

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.

November 15, 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. Thomas C. James, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Curtis H. Hall and Gordon L Hall by Mike and Carol Hall.

Your Presence

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



Worshippers read text in bold.

FPC 200th Anniversary (1826-2026): A Moment From Our Past

In the history of our church, *175 Years of FPC*, 1826-2001, we read the following: "In support of our missionaries, the Missionary Apparel Clothes Closet was opened in December 1996 to offer clothing to workers in the foreign mission field." This is one small expression of the commitment to global missions that has been a part of the DNA of FPC since the beginning. From small beginnings, our commitment to missions has grown both at home and abroad. We have an annual missions campaign and also raise funds for special mission projects and endeavors globally. FPC Macon supports Daybreak homeless shelter, Young Life, Salvation Army, Macon Rescue Mission and RUF at home and abroad. Globally, the church supports more than 30 missionaries and long-term partnerships including Casa Hogar, African Bible Collect, ESMI, and the UK Partnership. Our heart is "to proclaim Christ both locally and globally, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. (Colossians 1:28) May our Lord keep us faithful as we move into the future!

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."

****Seating Interlude****

Sacrament of Baptism (11:15)

Timothy Daniel Bisson
Covenant Child of Josiah and Stephanie Bisson

Scripture Reading

James 1:2-15

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Silent Confession of Sin

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.

