

Welcome to Worship



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fayetteville, N.C. | Established 1800

THE PROMISE CHILD

DECEMBER 28, 2025
11 a.m.

DR. MIKE GARRETT
SENIOR PASTOR

Service of Divine Worship

11:00 a.m. | December 28, 2025
Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly.
Leave Gratefully. Serve Christ Faithfully.

Prelude	"Carillon" Alice Ann Campbell, organ	Gerald Near
Welcome and Announcements		Dr. Mike Garrett
Call To Worship #132 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!" vs. 1		IN DULCI JUBILO
<i>Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!</i>		
Hymn #145	"What Child Is This"	GREENSLEEVES
Call to Confession		Brian Pearce
Prayer of Confession	<p>Forgive us, Holy God, when we fail to rejoice in Your saving grace. Like those who first saw Your salvation in Jesus Christ, create in us the vision to see You and capacity to love You. Make us expectant people who will not give up, who will bless Your work, and give You glory as You visit us in the power of Your Spirit. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear now our silent prayers. (We pray in silence.) Amen.</p>	
Assurance of Pardon		
Response #121	"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	ST. LOUIS
<i>O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!</i>		

Anthem

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
Kate O'Keefe and Kimberhly Hopkins
Alice Ann Campbell, accompanist

FAITHFULNESS

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Elder Joanne Pearce

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.

Offering

Brian Pearce

Offertory Anthem

"Gesu Bambino"
Timothy Lloyd and Theodore Schwamm
Alice Ann Campbell, accompanist

Pietro Yon

Offertory Response, #150 "As with Gladness Men of Old" verse 3

DIX

*As they offered gifts most rare at thy manger, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.*

Offertory Prayer**Time for Children - Two Cents A Meal Offering**

Today is Family Sunday. Please return to sit with your family+

Scripture

Luke 2:22-40

Message

"The Promise Child"

Dr. Mike Garrett

Hymn #140

"Once in Royal David's City"

IRBY

Benediction

Benediction Response, #136 "Go Tell It on the Mountain" vs. 2 GO TELL IT

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
The shepherds feared and trembled when lo!
above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Postlude

"O Hail This Brightest Day of Days"
Alice Ann Campbell, organ

J. S. Bach

+ Children's church will resume on January 3rd.

**Join us for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Eller Hall.
Thank you to today's hosts: Debbie & Brant Brock, and Patsy Markham**

Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and
and in loving memory and birthday celebration of
my beloved earthly father, Samuel Ngome Ejedepang-Koge,
by his blessed daughter Kate O'Keefe.

The Chapel Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
George Markham and Christopher Markham by their family.

Giving & Tithes

Contributions help us continue our ministry and mission to serve Christ
and share His gospel through meaningful worship, loving fellowship,
spiritual growth, and compassionate outreach. Scan the code to the right
to make a financial contribution -or- visit www.firstprez.com/give



HAPPENING TODAY

- 9 a.m. Worship Service
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 11 a.m. Worship Service

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tuesday, December 30

- 7 p.m. Basketball in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, January 1

- Church Office closed

Monetary donations are welcome for flowers in the Sanctuary.

Just indicate "Flower Fund" on envelope or check.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 4	• Kingdom Kidz & S.U.R.G.E. resume
	• The Gathering: Foundations
Jan 5	• Engagement Committee
	• Mission Committee
Jan 6	• S.A.L.T. Breakfast at JK's Deli
Jan 7	• All In Fellowship Meals resume
	• Adult Christian Education Class resumes
Jan 8	• Tapestry resumes
	• Hannah Circle
	• Upwards Pickleball Youth League begins
Jan 11	• Congregational Enrichment Event
	• MomCo Meeting
Jan 13	• Martha Circle
	• Stated Deacons Meeting
Jan 16-19	• Youth Ski Trip
Jan 19	• Personnel Committee
Jan 20	• S.A.L.T. Lunch at Sammios
	• Stated Session Meeting
Jan 25	• MomCo Meeting
Jan 26	• David's Mighty Men
Jan 27	• COAP Meeting (Zoom)

Save the date!

"Crossing Thresholds" on Sunday, January 11

Please hold the date on your calendar for both worship and a special congregational event and meal beginning at 4:30 pm.

Details are coming!

End of Year Giving

As 2025 comes to a close, we want to thank you for your gifts and contributions that have sustained the church's ministry and missions through the years.

Year-end contributions you wish to count for 2025 must be dated no later than December 31, 2025. In person or dropped off contributions must be received at the church no later than 12 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31st.

Mailed contributions must be dated and postmarked no later than December 31, 2025.

**KINGDOM KIDZ & S.U.R.G.E. WILL RESUME
ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 - 4:30 TO 6:30 P.M.
AND BEGIN THE BIBLE LYMPICS!**

With the winter Olympics around the corner,
our first night back will be the Bible Olympics!

Kids are encouraged to come dressed to support the country of their choice.
It's going to be a fun and energetic kickoff to the new year!

s.a.l.t.

