

March 30, 2025
First Presbyterian Church
4th Sunday in Lent

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *This is My Father's World* Keveren

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship (Psalm 32)** Steve Cook

In times of trouble, in days of fear,

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

When we are lost and lonely, not sure of our place,

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

When we are hard-hearted and cynical,

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

When we struggle to believe God's promise of redemption,

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

Together we look to God to teach us the way we should go.

Steadfast love surrounds us, as together we place our trust in the Lord.

***Hymn 364** *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* GRAND ISLE

Invitation to Confession

Scripture promises us that no matter how far we stray from God's ways, when we make the decision to return to God, God runs to greet us with open arms.

Trusting in the never-failing mercy of the Lord, let us turn to God together by confessing our sins.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32 says: "Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are those happy people whose sins have been forgiven. Believe in the good news of the gospel and rejoice.

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.

Choral Anthem *I Will Sing* Murphy
(Chancel Choir)

Children's Message

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Joshua 5:9-12

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Message "Home" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

***Hymn 298** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* IN BABILONE

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 *He Keeps Me Singing* Berry

***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

Lord of all, we give you thanks for your unfailing love. All that we have and all that we are is a gift from you, and we return it to you now with thanks and praise. Take and bless what we offer here today, that it may be used to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, liberate the oppressed, care for the suffering, and share the good news of your redeeming love with the world. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn 543** *Abide with Me* (vs. 1,3, & 5) EVENTIDE

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart* Cagle
(Chancel Choir)

***Postlude** *When We All Get to Heaven* Hayes

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 (3/30/2025)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tues.	12:00 p.m.	At Ease
	5:00 p.m.	Christian Education
	6:00 p.m.	CBS
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	CBS
	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	5:30 p.m.	Prayer Meeting
Sat.		Yard Sale/Bake Sale
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Nursery Schedule for March

March 30	Edward Tinsley	Jean Page Watson
----------	----------------	------------------



Prayer List as of March 30, 2025

Gerry Rogers
 Ina Coggeshall
 Gray & Bea Sloop
 Benny Moore
 Bobbie Jones
 For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
 Ruth Jackson
 B.J. Moore
 Edward Tinsley
 Louise Carpenter
 Friends and families affected by Hurricane Helene

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.

If you would like to place flowers or a plant in the sanctuary for worship service, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. You can also call or email Cathy Chapman and she can sign you up for a date.

We are excited to announce this year's Vacation Bible School, "True North," June 17-19, 5-8 p.m. Mark your calendars and learn more about trusting Jesus in a wild world!

Session of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Kelli Beck	Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman
Avery Dickson	Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod
Mary Jane Evans	Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips
Jean Page Watson	Richard Pierce	Harold Watson

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Arneatha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Gini Eddins, MMO
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	

Mission Partners
 Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica

Our Vision

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

Sunday, March 30, 2025

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