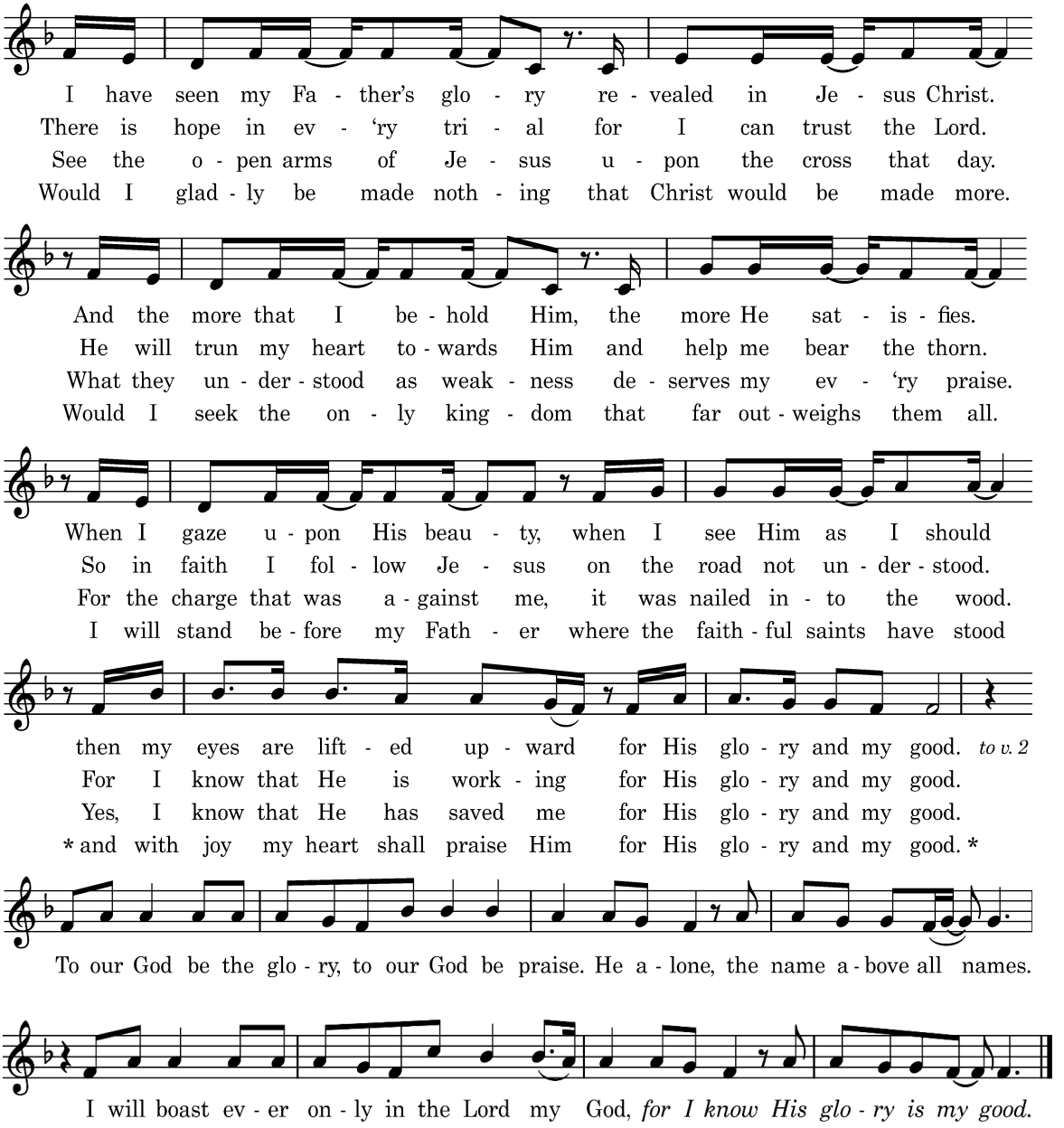
Words of Encouragement

Revelation 21:5-7

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

His Glory and My Good



Pastoral Prayer

Worship Through Giving

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

King of Glory, King of Peace ……...……. G. Herbert/H.Helvey

King of glory, King of peace, I will love Thee;
and that love may never cease, I will move Thee.
Thou hast granted my request, Thou hast heard me;
Thou didn't note my working breast, thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee;
And the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried, Thou didst clear me,
And alone, when they replied, Thou didst hear me.

Seven days, not one in seven, I will praise Thee;
In my heart, though not in heav'n, I can raise Thee.
Small it is in this poor sort to enroll Thee;
E'en eternity's too short to extol Thee.

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 PRAISE 648 – *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
For thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death;
And praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;
And say, when the death dew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD – Matt Waldock

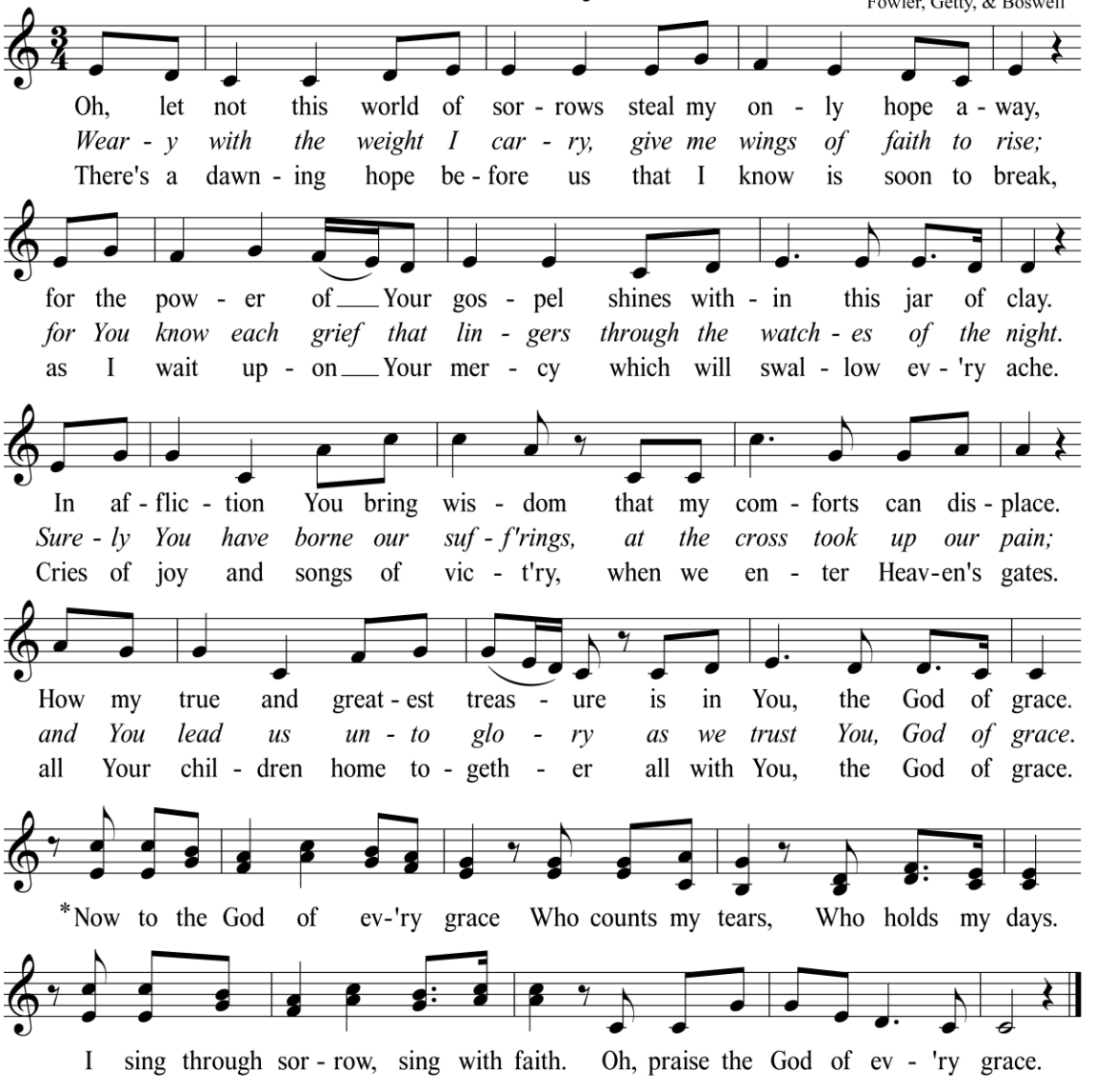
The Crown of Life
Revelation 2:8-11

"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

[9] "'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. [11] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'

