

August 4, 2024

11th 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 HOUR

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

All: **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

One: Jesus said: I am the bread of life.

All: **Give us this bread always.**

One: Let us worship God.

#### ✦ HYMN 509

ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY

#### ✦ INVITATION TO CONFESSION OF SIN

*(Silent Confession)*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way. You show us the wrong we have done, yet we point fingers at others. You offer us the bread of heaven, yet we hunger for the things of earth. Forgive us, God of grace. Speak your truth to us in love, so that we may return to you in peace, and grow more and more in grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### ✦ GLORY TO GOD 582 GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

Glory to God  
whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son,  
whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit,  
whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end,  
without end. Amen.

World without end,  
without end. Amen.

World without end,  
without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now  
and ever shall be. Amen.

#### ✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE - WELCOMING OUR NEIGHBORS

BLESSINGS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

✦HYMN 754 HELP US ACCEPT EACH OTHER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON JOHN 6:24-35

SECOND LESSON 2 SAMUEL 11:26-12:13A

SERMON "Learning from a terrible story" Rev. Dr. Christopher Erde

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

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.**

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS BY INTINCTION

*Please exit your row to the left, go to the station at the front of your section to receive the Communion elements, returning to your row from the right side. Gluten-free bread is available at the station located in the center beside the ministers. When taking Communion by intinction, a piece of bread will be placed in your hand. Take the bread and dip it in the cup, partake of it, then return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward to receive Communion, it will be brought to you at your seat.*

✦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

YOUR ONLY SON  
Summer Choir

**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.

♠ **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

**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.

♠ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

♠ **HYMN 526**

LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY

**BEARING AND FOLLOWING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING 306**

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

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**

HERE AT THIS TABLE

## WORSHIP NOTES

Lay Reader: Katie Brown

Head Usher: Sandy Evans

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 ages 0 - 5. Join us in Room 6.

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

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



The rose on the chancel is in celebration of the birth of Vaughn Marion Sisk, on July 26th, 2024 to Drew & Sally Ann McKinsey Sisk. The proud grandparents are Tim & Pam McKinsey.

## CHURCH AT WORK

**JAM Pool Party** - Join us today 2:00 PM-4:00 PM at the Westcliff Swimming Pool.

**Back to School Blessings items** - Beginning August 4 and throughout the month of August, we will be collecting food items to help support our local School Food Pantries. The food items will be used for children who are hungry while at school and/or sent home with children who have food insecurities at home. Items to be collected: (Individual/Small Serving Sizes) Granola bars (no nuts), Single-serve cereals, Fruit cups, Raisins Applesauce cups or squeeze, Goldfish crackers, Fruit snacks, Pop top ravioli or spaghetti, Beef jerky sticks, Oatmeal, Macaroni and cheese, Fruit juice boxes, Small bottles of water, Chicken noodle or tomato soup, Ramen noodles, and Gallon Storage bags to pack food. We will send bulk items to the school and they will divide as needed.

**Dementia Education** - Join us for this free, and informative event on August 28th at 11:30AM to focused on educating and supporting those caring for adults with dementia. Participants will gain a better understanding of the difference between normal aging memory loss and dementia and how to manage the long term service and support that are needed to promote quality of life. This is a free event that is open to all and will include lunch. Please RSVP to the church by August 23rd.

**New Church Directory** - All month we will be shooting directory portraits in the Parlor before Sunday School and after Worship. Photos will also be taken during the week (no appointments needed) 8:30AM-3:00PM Monday- Thursday, please come to main office to check in. Once your photo has been taken please be sure to check your contact information for any needed corrections. We will be taking photos during these times for the whole month of August.

**Technology Enrichment Session** - A new member of our church, Rob Broadwell, will be offering small session for 5 people, that will center around how to make better use of your tech devices. The first session will focus on iPhones, some topics you will learn about will be how to send pictures, emojis, and videos, use do-not-disturb mode, scan QR codes, use voice commands and dictation, and "cast" your photos onto a big screen to show them to friends! The August 11th session is full. The next opportunity will be August 18th at 1:00 PM, you must RSVP to the church office to attend. Once the 5 slots are filled, we will place your name on a waiting list for future courses.

**Summer Choir** - Please note that our Summer Choir practice will be August 18 at 9:45 AM in the Choir Room to prepare for Sunday worship.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, August 4, 2024

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM JAM Pool Party  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Indoor Soccer  
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men'Basketball

### Monday, August 5, 2024

7:30 AM - 3:00 PM Preschool  
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM Directory  
Pictures  
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Finance  
Committee  
Meeting  
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Pickleball  
06:00 PM - 7:00 PM Stephen Leaders

### Tuesday, August 6, 2024

7:30 AM - 3:00 PM Preschool  
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM Directory  
Pictures  
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Pickleball  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Stephen  
Ministry Mtg  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Boy Scouts  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM BSA Girls

### Wednesday, August 7, 2024

7:30 AM - 3:00 PM Preschool  
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM Directory  
Pictures  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Staff Meeting

### Thursday, August 8, 2024

7:30 AM - 3:00 PM Preschool  
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM Directory  
Pictures  
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Pickleball

### Friday, August 9, 2024

7:30 AM - 03:00 PM Preschool  
8:00 AM - 08/11/24 Montreat Women's Conference

### Sunday, August 11, 2024

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Directory  
Pictures  
9:15 AM - 11:30 AM Nursery  
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Summer  
SundaySchool  
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship  
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Tech Class  
2:00 PM -4:00 PM Indoor Soccer  
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men'sBasketball



## CHURCH OFFICERS AND STAFF

### 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	Cassie Buchanan
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 2024

Katie Brown  
Robin Callicott  
Chuck Dynarski  
Jennifer Feraldi  
Katie Kucharski  
Connor Patterson  
Jerry Shumpert  
Chick Warner

#### Class of 2025

Trey Brown  
Suzanne McLeod  
Melissa Patterson  
Graham Reynolds  
Wayne Rickman

#### Class of 2026

Richard Abney  
Dub Bankes  
Wallace Fraser  
Martha Funk  
Sharon Rodgers  
Bill Tucker

### The Deacons

#### Class of 2024

Dave Clerc  
Mary Fran Crook  
Kathy Kent

#### Class of 2025

Barbara Bower  
Anne Elkins  
Mary Hunter

#### Class of 2026

Mike Anderson  
Gail Ebner  
Brock McLeod

### The Trustees

#### Class of 2024

Reggie Ebner

#### Class of 2025

David Keisler

#### Class of 2026

Bob Buchanan

### Stephen Ministry

Rob Gray, Kathy Kent, Mary Maddrey, Carol Mondschein,  
Christin Sosa-Gaston, 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, Barb Magrath, Margot Salzman

**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.

