

**January 28, 2024  
First Presbyterian Church  
Consecration Sunday**

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude** *Hymn to Joy*

Young

**Welcome**

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**We Worship Together**

**\*Call to Worship**

Steve Cook

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

**Great are your works, O Lord,  
pondered by all who delight in them.**

Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness endures forever.

**You cause your wonders to be remembered;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

**\*Hymn** 694 *Great God of Every Blessing*

AURELIA

**Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)**

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would have us be. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Relentlessly God seeks us out with abundant grace and boundless mercy. This is good news!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

**\*Holy Interruption** *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

**Making Our 2024 Commitments – extra copies in Narthex on pew**

*(You will be asked to come forward to bring your 2024 Pledge Cards and Time & Talents Sheet as we Celebrate our Holy Interruption Time)*

**\*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.**

**We Receive God's Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading** Deuteronomy 18:15-20

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

“Love Is A Long Road”

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**Affirmation of Faith** *(from Colossians 1:15-20)*

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Jesus Christ is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** 42 *Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure* WINCHESTER NEW

**Announcements**

**Pastoral Prayer and 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.**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory Anthem** *Count Your Blessings*

Excell

Chancel Choir

*When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed, when you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, count your many blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done!*

*Refrain: Count your blessings, Name them one by one; Count your blessings, see what God hath done, Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your many blessings see what God hath done!*

*Are you ever burdened with a load of care? Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear? Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly, and you will be singing as the days go by. (Refrain)*

**\*Doxology Hymn** *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night* TALLIS' CANON

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts, pledges, and our time and talents for service in the life of your church. Let these gifts be used for good wherever there is need. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.**

**We Go Out to Serve**

**\*Hymn** 711 *Lord of All Good*

TOULON

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response** *Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

Chancel Choir

AR HYD Y NOS

**\*Postlude** *Recessional*

Wetherill

**Please wait until the end of the benediction response by the choir before exiting.**

\*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

**The Church This Week (1/28/2024)**

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	Women's Community Bible Study
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	Women's Community Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

**Prayer List as of January 28, 2024**

Gerry & Bobby Rogers  
 Ina Coggeshall  
 Gray & Bea Sloop  
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore  
 Beth O'Neal  
 Bobbie Jones  
 Keller Smith  
 Dr. Sue Arledge and her husband, Bob  
 Shenell Malloy (Susan & Bill's daughter-in-law)  
 Edward Tinsley

**Women's Community Bible Study**

Meetings will take place weekly on Tuesdays at 6pm and again on Wednesdays at 9am. Both meetings will be in the Ladies Parlor at First Presbyterian Church Cheraw. You can attend either meeting each week, depending on your schedule. We will be using The Bible Year by Magrey Devega. Our goal is to support one another and grow in our faith as we work our way through the Bible. Please reach out to Caroline Streater or Tracie Phillips with questions.

Listed below are links to sign up to volunteer in the nursery, put flowers in the church, and monitor students at Pathfinders. Please prayerfully consider these opportunities. If you are interested, please just click on the proper link. If you need help in signing up, please contact Cathy Chapman.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AF22AB9-nursery#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AF22AB9-flowers1#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AF22AB9-45315196-pathfinders#/>

Thank you so much,  
 The Christian Education Team  
 The Presbyterian Women  
 The Mission Outreach Team

**Session of First Presbyterian Church**

Class of 2024

Marietta Melton Burch  
 Cathy Chapman  
 Dan Tillman, III  
 Charlene Tillman

Class of 2025

Kelli Beck  
 Avery Dickson  
 Mary Jane Evans  
 Jean Page Watson

Class of 2026

Mary Anderson  
 Andrew McLeod  
 Kristen Miller  
 Richard Pierce

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor  
 Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary  
 Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton  
 Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper  
 Mrs. Mary Gullledge, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO  
 Mrs. Paige Coates, MMO  
 Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO

Mission Partners

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica  
 Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland



*Our Vision*

*Rooted by God's Grace,  
 Growing in the Spirit,  
 Reaching Out with Christ's Love*

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

First Presbyterian Church  
 300 Market Street  
 PO Box 552  
 Cheraw, SC 29520  
 (843) 537-7474  
 Email: info@firstprescheraw.org  
[www.cherawfpc.org](http://www.cherawfpc.org)



The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

**JOIN YOUR CHURCH FAMILY** for a catered lunch after our **Consecration Sunday** service in the Fellowship Hall.

The Christian Education Committee of Goodwill Presbyterian Church is celebrating the ministry of Rev. Dr. Franklin Colclough and Rev. Carnell Hampton on February 24, 2024, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Morris College gymnasium. The planning committee extends an invitation to our church members. Tickets will be available until 2/15/24 at \$50.00 per person. Please contact the church office or Dan Tillman (843-703-9005) if interested.