



# First Presbyterian Church Macon

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*200 Years of God's Faithfulness*

*First Presbyterian is a Welcoming Church in Downtown Macon  
Committed to Knowing Christ and Making Him Known.*

February 22, 2026 · 9:00 · 11:15 AM

# *Welcome*

## **TO OUR GUESTS**

We want to welcome you today! More information about our church is available on our website at [fpcmacon.org](http://fpcmacon.org).

## **SPIRITUAL CARE**

If you would like to speak to someone about what it means to know Jesus Christ or you have any spiritual need or question, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.

## **CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSON**

We provide a Bible lesson and music for children in Pre-K through second grade during the services. Children will be dismissed from the service and escorted to their classroom before the sermon. Please pick up your children after the first service or Sunday school on the second floor of Cornerstone and after the second service in the nursery. If this is your first Sunday at FPC, please walk your child to the Bible lesson to check them in.

## **NURSERY**

Nursery is provided for 3K and under from 8:45 AM-12:15 PM. We also provide a mother/infant room located in the nursery with a live video feed of the service, as well as a "cry room" downstairs from the sanctuary for parents of "fussy" children with an audio feed. Ushers are available to direct you.

## **FLOWERS**

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Tate Girardeau, M.D. by his family.

## **YOUR PRESENCE**

Please let us know that you're here today by scanning the QR code.



**Worshippers read text in bold.**

## **FPC 200TH ANNIVERSARY (1826-2026): A MOMENT FROM OUR PAST**

FPC was started in 1826. The next ten years brought many life-changing inventions to everyday life.

**1830:** Edwin Budding invents the lawnmower.

**1833:** Charles Babbage introduces his "mechanical calculating machine", the first mechanical computer.

**1834:** Moritz von Jacobi invents the first practical electric motor.

**1835:** Joseph Henry invents the electromechanical relay.

**1837** Samuel Morse invents Morse code.

# *Corporate Worship*

*Welcome to First Presbyterian! We are thankful you have chosen to worship with us today.  
It is our hope and prayer that through the reading of God's Word, prayer,  
the corporate singing and readings, and the preached Word, you  
will see Christ clearly and desire to know Him more.*

## **WELCOME**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

## **PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE 30 - *Our God, Our Help In Ages Past***

Verses 1-4, 6-7

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come:  
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - *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 arose 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.

# From Everlasting (Psalm 90)

Clow and Hudson



1. O God, be - fore the moun - tains were brought forth, or days of spring and  
2. *We dwell* be - neath the stars in an - cient skies, a thou - sand years are  
3. O God, when joy and tra - ge - dy col - lide and loss re - minds us



sum - mer filled the earth, from ev - er - last - ing, You are God. *to vs. 2*  
*noth - ing in Your sight, from ev - er - last - ing, You are God. →*  
life is but a sigh, from ev - er - last - ing, You are God. *→*



\*And all our days are held with-in Your hands, Your per - fect love and fa - vor have no



— end. We rest with-in the wis - dom of Your plan, Ev - er - last - ing God.



4. O God of light, our ways are known to You, but by Your grace You're mak - ing all things



new, so sa - tis - fy us in our num - bered days, es - tab - lish ev - 'ry



ef - fort while we wait. From ev - er - last - ing, You are God. *\*to chorus*

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\*\*\*Seating Interlude\*\*\*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:15)**  
*George Lawrence Semeria*  
*Covenant Child of Nick and Rebecca Semeria*

**SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION**

James 1:12-22

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

**CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN**

Merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens,  
wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.

Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life,  
our callousness toward the suffering of others,  
our envy of those who have more than we have,  
our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,  
our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law.  
Transform us by your Spirit, that we may desire what is good, love what you love,  
and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**SILENT CONFESSION**

