

# THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

11:00 a.m. February 22, 2026

Welcome and Opportunities of the Church

Striking of the Hour

Prelude: *Prelude in G Major*.....W. Harris

Call to Worship.....1 Chronicles 16:23-27

*Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place.*

\* Hymn of Praise: *For the Beauty of the Earth*.....HB No. 2

\* Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

*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.*

\* Assurance of Pardon.....Romans 8:1

*There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

\* Confession of Faith: Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A #12

Q.12 - *What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created?*  
A. 12 - *When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.*

Anthem: *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*.....K. Lee Scott

Sacrament of Baptism

\*\*Children's Message..... Keith Ginn

\* First Reading..... Ezekiel 47:1-12

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory: *Offertory on ROCKINGHAM OLD* .....arr. R.B. Farlee

\* Doxology ..... HB No. 544

*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

\* Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision*..... HB No. 303

\* Sermon Text ..... Genesis 2:4-17

Sermon ..... *The Covenant of Life*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Petition

\* Hymn of Dedication: *How I Love Thy Law, O Lord*.....HB No. 253

\* Benediction

\* Gloria Patri.....HB No. 546

*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.*

Postlude: *Recessional on SLANE*.....arr. J. Payne

*\* Those who are able, please stand.*

*\*\*Children 4K through 2nd grade are dismissed to Children's Church.*

## Sharing the lasting hope of Jesus Christ.

*We extend a warm welcome to all who worship here today.*

*Visitors are invited view our website [www.firstarp.org](http://www.firstarp.org) for more information.*

**\*\*If you would like to receive the regular church-wide communications via email and/or mail, please contact the church office with your information.\*\***

## THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, February 22

8:30 a.m..... Prayer Meeting, parlor

9:00 a.m..... Worship Service

10:00 a.m..... Sunday School

11:00 a.m..... Worship Service

2:30 p.m..... Pampers & Prayer

4:00 p.m..... Youth Group

6:15 p.m..... Handbell Practice

MONDAY, February 23

5:30 p.m..... Women's Ministries Board Meeting

TUESDAY, February 24

10:00 a.m..... Women's Ministries Bible Study

7:00 p.m..... CE Meeting

WEDNESDAY, February 25

5:30 p.m..... Foundations for the Faith

6:15 p.m..... GriefShare

7:15 p.m..... Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAY, February 26

12:00 p.m..... Women's Ministries Bible Study

6:30 p.m..... Young Adult Bible Study

SATURDAY, February 28

2:00 p.m..... Just Joy Dance

SUNDAY, March 1

8:30 a.m..... Prayer Meeting, parlor

9:00 a.m..... Worship Service

10:00 a.m..... Sunday School

11:00 a.m..... Worship Service

4:00 p.m..... Youth Group

6:15 p.m..... Handbell Practice

Thank you to our guest organist, Tyler Lewis, for serving us in  
worship this morning.

## Sermon Text // Genesis 2:4-17

*These are the generations  
of the heavens and the earth when they were created,  
in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.*

<sup>5</sup> When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground,<sup>6</sup> and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—<sup>7</sup> then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.<sup>8</sup> And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.<sup>9</sup> And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup> A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.<sup>11</sup> The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.<sup>12</sup> And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.<sup>13</sup> The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush.<sup>14</sup> And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.<sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,<sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

**Usher Captains**..... Beth Logan Roach  
**Counters for today** ..... Landon Ard & Alex Brakefield  
**Greeting** ..... Bill Altman  
**Safety** ..... Mike Looper & Bill Altman

## Anthem

### *Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me*

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 CCLI #2229993

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;  
 Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;  
 And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;  
 And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;  
 Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;  
 And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;  
 And, with actions brotherly, speak Christ’s sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;  
 Show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;  
 Separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,  
 And whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;  
 Help me now thy pow’r to see, I would be like thee;  
 ‘Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;  
 Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

Home/Family Worship Weekly Reading Plan: Week 8				
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
John 6:1-9	John 6:10-15	John 6:16-24	John 6:25-34	Read Sunday Sermon text Genesis 2:18-25

## Looking Ahead

- **Communicants Class** starts today, students 3rd-6th grade whose parents believe they're ready. Contact Connie, Elijah or Jon to sign up.
- **Pampers & Prayer** today at 2:30 pm in the Parlor for Scottie Ard and Laura Brakefield.
- **Just Joy Dance** Saturday, February 28 at 2 pm. See the newsletter or weekly email for how to help!
- **Winthrop Basketball Game** Saturday, February 28 at 4 pm, a limited number of free tickets are available. Contact the church office or see the weekly email for the link.
- **First ARP Preschool Enrollment** for the 2026-27 school year is now open to current families and church members.
- **Inquirers Class** has several more weeks during Sunday school for anyone interested in learning more about our church and denomination.
- **Middle School Retreat** March 20-22 at Bonclarken. Register by March 5 for \$50, contact Elijah Hoyer for details.
- **Senior Connect Day** Friday, March 20 9 am—2 pm in Columbia. The church plans to take the bus down, please let the office know if you would like a ride.
- **2026 Flower Calendar** There are still many slots available on the flower calendar for this year.

FOR MORE DETAILS on these events and many others:

- Check out our Newsletter or Weekly Update
  - Call or email the church office:  
803-327-2009 or lross@firstarp.org

General Fund 2026	January 2026	Jan-Dec 2026
Receipts	\$87,083	\$87,083
Expenses	\$107,897	\$107,897
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$20,814)	(\$20,814)
Budgeted Monthly	\$105,489	—

## From the English Standard Version of the Holy Bible

### First Reading // Ezekiel 47:1-12

Then he brought me back to the door of the temple, and behold, water was issuing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east). The water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar.<sup>2</sup> Then he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and behold, the water was trickling out on the south side.

<sup>3</sup> Going on eastward with a measuring line in his hand, the man measured a thousand cubits, and then led me through the water, and it was ankle-deep.<sup>4</sup> Again he measured a thousand, and led me through the water, and it was knee-deep. Again he measured a thousand, and led me through the water, and it was waist-deep.<sup>5</sup> Again he measured a thousand, and it was a river that I could not pass through, for the water had risen. It was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be passed through.<sup>6</sup> And he said to me, “Son of man, have you seen this?”

Then he led me back to the bank of the river.<sup>7</sup> As I went back, I saw on the bank of the river very many trees on the one side and on the other.<sup>8</sup> And he said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, and enters the sea; when the water flows into the sea, the water will become fresh.<sup>9</sup> And wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish. For this water goes there, that the waters of the sea may become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes.<sup>10</sup> Fishermen will stand beside the sea. From Engedi to Eneglaim it will be a place for the spreading of nets. Its fish will be of very many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea.<sup>11</sup> But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt.<sup>12</sup> And on the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.”

**Emilia Raye,**

*daughter of Jake & Katie Rodriguez,*

*will receive the sacrament of baptism during the worship service today.*