



First Presbyterian Church Macon

200 Years of God's Faithfulness

*First Presbyterian is a Welcoming Church in Downtown Macon
Committed to Knowing Christ and Making Him Known.*

August 16, 2026 · 9:00 · 11:15 AM

Welcome

TO OUR GUESTS

We want to welcome you today! More information about our church is available on our website at fpcmacon.org.

SPIRITUAL CARE

If you would like to speak to someone about what it means to know Jesus Christ or you have any spiritual need or question, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSON

We provide a Bible lesson and music for children in Pre-K through second grade during the services. Children will be dismissed from the service and escorted to their classroom before the sermon. Please pick up your children after the first service or Sunday school on the second floor of Cornerstone. If this is your first Sunday at FPC, please walk your child to the Bible lesson to check them in.

NURSERY

Nursery is provided for 3K and under from 8:45 AM-12:15 PM. We also provide a mother/infant room located in the nursery with a live video feed of the service, as well as a "cry room" downstairs from the sanctuary for parents of "fussy" children with an audio feed. Ushers are available to direct you.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Felton Fincher and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Felton Fincher, Jr. by Harriet Fincher Comer.

YOUR PRESENCE

Please let us know that you're here today by scanning the QR code.



FPC 200TH ANNIVERSARY (1826-2026): A MOMENT FROM OUR PAST

In the summer of 1947, the steeple of the First Presbyterian Church was damaged by lightning. After the insurance company paid for repairs and cleaning, the agent wrote to the church officers, "It would be a highly desirable feature to have the metal portion of the church spire properly grounded to prevent damage to the spire and possible fire result from lightning." One short year later, the Macon Telegraph reported on February 22, 1948 that a new organ would be given to the church by Mrs. W.D. Lamar. She wrote, "The instrument affords constant satisfaction to the donor and is gratifying to all the worshippers as it dispenses a great part of the solemnity and beauty of the services, illustrating Sidney Lanier's words, 'Music is love in search of a word.'"

Corporate Worship

*Welcome to First Presbyterian! We are thankful you have chosen to worship with us today.
It is our hope and prayer that through the reading of God's Word, prayer,
the corporate singing and readings, and the preached Word, you
will see Christ clearly and desire to know Him more.*

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 9:7-11

But the LORD sits enthroned forever;
he has established his throne for justice,
and he judges the world with righteousness;
he judges the peoples with uprightness.

The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.
And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O LORD,
have not forsaken those who seek you.

Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion!
Tell among the peoples his deeds!

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

HYMN OF PRAISE 95 - *Though Troubles Assail Us*

Though troubles assail us and dangers affright,
Though friends should all fail us and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
The promise assures us, "The Lord will provide."

The birds, without garner or storehouse, are fed;
From them let us learn to trust God for our bread.
His saints what is fitting shall ne'er be denied
So long as 'tis written, "The Lord will provide."

(Continued next page)

When Satan assails us to stop up our path,
And courage all fails us, we triumph by faith.
He cannot take from us, though oft he has tried,
This heart cheering promise, "The Lord will provide."

No strength of our own and no goodness we claim;
Yet, since we have known of the Savior's great name,
In this our strong tower for safety we hide:
The Lord is our power, "The Lord will provide."

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

****Seating Interlude****

PSALM OF LAMENT

Psalm 13

How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I take counsel in my soul
and have sorrow in my heart all the day?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Consider and answer me, O LORD my God;
light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,
lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him,"
lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

But I have trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the LORD,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

SILENT LAMENT

CORPORATE PRAYER - from Heidelberg Catechism 27 & 28

Father, you uphold heaven and earth and all creatures, and rule them
so that rain and drought, fruitful and lean years,
food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty -
all things, in fact, come to us not by chance
but by your fatherly hand.

Knowing this, we can be patient when things go against us
and thankful when things go well.

Empower us to live in confidence that you are a faithful God and Father,
and that nothing in creation will separate us from your love.

Remind us often that we are so completely in your hand
that without your will we can neither move nor be moved. Amen.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Revelation 21:3-4

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

HYMN OF RESPONSE - *Is He Worthy?* by Andrew Peterson / Ben Shive

Do you feel the world is broken? We do.
Do you feel the shadows deepen? We do.
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? We do.
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? We do.

Is all creation groaning? It is.
Is a new creation coming? It is.
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? It is.
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It is.