## SCRIPTURE OF GRACE

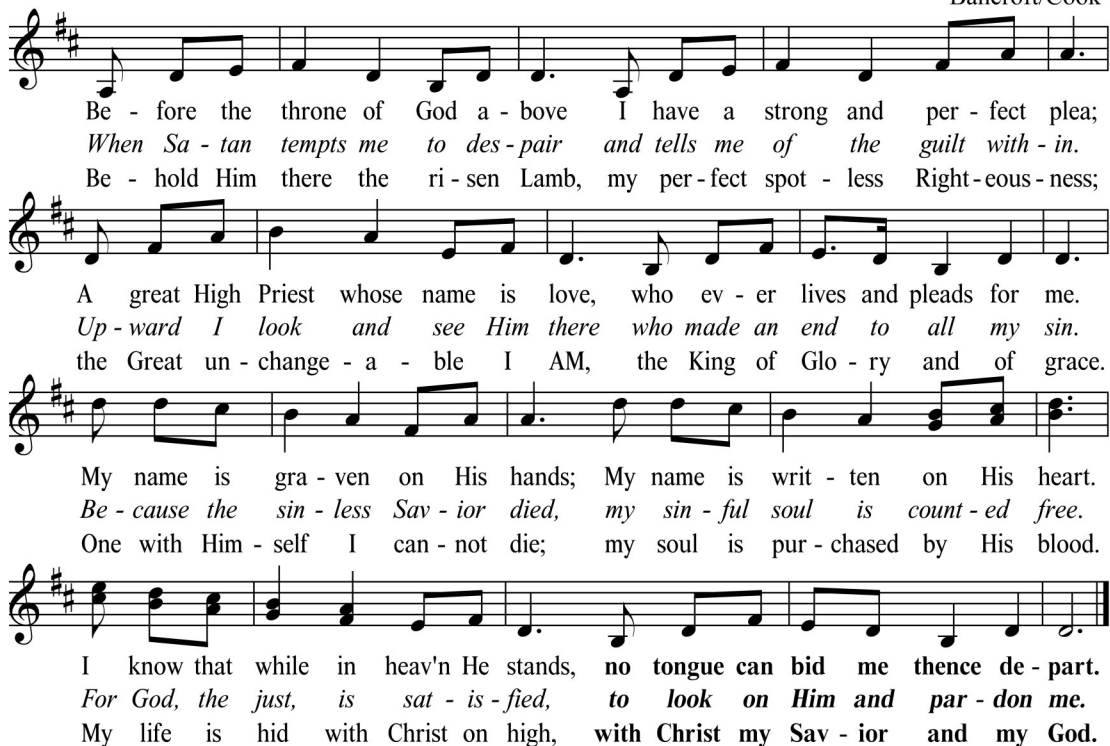
Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE

### Before the Throne of God Above

Bancroft/Cook



Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect plea;  
*When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair and tells me of the guilt with - in.*  
Be - hold Him there the ri - sen Lamb, my per - fect spot - less Right - eous - ness;

A great High Priest whose name is love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me.  
*Up - ward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.*  
the Great un - change - a - ble I AM, the King of Glo - ry and of grace.

My name is gra - ven on His hands; My name is writ - ten on His heart.  
*Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed free.*  
One with Him - self I can - not die; my soul is pur - chased by His blood.

I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
*For God, the just, is sat - is - fied, to look on Him and par - don me.*  
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Sav - ior and my God.

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## PASTORAL PRAYER

### WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Online giving may be done by texting **fpcmacon** to 73256 or visiting the church website at [www.fpcmacon.org](http://www.fpcmacon.org).

Psalm 150 ..... John Harper

*Alleluia. Praise God in His holy place, Praise Him in His mighty heav'ns.  
Praise Him for His powerful deeds, Praise His surpassing greatness.*

*Alleluia. O praise Him with sound of trumpet, Praise Him with lute and harp,  
Praise Him with timbrel and dance, Praise Him with strings and pipe.*

*Alleluia. O Praise Him with resounding cymbals, Praise Him with clashing of cymbals,  
Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord. Alleluia!*

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*Children K4-second grade are welcome to leave the worship service for a Bible Lesson in Cornerstone (BLC). Children in the 11:15 BLC class may be picked up in the nursery. We encourage children third grade and above to continue in corporate worship with their parents.*



### **HYMN OF PREPARATION 580 - *Lead On, O King Eternal***

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;  
Henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home;  
Through days of preparation thy grace has made us strong,  
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;  
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,  
But deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;  
For gladness breaks like morning where e'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.

### **PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD - Chip Miller**

*The Church God Uses*

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

### **BENEDICTION**

### **DOXOLOGY 731**

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.

