

April 13, 2025
First Presbyterian Church
Palm Sunday

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Allegro I*, from Sonata I in F Major, Op. 2
(Ruth Lytch, flute) Marcello

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship** (*from Psalm 118*) Mary Anderson

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever!

The stone that the builders rejected

Has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever! Let us worship God.

***Processional Hymn** 196 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*
VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
(Youth Bells & Percussion)

Invitation to Confession

We cannot escape the sin and brokenness in our world or in our hearts. But in Jesus Christ, God comes and meets us in our brokenness and makes us whole again. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together:

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, O God, for we are broken vessels. You call us to follow you, but we deny, abandon and betray. You call us to pursue justice and righteousness, but we stick to the status quo. You invite us into the hope of your Spirit, but we make despair our daily bread. You lead us to the cross, but in our discomfort, we try to skip to the empty tomb. Transform us, O God. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon all our brokenness, that your grace may fill in the cracks of our broken places and make us whole. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Glory to God #215)

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul?

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 *Hosanna* Christian Gregor
(Chancel Choir; Ruth Lytch, flute)
(Youth Bells & Percussion)

Children's Message

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 50:4-9

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading Luke 19:28-40

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Message "The Finish Line" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith (*based on Philippians 2:5-11*)

We trust in God, the source of all hope, even as we call on God to meet us in places of hopelessness. We commit to be disciples of Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, But emptied himself and was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

***Hymn** 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* ELLACOMBE

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 *Allegro II*, from Sonata I in F Major, Op. 2 Marcello
(Ruth Lytch, flute)

***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

God, giver of all good gifts, we thank you for all that you have graciously poured out on us. As we begin Holy Week and walk the final steps to the cross, we give you thanks for the greatest of all gifts — the gift of yourself to your people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn** 634 *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* MARION
(Chancel Choir; Ruth Lytch, Flute)

***Postlude** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* Burkhardt

Please wait until the end of the postlude 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 by the Presbyterian Women in honor of Mrs. Louise Carpenter's birthday.

Acolytes for today: Jackson Tucker and Sam Phillips

*Today we thank Ruth Lytch, guest flutist, for her time & talents. Thank you for joining us for worship!

The Church This Week (4/13/2025)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	CBS
Wed.	9:00 a.m.	CBS
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	5:30 p.m.	Prayer Meeting
Thurs.		Maundy Thursday Service
Fri.	12:00 noon	Good Friday
Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Egg Hunt
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of April 13, 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.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be April 19, 2025 at 10:00am. Light refreshments will be served after the hunt.

We will have our first VBS “True North” meeting Sunday, April 27 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Building. If you’d like to help with this year’s Vacation Bible School, please join us! It’s going to be a fun experience for all!

Maundy Thursday Service – April 17th at 5:30 p.m.

Good Friday – April 18th at 12:00 noon.

Please join us for our Easter Service at 11:00 a.m. on April 20th.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for April - June

April 13	Kelli Beck	Maggie Barton
April 20	Maggie Barton	Brittany Tillman
April 27	Jean Page Watson	Mary Jane Evans
May 4	Laura Folger	Cathy Chapman
May 11	Alison Chapman	Jesse/Lainey
May 18	Laura Folger	Cathy Chapman
May 25	Charlene Tillman	
June 1		Steve Cook
June 8	Mary Jane Evans	Marietta Melton Burch
June 15	Maggie Lloyd	Michael Chapman
June 22	Brittany Tillman	Heather Tucker
June 29	Beth Witherspoon	Jean Page Watson

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be taken next Sunday, April 20th during Worship.



Our Vision

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

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. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Gini Eddins, MMO
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	

Sunday, April 13, 2025

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