

**August 18, 2024**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
*Bluegrass Sunday*

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude** *Give Me That Old Time Religion* Traditional Gospel

**Welcome** Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**We Worship Together**

**\*Call to Worship** (*adapted from Psalm 150*) Tracie Phillips  
Praise God in God's holy house of worship, praise God under the open skies!  
**Praise God for his acts of power, praise God for such magnificent greatness!**  
Praise God with a blast on the trumpet, praise God by picking guitar strings!  
**Praise God with castanets and dance, praise God with banjo and with flute!**  
Praise God with cymbals and a bass drum, praise God with fiddles and mandolin!  
**Let every living, breathing creature praise God!**  
**Hallelujah! Let us sing!**

**\*Hymn** *I'll Fly Away* (insert) I'll FLY AWAY

**Invitation to Confession** (the congregation is seated)  
Trusting in God's mercy, let us acknowledge to ourselves and each other those ways we fall short from what God intends for us, knowing nothing is so broken that God cannot make it whole again. Let us pray...

**Prayer of Confession**

**O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring good news to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all. Forgive us, Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice and peace, through Jesus Christ we pray... (A moment for silent confession.)**

**Assurance of Pardon**

"Do not fear," says the Lord. "I have redeemed you, and I have called you by name!

**God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth!" By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven to be at peace. Amen.**

**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*

**\*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.**

**\*Hymn** 835 *Just a Closer Walk With Thee* CLOSER WALK

**Children's Message**

(children first grade and older need to remain in the sanctuary during worship".)

**We Receive God's Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading** Psalm 111

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**New Testament Reading** Ephesians 4:25-5:2

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Message** "Sunny Side of the Mountain" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**Affirmation of Faith** (*from A Declaration of Faith*)

**In his concern for justice in the social order God has never forgotten the needs of individuals. In the end the Lord will judge all persons by the simple, unremembered acts of kindness they did or failed to do for the least of their sisters and brothers. We believe God sends us to risk our own peace and comfort in compassion for our neighbors. We are to give to them and receive from them, accepting everyone we meet as a person; to be sensitive to those who suffer in body or mind; to help and accept help in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility. We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving, for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.**

**\*Hymn** 370 *This is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

**Announcements**

**Pastoral Prayers & 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** *Amazing Grace* Traditional American

**\*Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Prayer of Dedication**

**We give thanks to you, God, for sending your Son Jesus to be living bread for the world. Breathe on these gifts we bring, that through them your life may feed, strengthen, and bless this world, through Christ, our bread of life. Amen.**

**We Go Out to Serve**

**\*Hymn** *Sweet By and By* (insert) SWEET BY AND BY

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response** *Count Your Blessings* BLESSINGS

**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.**

**\*Postlude** *In the Highway, In the Hedges* Traditional Gospel  
(from Luke 14:23)

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 flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Harriet Stewart by Andrew, Christie, Sallie, Jack and Alice McLeod.

Special thanks to the Longleaf Social Club, a local bluegrass band, for leading us in worship today. Band members are Kris Houser, guitar & banjo; Collin Hatcher, mandolin; Bill Rivers, guitar; Ken Rogerson, bass guitar.

**The Church This Week (8/18/2024)**

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 Tues. 6:00 p.m. CBS  
 Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship

**Prayer List as of August 18, 2024**

Gerry & Bobby Rogers  
 Ina Coggeshall  
 Gray & Bea Sloop  
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore  
 Bobbie Jones  
 Edward Tinsley  
 Barbara Dickson  
 For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses  
 Ruth Jackson  
 Peggy Hamden Stewart  
 Tom Sheeler  
 B.J. Moore



The church has several volunteer opportunities available, including placing flowers in the sanctuary, providing nursery coverage during Sunday worship, and monitoring students and Pathfinders. If interested, please go to <https://www.cherawfpc.org/signup> and click the appropriate link. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Chapman.

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.

Acolyte Training – Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:45 to 10:15 for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

**NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

Date	Name	Name
August 18	Shelley Morgan	Rebecca Denham
August 25	Alison Chapman	Edward Tinsley
Sept. 1	Jessie Baker	
Sept. 8	Maggie Barton	Heather Tucker
Sept. 15	Cathy Chapman	Laura Katherine Folger
Sept. 22	Alison Chapman	Edward Tinsley
Sept. 29	Maggie Lloyd	Rebecca Denham

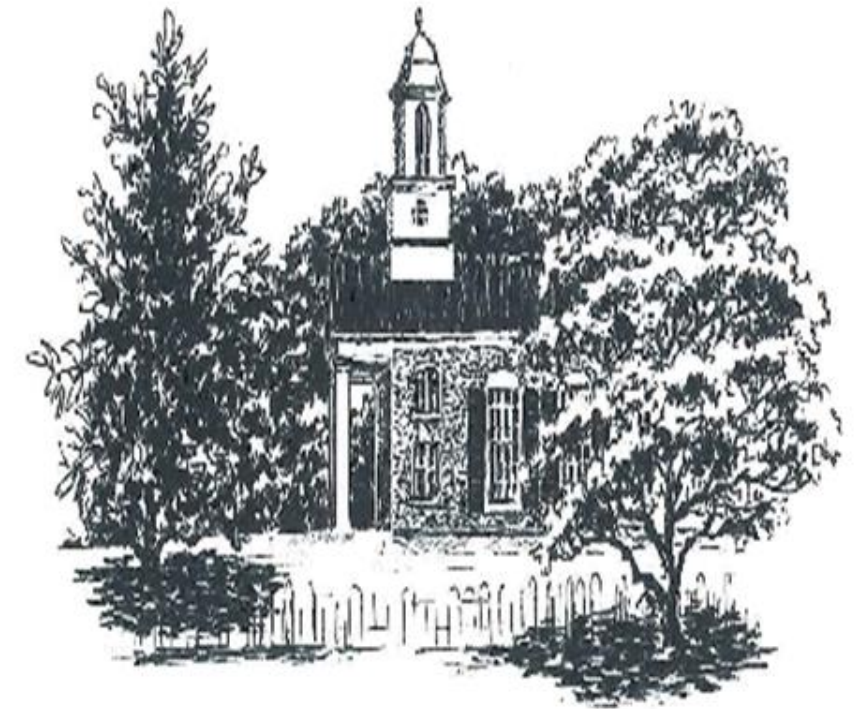
I want to thank the FPC family for giving me the wonderful opportunity twenty-seven and a half years ago to work in the church nursery.

When it was announced that the nursery would be named after me, I was truly surprised. I felt so blessed to be honored for a job that I really enjoyed and loved.

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who lovingly brought their babies on Sunday mornings. Many of these babies are now wonderful young, Christian men and women.

Thank you always for your love and support.

Mary R. Gulledge



*Our Vision*

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

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. Arneha Kendall, Housekeeper  
 Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director 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

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

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