

February 15, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
Transfiguration of the Lord

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Turkish March* Ludwig Van Beethoven
(Campbell Harris, piano)

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship (Psalm 99)** Cam Beck
The Holy One is our sovereign.
Let us praise God's great and awesome name!
Mighty ruler, lover of justice,
you have established fairness among us.

***Hymn 744 Arise, Your Light** FESTAL SONG

Invitation to Confession
Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession
God of radiant light, we confess that we are a people who are sometimes too comfortable dwelling in darkness. We say we want things to change, that we do not accept the way things are. But, in reality, we want someone else to take care of the changing. We resist transformation and sometimes do not even believe it is possible. Forgive our unbelief. Soften our hearts toward one another and ourselves. May your Spirit move through and among us. Make us light bearers for your sake, and for the sake of your people. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
The good news of our faith is this: if we call upon God we will be answered and forgiven. That promise gives us peace and joy; let us share that peace and joy with one another. 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**

***Gloria Patri**

Choral Anthem *This Little Light of Mine* arr. by Patterson
(Chancel Choir)

Children's Message

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 24:12-18
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:1-9
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "*Stairway to Heaven*" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith *(from The Nicene Creed)*
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Hymn 693 The Gift of Love** GIFT OF LOVE

Moment for Stewardship

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 *Twilight Waltz* David Glover
(Campbell Harris, piano)

***Doxology**

Prayer of Dedication
Gracious and holy God, we give you thanks for the many gifts in our lives. We are well and truly blessed. We dedicate these offerings to you. Multiply them beyond our imagining, that others might experience your love and grace, your mercy and justice. May we come to know a world where each person is enough and has enough. These things we ask boldly in Christ's name. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

Hymn 192 Shine, Jesus Shine SHINE

Benediction

Benediction Response *Lead Me, Lord* Charles Wesley
(Chancel Choir)

Postlude *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair* John Dunstable

***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: Layla Tinsley & Madelyn Tinsley

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.

The Church This Week (02/15/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
Mon. 8:30 a.m. MMO
Tues. 6:00 p.m. CW Bible Study
Wed. 8:30 a.m. MMO
9:00 a.m. CW Bible Study
3:15 p.m. Fun Program
5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Thurs. 6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship

Prayer List as of February 15, 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 Gulledege
April Quick
Summer Cathey

Congregational Meeting

Congregational Meeting on February 22nd, 2026, immediately following the service to vote on and elect the new Board of Deacons classes for 2026, 2027, & 2028.

Scholarships

The First Presbyterian Church has four scholarships available for young people:

- *The **William Manning Malloy Memorial Scholarship** is available to the most qualified high school senior living within a five-mile radius of Cheraw.
 - *The **Edwin Malloy Memorial Scholarship** is available to anyone seeking higher education opportunities living within a five-mile radius of Cheraw.
 - *The **D. W. Moore, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund** is available to students seeking a degree in the field of music.
 - *The **McArn, MPB, and Maynard Scholarship Fund** is also available.
- The deadline for returning scholarship applications is March 1, 2026.**

McArn Food Bank Backpack Ministry

McArn Food Bank Partners with Cheraw Primary school, to provide weekend food for 35 of their students most in need. Each week during the school year, nutritious food items are bagged and placed in children’s backpacks for them to carry home for the weekend.

Food items may include (**No peanut butter or nuts**):

- *Ravioli cups
- *Mac-n-cheese cups
- *Ramen noodles cup
- *Pudding cups
- *Jello cups
- *Fruit cups,
- *Applesauce cups
- *Vegetable cups
- *Pop Tarts
- *Granola bars
- *Individual cereal bowls
- *Instant grits
- *Instant oatmeal
- *Lance sandwich crackers

If you would like to contribute any of these items to this ministry, please place them in the designated box outside the church office door or the little red wagon in the Narthex.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for January - March

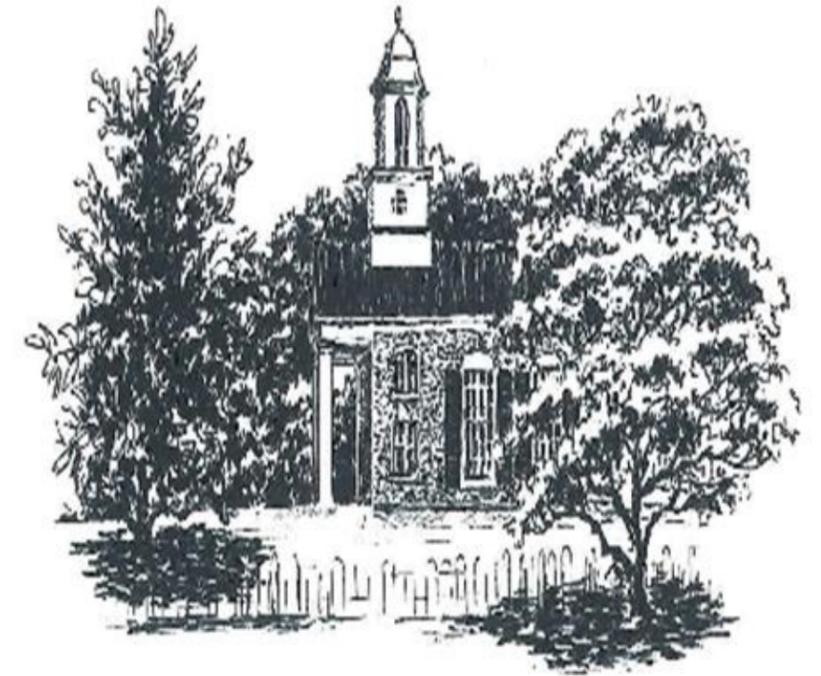
Jan. 4	Heather Tucker
Jan. 11	Cathy Chapman
Jan. 18	Jean Page Watson
Jan. 25	Kelli Beck
Feb. 1	Brittany Tillman
Feb. 8	Steve Cook
Feb. 15	Charlene Tillman
Feb. 22	Jessie Baker
March 1	Laura Folger
March 8	Mary Jane Evans
March 15	Lainey Baker
March 22	Alison Chapman
March 29	Marietta Melton Burch

Session of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

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, February 15, 2026

First Presbyterian Church
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