October 11, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
20th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Miniature Sonatina* Joseph Kuffner (1776-1856)
Scarf Dance Mauro Giulani (1781-1829)
Darby Norton, organ

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship** Marion Anderson
You have been called to the banquet
This is the feast
You have been summoned to the wedding
This is the feast of life and light
From the streets and the byways, God has invited us
We have come to the banquet that has no end
Alleluia! Amen!

***Hymn** 645 *Sing Praise to God* MIT FREUDEN ZART

Invitation to Confession
Let us come before the throne of God, the mercy seat, with all of our humanity, open to the peace of promised forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession
You invite us to your feast, O God, and we do not come. You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving. You have made for us a wonderful earth, and we neglect the gift. Forgive us for what we have done and for abandoning the pathway you desire for us. Be our guide and conscience. Turn our feet and hands to your will, that all we do might give glory to you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
The God of peace, who calls all creation to live in unity, hears your plea. In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving, in the mercy of Almighty God, you are forgiven! For the sake of Christ Jesus, our Savior, who died and rose from the dead to destroy the shroud of despair, rejoice!

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 *I Have Seen Jesus in You* Douglas Nolan
Chancel Choir

We Receive God's Word

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "*Happiness"* Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith *(from The Apostles' Creed)*
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn** 626 *As the Deer* AS THE DEER

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 Offering

Offertory *Priere a Notre-Dame,* from Suite Gothique, Op. 25 Leon Boellman
Jackson Alexander, organ

***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 of compassion and generous love, we give you thanks for the riches of Earth, which sustain our lives and which you have created for our joy. We thank you for Jesus, whose life, death, resurrection, and ascension renew our strength and revive our hope. We give you thanks for the Holy Spirit, who comes among us, invites us to dine with each other and with you, and keeps us in faith. Bless these gifts for the sake of those in need and the work of your church. In peace, we pray our thanksgiving. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn** 438 *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* TOPLADY

***Benediction**

Benediction Response *Glory be to God on High* Healy Willan
Chancel Choir

***Postlude** *The Handbell Choir*, by Cornelius Gurlitt (1820-1901)
Darby Norton, organ

***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 Ella and Jem Morgan

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God by John & Tammy Joyce.

Special thanks to Jackson Alexander and Darby Norton for their musical offerings this morning.

The Church This Week (10/11/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice
5:30 p.m. Youth
Mon. 8:30 a.m. MMO
Tue. 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:00 p.m. Fish Fry
Wed. 8:30 a.m. MMO
8:45 a.m. CW Bible Study
3:15 p.m. Fun Program
5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship

Prayer List as of October 11, 2026
Gerry Rogers
Benny Moore
For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
Louise Carpenter
Shirley Brock
Ruth Jackson
Nadia Harris
Lynn Smith
Susan Malloy
Tommy Gulledge
Kathy Bradshaw
Betty Davis
Sue Funderburk
Robbie McCombs
Gene & Rosalind Brymer
Lottie Brabham
Phil Bayness

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.

Community Women's Bible Study

A new study on Wednesday mornings from October 14th-November 18th at 8:45 am in the Ladies Parlor.
Magrey DeVega's book, *Questions Jesus Asked*, can be purchased on Amazon.
The book explores the most provocative questions posed by Jesus and will lead us in answering them for ourselves.
Reach out to Tracie Phillips with any questions or help with ordering the book.

The Men of the Church Fish fry
This Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of good food, fun, and fellowship!

The Men of the Church Fish Fry is a long-standing tradition that was started many years ago by Stuart Nickles and Brother Davis.

Enjoy freshwater bream, slaw, hushpuppies, and fries!

A sign-up sheet will is posted on the bulletin board near the Church office to help us get an accurate headcount. Please sign up if you plan to attend.

Please Contact Steve Cook with any questions. Please make plans to attend this event for an evening of good fun, fellowship and fine food!

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for October-December

Oct. 4	Cathy Chapman
Oct. 11	Lainey Baker
Oct. 18	Alison Chapman
Oct. 25	Kelli Beck
Nov. 1	Brittany Tillman
Nov. 8	Steve Cook
Nov. 15	Charlene Tillman
Nov. 22	Debbie Watson
Nov. 29	Laura Folger
Dec. 6	Mary Jane Evans
Dec. 13	Jenny Michaels
Dec. 20	Maggie Barton
Dec. 27	Heather Tucker

Session of First Presbyterian Church

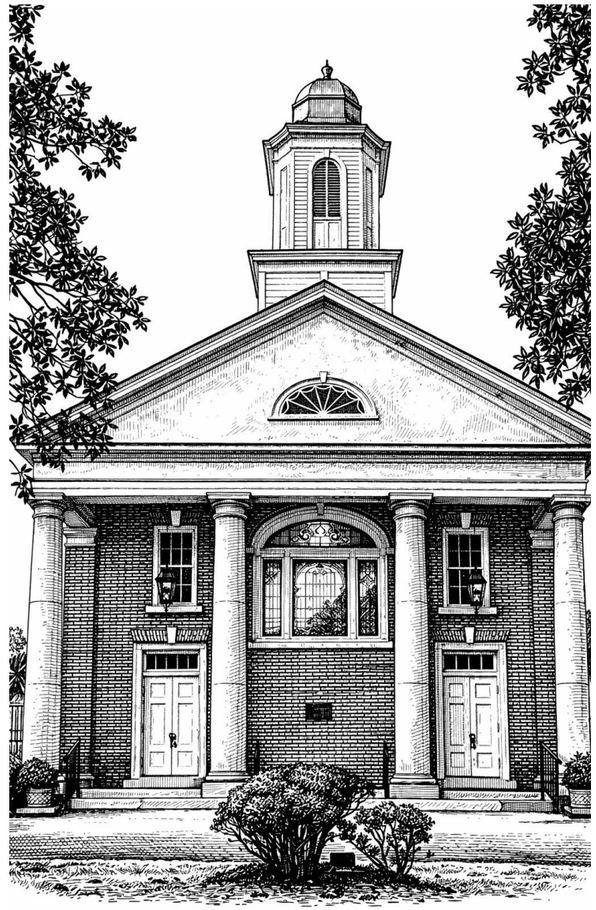
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

Board of Deacons of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
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
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, October 11, 2026

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