

# Welcome to Worship



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fayetteville, N.C. | Established 1800

KEEP PRAYING,  
DON'T EVER GIVE UP

FEBRUARY 8, 2026  
11 a.m.

GUEST SPEAKER  
ELDER BRIAN PEARCE

# Service of Divine Worship

11:00 a.m. | February 8, 2026

*Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly.  
Leave Gratefully. Serve Christ Faithfully.*

## Prelude

"Meditation from *My Lord What a Morning*" \* Dennis Janzer  
Dr. Marcia Mervin, organ

## Welcome and Announcements

Elder Brian Pearce

## Call To Worship #452

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

OPEN THE EYES

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you.*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you; I want to see you.*

*To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."  
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.*

## Prayer of Adoration

Sebastian O.

## Hymn #1

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

NICAEA

## Call to Confession

Tina Baker

## Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, although we come to church on Sundays, we too often live the rest of the week as though you don't exist. We often turn away from you, yet you remain constant in us. We run from you, but you call us back. In our words and deeds, we dishonor you, yet you still profess your love for us. We cut ourselves off from you and others, yet you will not let us go. Open us to your constant presence, teach us to pray, and restore our sight so that we may grow in faithfulness to you. Hear now our silent confessions. (Our prayers continue in silence.) **Amen.**

## Assurance of Pardon

## Response #581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.*

**Anthem** "To You, O Lord *Psalm 25*" Thomas Keeseker  
The Celebration Choir  
Alice Ann Campbell, accompanist

**Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer** Elder Alva Cromartie

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**

**Offertory Anthem** "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" NETTLETON  
Austin Taylor, vocals and guitar

**Doxology, #609** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNS  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Offertory Prayer**

**Time for Children** Elder Brian Pearce  
*Children are invited to Children's Church+*

**Scripture** Luke 11:1-13

**Message** "Keep Praying, Don't Ever Give Up" Elder Brian Pearce

**Hymn #465** "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" CONVERSE

**Benediction**

**Benediction Response #546** SICILIAN MARINERS

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

**Postlude** "Postlude on Great Day" \* Dennis Janzer  
Dr. Marcia Mervin, organ

\* Children's Church is available for elementary age children and younger, and meets in room 118 of the Nursery Wing. Childcare is available for all worship services in the Nursery Wing

**Join us for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Eller Hall.  
Thank you to today's hosts: Julie Dilts & Debra Chestnutt**

### **Today's Flowers**

The Sanctuary flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and with grateful hearts lovingly given in honor of our mother, Maude Bledsoe, in celebration of her birthday by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Chapel flowers are given to the glory of God by the Chapel Flower Guild.

### **\* A Musical Note from Dr. Marcia Mervin**

This month's preludes and postludes are chosen in observance of Black History Month. They were composed by Dr. Dennis Janzer (b. 1954), an award-winning composer and now retired "Organist Emeritus" at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Memphis, TN.

From the composer:

"Spirituals come from many different times and places, but most come from the African American experience. They are folk songs, often of a religious character, passed down through a vocal tradition and only written down after many decades of use, the first time around 1840. For this reason, there are many versions of any given spiritual. This is part of their magic, somehow changing with each different usage."

May this music remind us of the rich heritage, triumphs, and adversities that are part of our nation's 250 years of history.

**The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, February 15, immediately following the 11 am worship service.** Please make every effort to attend.

**Sanctuary flower donors are needed for  
March 29 (Palm Sunday),  
April 5 (Easter Sunday) & April 12.**

Contact Debra Chestnutt at [debra@chestnutt.com](mailto:debra@chestnutt.com) or (910) 818-9006

Monetary donations are welcome for flowers in the Sanctuary.  
Just indicate "Flower Fund" on envelope or check.



### **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.firstprep.com/give](http://www.firstprep.com/give)



## HAPPENING TODAY

- 9 a.m. Worship Service
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 11 a.m. Worship Service
- 12:15 p.m. Canticle Ringers
- 3 p.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Women's Ensemble
- 4:30 p.m. MomCo Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Kingdom Kidz & S.U.R.G.E.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Monday, February 9

- 12 p.m. Message Seekers
- 6 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. CE Meeting (virtual)

### Tuesday, February 10

- 10 a.m. Martha Circle
- 6 p.m. Stated Deacons Meeting
- 7 p.m. Basketball in Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, February 11

- 5:30 p.m. All In Fellowship Meal
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Class with Dr. Garrett
- 6:30 p.m. Stretch & Scripture
- 6:30 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal
- 7:15 p.m. CREATION Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 12

- 10 a.m. Tapestry
- 4 p.m. Upwards Pickleball League
- 4 p.m. Men of God Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Hannah Circle
- 6 p.m. Courtside Connections Pickleball