The musical score is written on four staves in 4/4 time. The melody is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes). The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics for the first staff are: "Is an-y-one worth-y? — Is an-y-one whole? Is an-y-one a - ble to break the seal". The second staff continues with: "and o - pen the scroll? The Li-on of Ju-dah who con-quired the grave, He is Da-vid's Root". The third staff continues with: "and the Lamb who died to ran-som the slave. Is he wor - thy? Is he wor - thy?". The fourth staff concludes with: "of all bless-ing and hon-or and glo - ry? Is he wor - thy of this? He is.".

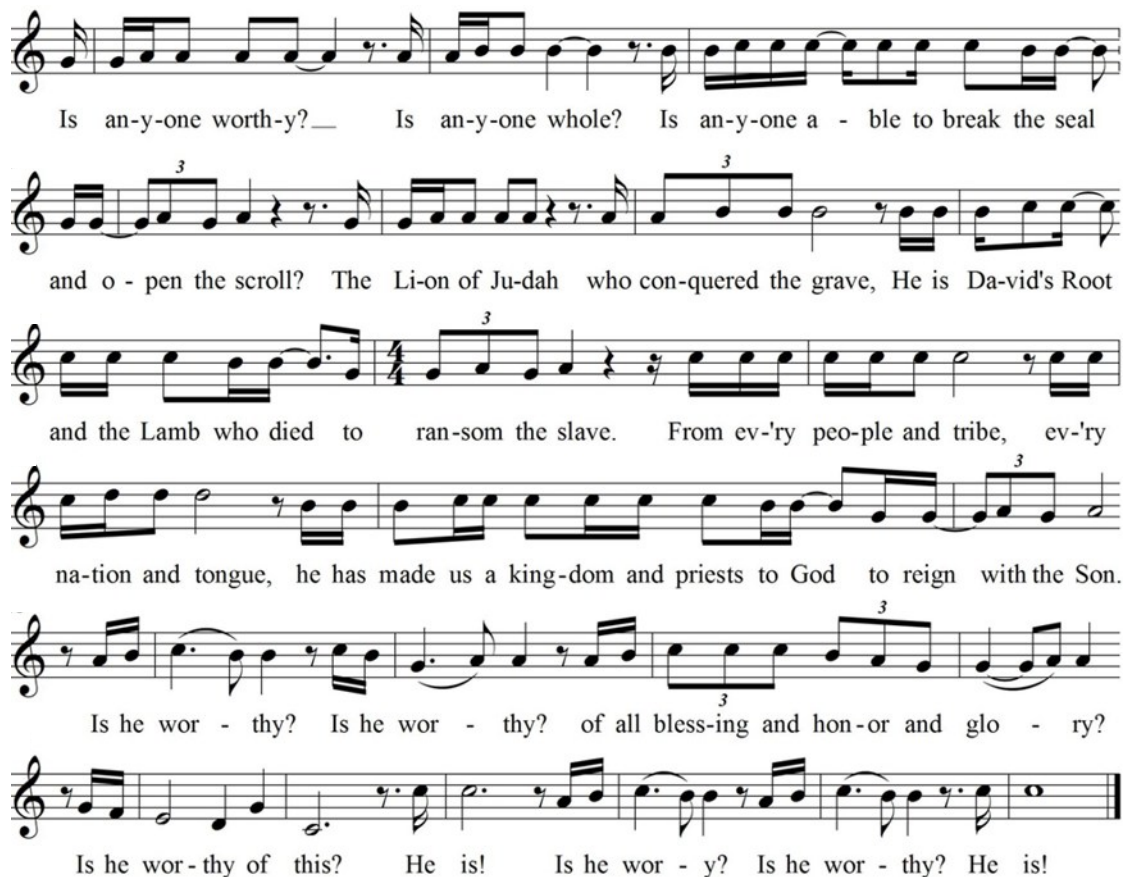
Is an-y-one worth-y? — Is an-y-one whole? Is an-y-one a - ble to break the seal

and o - pen the scroll? The Li-on of Ju-dah who con-quired the grave, He is Da-vid's Root

and the Lamb who died to ran-som the slave. Is he wor - thy? Is he wor - thy?

of all bless-ing and hon-or and glo - ry? Is he wor - thy of this? He is.

Does the Father truly love us? He does.
 Does the Spirit move among us? He does.
 And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? He does.
 Does our God intend to dwell again with us? He does.



Is an-y-one worth-y? — Is an-y-one whole? Is an-y-one a - ble to break the seal
 and o - pen the scroll? The Li-on of Ju-dah who con-quer-ed the grave, He is Da-vid's Root
 and the Lamb who died to ran-som the slave. From ev-'ry peo-ple and tribe, ev-'ry
 na-tion and tongue, he has made us a king-dom and priests to God to reign with the Son.
 Is he wor - thy? Is he wor - thy? of all bless-ing and hon-or and glo - ry?
 Is he wor - thy of this? He is! Is he wor - y? Is he wor - thy? He is!