God of Every Grace

Fowler, Getty, & Boswell



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*final time
repeat chorus

BENEDICTION

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Matt Waldock is our guest preacher today. Matt is the co-pastor of City Church Manchester. He studied Theatre and English Literature and went on to teach at a secondary school before becoming a university campus evangelist. Matt then worked with the charity Emerging Leaders to teach leadership across grass-roots communities in central Africa. Following this, he worked as the associate pastor in the city of Liverpool. Thirteen years ago, he moved to Manchester to plant City Church. Matt is married to Jacky and they have a son, Reuben.

Leading in Worship Today
Justin Leslein, Executive Pastor
Matt Waldock, Guest Preacher
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

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Youth and Sunday School Classes

Class	Description	Topic	Room Location
Nursery		New Testament	Nursery Children 4K-5th
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	30s-40s	Ruth	Education Building
Immanuel	Mid 40s-50s	1-3 John	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 Psalms	Brickyard M103
Connections	Mixed Ages	Reformed Ch History	Gathering Place
Generations	Mixed Ages	Hebrews	Basement M100
Pathways	Mixed Ages	Genesis	Education Building E104

Announcements



Wednesday Night Dinner
Join us for Wednesday Night Dinner on **November 18** from 5:15-6PM in the Fellowship Hall.
Menu: Fresh Air BBQ, coleslaw, pickles, chips, and cookies
Cost:
- $8/adult, $6/child, $30 family max

Scan QR code to register by November 17 at noon.



You can help beautify our sanctuary this Christmas by donating one or more **poinsettias for decorations**! **The cost is $15.00 per plant**. Plants can be given in memory or honor of someone and this will be published in the Christmas Poinsettia booklet.
Deadline for submission is Nov. 30th. Order forms are in the pews or you can order online by scanning the QR code.



Ladies Christmas Gathering
Ladies, join us on **December 1 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall** for a festive evening of fellowship, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and encouragement from our very own Amanda Doane. We're switching things up from our traditional Christmas dinner this year, but look forward to celebrating the season together!
This event is free! Invite a friend!
Scan QR code to register!



Parents' Night Out
December 13 | 4:30-6:30 PM
Children in 4K-6th grade will practice for the Christmas Program, while children 3K and under enjoy time in the nursery. **Pizza dinner will be provided! Drop-off:** *Please drive through the alley and drop off children in the Brickyard between 4:25-4:35 p.m. Parents should park and come inside for pickup.*
Scan QR Code to register.



Movie on Mulberry | Dec 11
Join us in the FPC Courtyard on Friday, December 11, for an evening of Christmas fun! We'll be showing Mickey's Christmas Carol at 5 and 6 PM. Coffee, hot cocoa, and popcorn will be served. Bring a friend and enjoy a fun evening for the whole family!



Carols on Mulberry | Dec. 18
Join us for a festive evening of Christmas cheer at Carols on Mulberry! Gather with us in the FPC Courtyard on **Friday, December 18, at 6:00 p.m. for hot cocoa, cookies, and singing some of our favorite Christmas carols together.** This is a fun evening for the whole family, so invite a friend and come celebrate the joy of the Christmas season with us!



Sr. High Ski Trip | Feb. 13-16
Sr. High Ski Trip Registration is Now Live! **Current 9th-12th grade students** are invited to join us for our annual Sr. High Ski Trip to **Winterplace, West Virginia, February 13-16** over Presidents' Day weekend! Enjoy two days on the slopes along with worship, teaching, and a great weekend of fellowship.
Registration closes on November 15.
Scan QR code to register today!

Save the Dates:
- Nov 22 - Congregational Meeting
- Nov 26 - Thanksgiving Day - *church office closed*
- Dec 1 - Ladies Fun Festive Free Night Out
- Dec 2 - Last WND of semester
- Dec 6 - Youth Christmas Party
- Dec 11 - Movie on Mulberry
- Dec 13 - Deacon's Brunch & Special Music
- Dec 13 - Parent's Night Out
- Dec 13 - Young Adults Christmas Party
- Dec 16 - Children's Christmas Program
- Dec 18 - Carols on Mulberry
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Services