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 2 • Food Service Committee Meeting
- Feb 3 • S.A.L.T. Breakfast at JK's Deli
- Feb 4 • Worship Committee Meeting
- Feb 4 • Men of God
- Feb 8 • Stephen Ministry Meeting
- Feb 8 • Women's Ensemble
- Feb 8 • MomCo
- Feb 9 • Christian Education Meeting
- Feb 9 • Mission Committee Meeting
- Feb 10 • Martha Circle
- Feb 10 • Stated Deacons Meeting
- Feb 12 • Hannah Circle
- Feb 12 • Engagement Committee Meeting
- Feb 16 • Personnel Committee Meeting
- Feb 17 • Finance Committee Meeting
- Feb 17 • Stated Session Meeting
- Feb 18 • Ash Wednesday Service
- Feb 23 • David's Mighty Men
- Feb 24 • S.A.L.T. trip to NC Museum of Art
- Feb 24 • COAP Zoom Meeting
- Mar 1 • Children's Sunday
- Mar 1 • Children sing during 11 a.m. worship
- Mar 1-7 • 2026 Mission Conference Week
- Mar 7 • Rise Against Hunger
- Mar 14 • CREATION Concert
- Mar 22 • CROP Hunger Walk
- Mar 24 • S.A.L.T. Halifax State Historical Tour



## 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. *Vegan & Gluten-Free options are available!*



**FEBRUARY 11 - Italian Night**  
Lasagna & Salad from Sammio's  
*Sharing God's love - one lasagna layer at a time.*



**FEBRUARY 18 - MARDI GRAS**  
Breakfast for Dinner  
*A Taste of Mardi Gras, a moment for Ash Wednesday*



**FEBRUARY 25 - NC NIGHT**  
Pork BBQ & Coleslaw from BBQ Hut  
*Sharing community, the North Carolina way*



# Help Walker Spivey Children Stay Warm

New or Gently Used Clothing Needed

Girls' and boys' sizes 4-16

## Requested Items:

- Socks
- Underwear
- Belts
- Mittens
- Beanies
- Pants
- Shirts
- Sweaters
- Sweatshirts

Donations can be dropped off in Eller Hall.

**Every donation helps. Thanks so much!**



*s.a.l.t.*

Seasoned Adults  
Learning Together

Halifax Historical Tour  
Tuesday, March 24

We will depart the church at 8 a.m. Cost will be lunch at Two Doors Down. **Please RSVP by March 10** with Nancy Billman at 910-916-5994



## WORSHIP SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

12 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL  
6:30 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

Mark your calendars!  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

Experience CREATION,  
Dan Forrest's newest  
and most expansive work,  
performed for the first time  
in the Fayetteville area.





# ¡UNIDOS EN CRISTO!

United in Christ with Faith Ministry in Reynosa Mexico.

You are invited to join our Mexico Mission Trip, June 6–13, as we partner with Faith Ministry in Reynosa, Mexico. United in Christ, we will serve, learn, and build relationships while sharing God's love through hands-on ministry. This trip is an opportunity to grow in faith and make a meaningful impact across the border. Come be part of what God is doing in Reynosa!

This trip is open to adults age 18 and older, as well as high school and middle school youth who will be at least 14 years old by June 1, 2026, and who are accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.

Visit [firstprez.com/mexico](http://firstprez.com/mexico) or scan the QR Code for details and to view and submit your 2026 Mexico Mission Trip Application today!



Scan Me

## SUPERBOWL OF CARING FOOD DRIVE

JAN 25  
TO  
FEB 15

GIRLS VS BOYS

Blue donation box Pink donation box

TEAM UP AND TACKLE HUNGER



Team up with our youth to tackle hunger in our community -

**HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF 500 NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS!**

*The winning team wins a special treat and surprise!*

**We love the big game, but we love our neighbors more!**

Join the youth and be a game changer for our neighbors in need through the Souper Bowl of Caring. Bring in any of the listed goods below OR donate to Youth Missions. All donations go to Second Harvest Food Bank. \$1=1 item. Last year ended in a tie. Who will win this year, boys or girls?

### DONATIONS BEING COLLECTED:

PEANUT BUTTER

CEREAL

CANNED FRUITS

CANNED VEGETABLES

RICE

PASTA

FRUIT CUPS

PUDDING CUPS

CANNED SOUPS

CANNED MEATS

**TOGETHER, WE CAN TACKLE HUNGER—  
ONE DONATION AT A TIME!**



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  
Jessica Jones,  
Director of Youth Ministry &  
Interim Director of Children's 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  
Theodore Schwamm, Choral Scholar  
Annalise Sears, Choral Scholar

### CONTACT US

(910) 483-0121  
[info@firstprez.com](mailto:info@firstprez.com)

### STAY CONNECTED!

**WEBSITE**  
[www.firstprez.com](http://www.firstprez.com)

**LIVE STREAM**  
[www.firstprez.com/worship-with-us](http://www.firstprez.com/worship-with-us)

**FACEBOOK**  
[facebook.com/1stprez](http://facebook.com/1stprez)

**INSTAGRAM**  
[instagram.com/firstprezfay](http://instagram.com/firstprezfay)

### AUDIO VISUAL

Don Perkins  
Stephen Kelly  
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**