Graham Reynolds
Wayne Rickman

Class of 2026

Richard Abney
Christa Budney
Wallace Fraser
Martha Funk
Sharon Rodgers
Bill Tucker

Class of 2027

Paul Crook
John Gordon
Christine Kupcha
Eric Muhlbaier
Dee Verley-Matthews
Tom Thome

The Deacons

Class of 2025

Barbara Bower
Anne Elkins
Mary Hunter

Class of 2026

Mike Anderson
Gail Ebner
Brock McLeod

Class of 2027

Adam Garcia
Sue Todd
Lisa Woods

The Trustees

Class of 2025

David Keisler

Class of 2026

Bob Buchanan

Class of 2027

Vic Sowers

Stephen Ministry

Rob Gray, Mary Maddrey, Lucy Sutter, and Vic Sowers

If you are wanting a Stephen Minister assigned please contact:

Gayle Gordon (803) 507-7725, Karalee Kludzuweit (803) 335-8632, or

Julie Taylor (803) 979-9919

Presbyterian Women

Moderator:

Sandy Evans

Gathering Contacts:

Amy Gray and Margot Salzman

