

**January 18, 2026**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
*2nd Sunday after Epiphany*  
*Ordination and Installation Service*

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude** *Praeludium in C, BWV 553*

J.S. Bach

**Welcome**

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**We Worship Together**

**\*Call to Worship**

Fred Harris

God calls us here together — each of us, all of us, our whole selves.

**We bring our questions, our longings, our hopes, our dreams and our fears.**

Jesus invites us to come and see where God is at work.

**Across the street and across the globe, Jesus is present.**

Within these walls and within our hearts, God is here.

**Let us worship the God who reaches out in love and invites us to come and see!**

**\*Hymn 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

HYMN TO JOY

**Invitation to Confession**

Jesus, the Lamb of God, came to redeem and reconcile, to take away the sin of the world. We are invited to tell the truth about the places in need of healing and wholeness. Let us join in the communal act of repentance:

**Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 40)**

**Saving God, we confess that we often have not waited patiently for you. We have preferred to sing our own song, to go our own way, and to put our trust in idols, institutions and individual strength rather than trusting you. We confess that it is easier to bring you sacrifices and offerings, rather than offering our lives to you. We search for delight in all the wrong places. We keep quiet about the ways we have experienced your love and presence, and we fail to invite others to come and see you, the source of life and love, at work all around us. Forgive us, God. Abide in us until your new song of hope and redemption pours from our lips, and your love is shared in our words and deeds. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

God inclines to us, rescues us and sets us again on solid ground. God has not withheld mercy from us. Trust in the steadfast love and faithfulness of God and know that we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

**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** *Take Time To Be Holy*

(Chancel Choir)

arr. by Jay Rouse

**Children's Message**

**We Receive God's Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 16:11-16, 31

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading:** John 1:29-42

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** "Let It Grow"

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

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

**We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom. But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible it may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.**

**\*Hymn 450 Be Thou My Vision**

SLANE

**Announcements**

**Moment for Stewardship**

Mike Chapman

**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** *Adoro Te Devote (Thee We Adore)*

Franklin Ritter

**\*Doxology**

**Prayer of Dedication**

Holy God, we are not lacking in any gift, and we give you thanks and praise. Receive the gifts of our hearts and lives, not as vain sacrifice, but as a joyful response for your steadfast love. Use what you have given us to your glory in every place. Transform our gifts to become a beacon of hope, a word of life, and a balm of healing for all of creation. Amen.

**Ordination and Installation**

**Statement on Ordination**

**Constitutional Questions**

**Invitation for the Laying on of Hands**

**Prayer of Ordination and Installation**

**Declaration of Ordination**

**Charge to the New Officers**

**We Go Out to Serve**

**Hymn 441 Hear the Good News**

NETTLETON

**Benediction**

**Benediction Response** *Amen*  
(Chancel Choir)

Traditional

**Postlude** *Praeludium in F Major, BWV 556*

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:** Lydia & Julia Fenters

The flowers are placed in the church today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joe Witherspoon by Beth Witherspoon and family.

### The Church This Week (01/18/2026)

Today	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Worship
	1:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Mon.	8:30 a.m. MMO
Wed.	8:30 a.m. MMO
	3:15 p.m. Fun Program
	5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting in Session House
Sun.	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Worship

### **Prayer List as of January 18, 2026**

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  
Nadia Harris  
Lesley Jean Watson  
Rebecca Harris Ott  
Pam Cook (Alison Chapman's mother)  
Wyatt Smith  
Tommy Gulledge  
April Quick  
Summer Cathey

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 outside of the church office. You can also call, or email Cathy Chapman and she can sign you up for a date.

### **Please Join Us**

At Ease - first Tuesday of each month, 12 noon in the fellowship building.  
Circle Meeting - first Wednesday of each month at 10 am in Ladies Parlor.  
Prayer meeting - Wednesday night at 5:30 pm in the Session House.

