

August 30, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
14th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele* Johannes Brahms
(Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness)

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship** Buddy Brooks
Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.
Seek God in the sanctuary.
Seek God in the burning bush.
Seek God in the burning heart.
The Lord is here! This place is holy!
We are standing on holy ground.

***Hymn** 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

Invitation to Confession
Sin casts us out into the cold, but the warmth of God’s forgiveness welcomes us back. Trusting in God’s love, let us confess our sins to God:

Prayer of Confession
God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy or flawed. We confess that we think we know better than you do who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears and excuses and self-doubts. Lend us your fire and your strength, as we go about the work of serving our neighbors, building up your church, loving your children, and tending to the scorched places of our world. Help us to burn for you, without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes. In Christ, your sins are dead and you are alive to all that is good.
In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! 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 *Pass It On* Kurt Kaiser
Chanel Choir

We Receive God’s Word

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “*I Will Follow*” Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith *(from The Confession of 1967)*
God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. We believe that God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God’s dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, transcendence and awe-fulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator. We believe that God has created us for a personal relationship in which we may respond to the love of the Creator. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage.

***Hymn** 630 *Fairest Lord Jesus* CRUSADERS’ HYMN

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 *Nun Bitten Wir, (Now We Pray),* BuxWv209 Dietrich Buxtehude

***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
Generous God, we offer our gifts to you, grateful for all you have given us, and grateful for the chance to give to others. Build up your church through these offerings, that we might be a place where your goodness is seen, practiced, and shared. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn** 744 *Arise, Your Light Has Come!* FESTAL SONG

***Benediction**

Benediction Response 542 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again*
Chancel Choir GOD BE WITH YOU

***Postlude** *Fanfare* William Matthias

***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 Charlotte Folger and Ella Morgan

The Church This Week (8/30/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship

Mon.

Tue. 12:00 p.m. At Ease

Wed. 10:00 a.m. Circle Meeting
 3:15 p.m. Fun Program Starts
 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thurs.

Fri.

Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship

Prayer List as of August 30, 2026

Gerry Rogers
Benny Moore
For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
B.J. Moore
Louise Carpenter
Shirley Brock
Edward Tinsley
Ruth Jackson
Nadia Harris
Lynn Smith
Harold Watson
Susan Malloy
Mary Gulledge
Kathy Bradshaw
Betty Davis
Sue Funderburk
Jessi Tillman
Robbie McCombs

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.

FUN Program begins Wednesday, September 2nd!
Fun Program begins! 3:15-4:45 p.m. with Mrs. Weiz, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Kathie, & Mrs. Tammy.

Please Join Us
At Ease – Tuesday, September 1st, 12 noon in the fellowship building.
Circle Meeting – Wednesday, September 2nd, at 10 am in Ladies Parlor.
Prayer meeting - Wednesday night at 5:30 pm in the Session House.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for August – September

August 30	Kelli Beck
Sept. 6	Mary Jane Evans
Sept. 13	Jenny Michaels
Sept. 20	Maggie Barton
Sept. 27	Heather Tucker

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

Board of Deacons of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Marion Anderson	Buddy Brooks	Karen Tillman
Becky Childers		Debra Luke
Bron Long		

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Danielle Self, Office Administrator	
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, August 30, 2026

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

Email: info@cherawfpc.org