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Chip Miller**

Senior Pastor  
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**Justin Leslein**

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**Parker Agnew**

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## STAFF

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**Mary Frances Stanford**

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*Leading in Worship Today*  
*Chip Miller, Senior Pastor*  
*Parker Agnew, Assistant Pastor*  
*Michael McGhee, Music Director/Organist*  
*Rebecca Lanning, Choir Director*  
*Tom Rule, Pianist*  
*Chancel Choir*

## CHURCH OFFICERS

### The Session

**Class of 2026** - Chuck Duggan, Mike Hall, Bobby Newman, Nick Rios, Tony Rodriguez, Blake Sullivan

**Class of 2027** - Ves Berry, Kevin Bridges, John Carey, Hal Foshee, Mike Peed, Kim Thompson

**Class of 2028** - Adam Blakely, Julian Hutchins, Chris Inhulsen, Bob Johnson, Wynne Pearson, Alfred Sams, Robert Stamps, Will Stanford, Jay Strickland, Bill Taylor

### The Diaconate

**Class of 2026** - Dave Grant, Darrell Hallman, Jeremy Johnson, John David Miller, Gray Widstrom, Jeff Wilhelm, Calder Willingham

**Class of 2027** - Chris Anderson, Cameron Garvin, Jeff Hill, Kevin Lennon, Jim Self, Brian Stone

**Class of 2028** - Rickie Baucom, Phil Clark, Michael Garud, John Kitchens, Phillip Leonhard, Troy Nash, Joey Rogers

### Trustees

Rob Danner, Bruce Jones, Ray Pearson, Buddy Ponder, Lowry Tribble

## YOUTH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Class	Description	Topic	Room Location
Nursery & Special Needs		New Testament	Nursery
Children	4K-5th Grade	New Testament	Cornerstone
Middle School Youth	6-8 Grades	God's Promises	Education Building 2nd Floor
High School Youth	9-12 Grades	Christian Doctrine	Education Building 3rd Floor
Young Adults	College/20s-30s	Joshua & Judges	Basement M102
Foundations	20s-30s	Romans	Education Building
Immanuel	Mid 40s-50s	Hosea	Education Building E102
Shepherds	50s-60s	I & II Peter	Brickyard M102
Trinity	60s+	Equipping Yourself	Education Building E103
Covenant	70s+	Fundamentals of Faith	Education Building E105
Canterbury	70s-80s	Studies in the Psalms	Education Building E104
Connections	Mixed Ages	Acts	Gathering Place
Generations	Mixed Ages	Romans	Basement M100
Pathways	Mixed Ages	Genesis	Brickyard M103

# Announcements



Join us March 6-8 for our Women's Conference at FPC.

**HELD: Learning to Live Un-Anxiously**

**March 6-8  
Cost: \$40/Person  
Speaker: Jeanne Harrison**



This year's conference is rooted in the I AM statements of Jesus from the book of John, taught through the lens of core anxieties many women face daily.

Scan QR Code to Register or contact Mary Anne Shipley at [mshipley@fpcmacon.org](mailto:mshipley@fpcmacon.org).

## 200 Years of FPC Macon!

As we celebrate 200 years of God's faithfulness at FPC Macon, we want to hear your story. Our church's history isn't only marked by dates and buildings, but by the people God has gathered here & the ways He has worked in their lives.



We invite members of our congregation to share their reflections by scanning this QR code and filling out this brief survey.

## Upcoming Missions Trips

Following our Missions Conference, Jonty Rhodes encouraged us to step into God's mission through praying, giving, and going. As you consider going, explore our upcoming summer mission trips. To learn more, contact April Kitchell at [missions@fpcmacon.org](mailto:missions@fpcmacon.org) or visit our website.



**Manchester - June 1-9  
Casa Hogar - July 22-29**

**Campus Clubs Banquet  
March 17 | 6 PM | FPC Fellowship Hall  
RSVP to [rcrosbycc@gmail.com](mailto:rcrosbycc@gmail.com)**



**JOIN US FOR  
OUR BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026  
6 P.M.**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**RSVP TO [RCROSBYCC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RCROSBYCC@GMAIL.COM)**



**Join us for Wednesday Night Dinner on Feb. 18!**

Menu: Fresh Air BBQ, chips, pickles, cookies

\$6/person OR \$25 family max

visit [www.fpcmacon.org/wednesdaynights](http://www.fpcmacon.org/wednesdaynights) to register

## Upcoming Events

March 6-8 - Women's Conference

March 13-15 - Men's Hike

March 13 - The LEde Jr. High Event

March 29 - Palm Sunday

April 5 - Easter Sunday

April 19 - FPC 200<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

682 Mulberry Street · Macon, GA 31201 · 478.746.3223 · [www.fpcmacon.org](http://www.fpcmacon.org)