PASTORAL PRAYER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Online giving may be done by texting **fpcmacon** to 73256 or visiting the church website at www.fpcmacon.org.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God arr. P. Niedmann

*I sing the mighty pow'r of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command and all the stars obey.*

*I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
That formed creation with a word, and then pronounced it good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye.
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!*

*There's not a plan or flow'r below, but makes your glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from your throne;
While all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,
And ev'rywhere that I may be, O God, you are present there.*

Children K4-second grade are welcome to leave the worship service for a Bible Lesson in Cornerstone (BLC). We encourage children third grade and above to continue in corporate worship with their parents.

HYMN OF PREPARATION 691 - *It is Well*

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin - O the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, "Even so" - it is well with my soul.

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD - Elliott Everitt
Meeting Christ in Our Suffering - 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

God of Every Grace

Fowler, Getty, & Boswell



Oh, let not this world of sor - rows steal my on - ly hope a - way,
Wear - y with the weight I car - ry, give me wings of faith to rise;
There's a dawn - ing hope be - fore us that I know is soon to break,



for the pow - er of — Your gos - pel shines with - in this jar of clay.
for You know each grief that lin - gers through the watch - es of the night.
as I wait up - on — Your mer - cy which will swal - low ev - 'ry ache.



In af - flic - tion You bring wis - dom that my com - forts can dis - place.
Sure - ly You have borne our suf - f'rings, at the cross took up our pain;
Cries of joy and songs of vic - t'ry, when we en - ter Heav-en's gates.



How my true and great - est treas - ure is in You, the God of grace.
and You lead us un - to glo - ry as we trust You, God of grace.
all Your chil - dren home to - geth - er all with You, the God of grace.



*Now to the God of ev-'ry grace Who counts my tears, Who holds my days.



I sing through sor - row, sing with faith. Oh, praise the God of ev - 'ry grace.

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**final time
repeat chorus*

BENEDICTION

PASTORAL STAFF

Parker Agnew
Interim Pastor
Assistant Pastor to Senior Adults
pagnew@fpcmacon.org

Justin Leslein
Executive Pastor
jleslein@fpcmacon.org

Elliott Everitt
Assistant Pastor to Middle Adults
eeveritt@fpcmacon.org

STAFF

Annie Burriss
Interim Nursery Coordinator
aburriss@fpcmacon.org

Mercy Chamberlin
Administrative Assistant
mchamberlin@fpcmacon.org

Chris Gerwig
Director of Young Adult Ministry
cgerwig@fpcmacon.org

Alan Harris
Facilities Manager
aharris@fpcmacon.org

Tammy Jones
Pastoral Assistant
tjones@fpcmacon.org

April Kitchell
Missions Secretary
missions@fpcmacon.org

Rebecca Lanning
Choir Director
Rebecca.s.lanning@gmail.com

Landis Mauldin
Youth Assistant
lmauldin@fpcmacon.org

Michael McGhee
Music Director/Organist
michaelclarkmcghee@gmail.com

Wade Miller
Financial Director
wmiller@fpcmacon.org

Calleene Newberry
Administrative Assistant
Communications Director
cnewberry@fpcmacon.org

David Newberry
Director of Student Ministries
dnewberry@fpcmacon.org

Spring Rawlings
Director of Children's Ministry
srawlings@fpcmacon.org

Tom Rule
Pianist
tom@tomrule.info

Mary Anne Shipley
Director of Women's Ministry
maryanneshipley1@gmail.com

Mary Frances Stanford
Children's Music
mstanford@fpcmacon.org

Mary Margaret Williams
Children's Ministry Assistant
mwilliams@fpcmacon.org

Susanne Young
Interim Nursery Coordinator
syoung@fpcmacon.org

Leading in Worship Today
Parker Agnew, Interim Pastor
Elliott Everitt, Assistant Pastor
Michael McGhee, Music Director/Organist
Rebecca Lanning, Choir Director
Tom Rule, Pianist
Chancel Choir

CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

Class of 2026 - Chuck Duggan, Mike Hall, Bobby Newman, Nick Rios, Tony Rodriguez, Blake Sullivan

Class of 2027 - Ves Berry, Kevin Bridges, John Carey, Hal Foshee, Mike Peed, Kim Thompson

