

November 30, 2025
First Presbyterian Church
1st Sunday of Advent

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659 J.S. Bach

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship (Psalm 122 & Isaiah 2) Jessie Baker
I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”
Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
that we may learn God’s ways and walk in God’s paths.
Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

*Processional Hymn 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs.1,3,6,7)
VENI EMMANUEL

Lighting of the Advent Candles The Beck Family

Invitation to Confession
Testify with honesty the condition of your souls. Give defense not for yourself but only the Lord’s grace, which will save you in your time of trial. With confidence in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin:

Prayer of Confession
God of night and day, there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you and no secret that you will not bring to light. Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Beloved, in your baptism, you were bathed in light and clothed with grace. Therefore, put on the Lord Jesus Christ! Know that you are forgiven and live in peace.

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

*Gloria Patri

Choral Anthem The Birthday of a King Neidlinger
(Chancel Choir; Buddy Brooks & Susan Malloy, soloists)

We Receive God’s Word

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 2:1-5
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading Matthew 24:36-44
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith
(from Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39, Book of Common Worship)
We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 83 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus STUTTGART

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 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. by Mc Chesney
Youth Bells

*Doxology Gloria, in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo. GLORIA

Prayer of Dedication
We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have built us up in faith and bound us together in love. By your grace, may all that we do show the glory of your name and serve the good of your people’ through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

*Hymn 93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO

*Benediction

*Benediction Response Savior of the Nations, Come Martin Luther

Savior of the nations, come; virgin’s son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth. Amen.

*Postlude Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661 J.S. Bach

Please wait until the end of the Benediction Response before exiting.

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

Acolytes: Sam Baker & Jackson Tucker

The rosebud placed at the front of the sanctuary is placed there in honor of Charlee Anna Raines Tillman, daughter of Will and Dena Tillman. She was born on November 18, 2025. Congratulations to the parents and to the paternal grandparents, Bill and Charlene Tillman.

The Church This Week (11/30/2025)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	1:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tue.	6:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
Fri.	10:00 a.m.	Decorate the Church
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	1:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir

Prayer List as of November 30, 2025

Gerry Rogers
Bea Sloop
Benny Moore
Bobbie Jones
For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
B.J. Moore
Louise Carpenter
Shirley Brock
Edward Tinsley
Ruth Jackson
Marion Murphy
Nadia Harris
Jean Watson
Rebecca Harris Ott
Sherri (Ronald) Thurman, Ruby SC

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.

It is with a heavy heart that we announce that Rev. Dr. Richard "Dick" Sommers, former Minister here, from 1963-1969, passed away peacefully on the morning of October 14, 2025.

Decorate The Church

Everyone is invited to help decorate the church on Friday Dec.5 at 10:00a.m.

Christmas Music Ministry

You are cordially invited to attend our annual Christmas performances! “The First Christmas,” a traditional Christmas pageant presented by 30 of our children, will take place during the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, December 7. The Chancel Choir will present “For Unto Us a Child is Born,” on Sunday, December 14, at 4 p.m. This cantata will feature a string quartet, guest conductor, Dr. Jose Rivera, and soloists by members of our Chancel Choir. Both services will be in the sanctuary, and we hope you will come and support our music ministry!

Congregational Meeting on December 14th: Immediately following our 11 AM Worship Service, we will have a called Congregational Meeting to elect our Class of 2028 Elders.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for October - December

Oct. 5	Heather Tucker
Oct. 12	Cathy Chapman
Oct. 19	Kelli Beck
Oct. 26	Jean Page Watson
Nov. 2	Maggie Barton
Nov. 9	Steve Cook
Nov. 16	Charlene Tillman
Nov. 23	Jessie Baker
Nov. 30	Laura Folger
Dec. 7	Mary Jane Evans
Dec. 14	Lainey Baker
Dec. 21	Alison Chapman
Dec. 28	Marietta Melton Burch

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. Danielle Self, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Gini Eddins, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	



Our Vision

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

Sunday, November 30, 2025

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