### **Community Women's Bible Study**

A new 6-week Bible study is beginning on Tuesday February 3rd at 6pm and Wednesday February 4th at 9:00am. We will study Adam Hamilton's *When Christians Get It Wrong*. We will tackle some difficult topics that are sure to generate discussion and a better understanding of what it means to model our lives after Jesus. See the summary below and the link to purchase your book. Assignment for the first lesson: Chapter 1. For questions, reach out to Tracie Phillips or Caroline Streater.

#### *When Christians Get it Wrong:*

*More and more young adults have opted out of Christianity and the church. The reason? Christians. When young adults talk about the problems they have with Christianity and the church, they often name certain attitudes and behaviors they believe are practiced too often by Christians: judging others, condemning people of other faiths, rejecting science, injecting politics into faith, and being anti-homosexual. With his familiar style, Adam Hamilton tackles these issues and addresses the how's and why's of Christians getting it right when it comes to being Christ in the world.*

Amazon Link:

[a.co/d/0yJwKlm](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07YJwKlm)

### **Nursery Volunteer Schedule for January - March**

Jan. 4	Heather Tucker
Jan. 11	Cathy Chapman
Jan. 18	Jean Page Watson
Jan. 25	Kelli Beck
Feb. 1	Brittany Tillman
Feb. 8	Steve Cook
Feb. 15	Charlene Tillman
Feb. 22	Jessie Baker
March 1	Laura Folger
March 8	Mary Jane Evans
March 15	Lainey Baker
March 22	Alison Chapman
March 29	Marietta Melton Burch

### **Session of First Presbyterian Church**

Class of 2025  
Kelli Beck  
Avery Dickson  
Mary Jane Evans  
Jean Page Watson

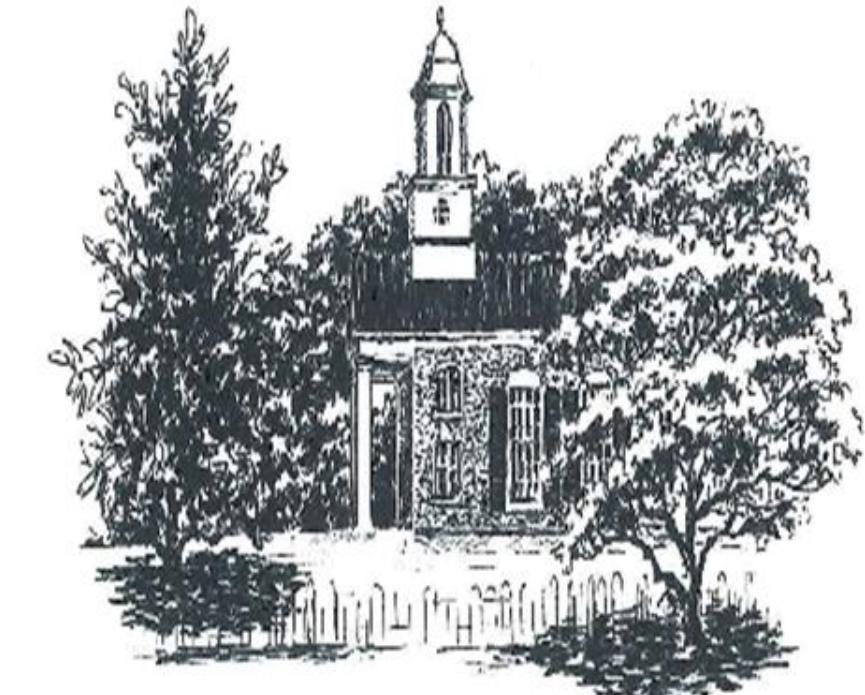
Class of 2026  
Mary Anderson  
Andrew McLeod  
Kristen Miller  
Richard Pierce

Class of 2027  
Mike Chapman  
Christie McLeod  
Tracie Phillips  
Harold Watson

### **The Church Staff**

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor  
Mrs. Danielle Self, Secretary  
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton  
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper  
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE  
Mrs. Gini Eddins, Director MMO



### **Our Vision**

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

### **Sunday, January 18, 2026**

First Presbyterian Church  
300 Market Street  
PO Box 552  
Cheraw, SC 29520  
(843) 537-7474

Email: [info@cherawfpc.org](mailto:info@cherawfpc.org)