Class of 2028 - Adam Blakely, Julian Hutchins, Chris Inhulsen, Bob Johnson, Wynne Pearson, Alfred Sams, Robert Stamps, Will Stanford, Jay Strickland, Bill Taylor

The Diaconate

Class of 2026 - Dave Grant, Darrell Hallman, Jeremy Johnson, John David Miller, Gray Widstrom, Jeff Wilhelm, Calder Willingham

Class of 2027 - Chris Anderson, Cameron Garvin, Jeff Hill, Kevin Lennon, Jim Self, Brian Stone

Class of 2028 - Rickie Baucom, Phil Clark, Michael Garud, John Kitchens, Phillip Leonhard, Troy Nash, Joey Rogers

Trustees

Rob Danner, Bruce Jones, Ray Pearson, Buddy Ponder, Lowry Tribble

YOUTH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Class	Description	Topic	Room Location
Nursery & Special Needs		New Testament	Nursery
Children	4K-5th Grade	New Testament	Cornerstone
Middle School Youth	6-8 Grades	God's Promises	Education Building 2nd Floor
High School Youth	9-12 Grades	Christian Doctrine	Education Building 3rd Floor
Young Adults	College/20s-30s	Joshua & Judges	Basement M102
Foundations	20s-30s	Romans	Education Building
Immanuel	Mid 40s-50s	Lamentations	Education Building E102
Shepherds	50s-60s	Mark	Brickyard M102
Trinity	60s+	Equipping Yourself	Education Building E103
Covenant	70s+	John 4	Education Building E105
Canterbury	70s-80s	Studies in the Psalms	Education Building E104
Connections	Mixed Ages	Reformed Church History	Gathering Place
Generations	Mixed Ages	Romans	Basement M100
Pathways	Mixed Ages	Genesis	Brickyard M103

Announcements



Small Group Leader & Volunteer Training

All of our small group leaders and ministry volunteers are invited to join us for Small Group Leader Training on August 26. Dinner will be catered by

Panda Express

Dinner 5:15-6PM | Training: 6-7:30PM

\$8/Adult | \$6/Child | \$30 family max

Childcare will be provided

Scan QR code to register and pay



Join us for our Inquirer's Class

- New to First Presbyterian Church?
- Interested in church membership?
- Wondering what Christianity is all about?

The Inquirer's Class is an informative 6 week course, taught by Executive Pastor Justin Leslein that will help you assimilate into church life at FPC.

The Inquirer's Class begins Sunday, September 13 at 10:10AM. Location TBA

Please let us know if you're coming by calling Tammy Jones at 746.3223 or by emailing tjones@fpcmacon.org.



Women of all ages are invited to join us at **6:30 PM** on **Sunday, August 23**, at the **home of Terri Harper** (1435 Twin Pines Drive) for our **Ladies Fall Kickoff!** Enjoy an evening of fellowship, fun, and connection as we begin

the fall season together. It's a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, learn about ways to get involved, and build community. **Bring a friend and an appetizer to share!** We hope you'll join us.



Wednesday Night Kickoff Dinner

Join us September 2 at 5:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall for our first Wednesday Night of the Fall Semester. Dinner will be FREE of charge and catered by

Margarita's Mexican Grill. Registration is REQUIRED. Please register by Tuesday, September 1 at noon.

Scan QR code to register.



Women's Bible Study

Women of all ages are invited to study the Psalms of Ascent together beginning September 2. Choose from Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11:30AM, or evenings, 6:15-7:30PM.

Both gatherings offer meaningful discussion, prayer, and fellowship. Contact Mary Anne Shipley at 478-719-7306 for more information.



Men's Fall Bible Study

Join us Thursdays beginning September 17 from 7:00-8:00 AM in the Connections Classroom (Gathering Place). This 13-week study will walk through the book of

Ephesians using *Let's Study Ephesians* by Sinclair Ferguson. Coffee and donuts will be available beginning at 6:30 AM, and the first 20 attendees on September 17 will receive a free study guide. We hope you'll join us!

Upcoming Events

August 30 - 3rd - 5th Grade Pool Party @ the Stamps

September 2 - Wednesday Activities Begin

September 18-20 - Equip Conference

October 2-4 - Jr. High Fall Retreat

October 4 - Outdoor Worship (9 AM Only)

October 9-11 - Young Adult Fall Retreat

October 10 - Men's Day Hike

October 18 - Fall Picnic

October 25 - Proclaim

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

682 Mulberry Street · Macon, GA 31201 · 478.746.3223 · www.fpcmacon.org