Seasoned Adults
Learning Together

S.A.L.T. Fellowship Breakfast

Tuesday, January 6

JK's Deli at 8:30 a.m.

Lunch at Sammio's - Tuesday, January 20 at 11:30 a.m.

We will meet at Sammio's, located at 2623 Raeford Road. Cost will be lunch. Please RSVP by January 13. Contact Sarah Cromartie at 910-977-1813.

Adult Christian Education Class

with Dr. Garrett

beginning Wednesday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m.

The Scripture Practice

The library we call "the Bible" can connect us to God and change who we are, but distraction, hurry, and confusion can hinder our experience with these ancient texts. Rediscover how to engage Scripture as an apprentice to Jesus.

This is a 4 week series that uses both video and class discussions.



Wednesdays

resuming January 7

4 p.m. - Men of God Rehearsal

5:30 - All In Fellowship Meals

6:30 p.m. - Adult Christian Education Class with Dr. Garrett

6:30 p.m. Celebration Choir Devotional

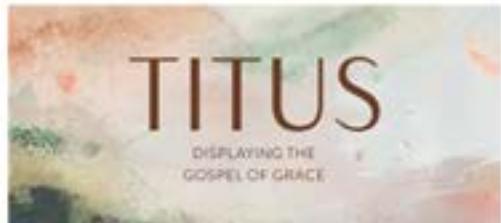
7 p.m. - Celebration Choir Rehearsal

**ALL IN
FELLOWSHIP
MEALS**



with potluck sides, family & friends.

The church will provide the main entree. You can bring a salad, side, dessert or bread that will serve 8 to 10 people or pay \$8 per adult (age 13+) and \$3 per child (age 5-12). The meal cap is \$20 per family. Childcare available upon request—contact Wanda (wanda@firstprez.com) no later than the Sunday prior.



Tapestry

Women's Bible Study Group

will begin "Titus" on
Thursday January 8 at 10 a.m.
in the Activity Room.

The gospel that saves us for all eternity is the same gospel that transforms us day-by-day. Knowing, believing, and living out the truths of the gospel changes not only our lives, but our homes, churches, and culture as well. This is how the gospel of grace is put on display for all to see.

In this 8-session Bible study, Courtney Doctor and Hunter Beless team up to explore every verse of Paul's letter to his friend Titus. You'll see the essential connection between right belief and right character and the way both testify to the goodness of the gospel. And you'll be reminded that our world will be attracted to the gospel when they see its beauty displayed in us.

Contact Ann Rowell at growell@nc.rr.com for more information.

**PICKLEBALL YOUTH LEAGUES
ARE COMING
TO FIRST PREZ!**

**ONLY TWO
SPOTS OPEN
REGISTER
TODAY!**

**STARTS
THURSDAY
JANUARY 8**

Grades 4-12
Register online.
Visit bit.ly/FPCPickleball
or scan the QR Code.



BEGINNING JANUARY 8 ...

THURSDAYS ARE PICKLE-TASTIC!

4 P.M. Upward Pickleball Youth Leagues
in Fellowship Hall

6 P.M. Courtside Connections Pickleball

A fun, friendly night for all skill levels. No experience needed.
Open to everyone 6th graders through adults.
Upward players are encouraged to continue the fun
with players of all skill levels!





First Presbyterian Church
102 Ann Street Fayetteville, N.C.

ARE YOU A FIRST TIME VISITOR?

We'd love to connect with you!

Be sure to fill out a Connect Card and put it in the offering plate or leave it with the pastor on your way out. We also have a gift for you!

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Michael Garrett, Senior Pastor
Rev. Chris Carson,
Minister of Pastoral Care

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. Marcia Mervin,
Director of Music Ministry & Organist
Britany Spivey,
Director of Christian Education &
Children's Ministry
Jessica Jones,
Director of Youth Ministry
Nichole Russ,
Director of Communications
Anji Martinez,
Office Manager

SUPPORT STAFF

Storie Smith, Administrative Assistant
Nina McLaughlin, Facility Supervisor

MUSIC SUPPORT STAFF

Alice Ann Campbell, Accompanist & Assistant Organist
Tim Lloyd, Section Leader
Joe Evans, Section Leader
Erin Jackson, Choral Scholar
Bruce McRae, Choral Scholar
Theodore Schwamm, Choral Scholar
Annalise Sears, Choral Scholar

CONTACT US

(910) 483-0121
info@firstprez.com

STAY CONNECTED!

WEBSITE
www.firstprez.com
LIVE STREAM
www.firstprez.com/worship-with-us
FACEBOOK
facebook.com/1stprez
INSTAGRAM
instagram.com/firstprezfay

AUDIO VISUAL

Don Perkins
Hoyt K.
Scott M.
Bruce McRae
Jacob Regensburger
Martha Vorder Bruegge

Sunday Services

9 a.m. Early Service, Chapel | 11 a.m. Service, Sanctuary

Our mission at First Presbyterian Church is to **serve** Jesus Christ and **share** His gospel through meaningful worship, loving fellowship, spiritual growth, and compassionate outreach within our community and throughout the world.

#ServeandShare