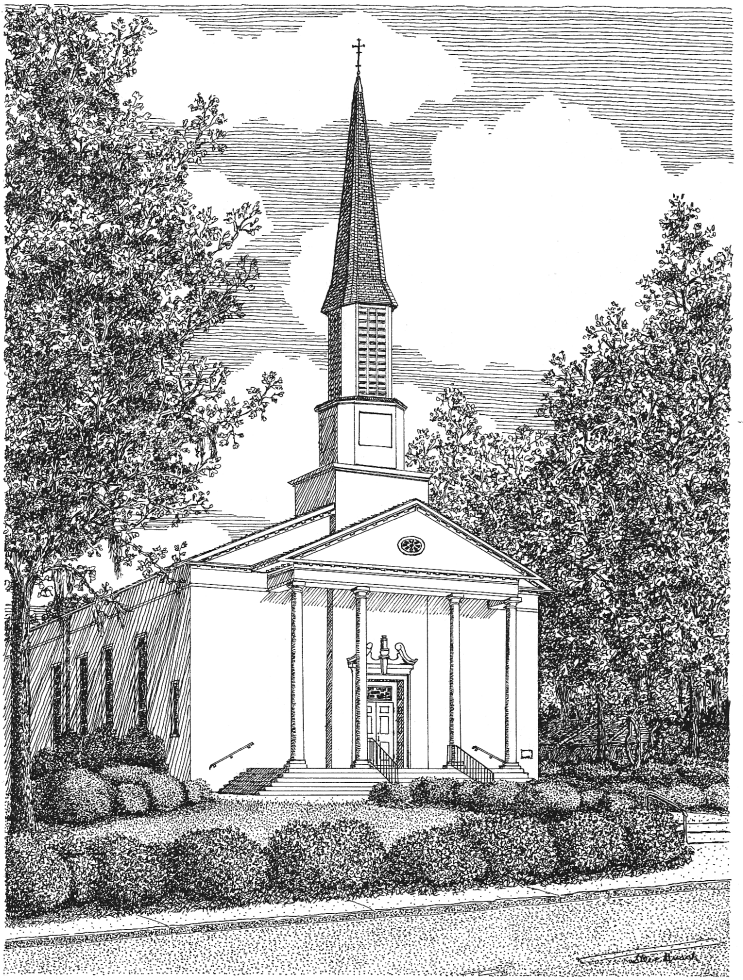
First Presbyterian Church

Organized 1835



"I was glad when they said unto me,
'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'" *Psalm 122:1*

Orangeburg, South Carolina
650 Summers Avenue
803-534-0088
www.1stpresbyterian.org

First Presbyterian Church

November 27, 2022 - 11:00 A.M.
First Sunday of Advent

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild" early German Carol, c 1623

✞ **CALL TO WORSHIP** {unison}

The God who makes us feel safe is the God who gives us hope.
Today we light the first Advent candle, the candle of hope.
Let us worship God!

✞ **PRAYER OF ADORATION** {unison}

Lord God, in this season of expectation
we prepare to welcome Your Son, Christ Jesus, our Messiah,
into the bustle of our lives
and the hard to find moments of solitude.
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, our Messiah,
into our homes and situations
along with friends and families.
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, our Messiah,
into our hearts, and those often hidden parts of our lives.
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, our Messiah,
for beneath the surface of Your story
is an inescapable fact--
You entered this world
as vulnerable as any one of us
in order to nail that vulnerability to the cross.
Our fears, our insecurities and our sins,
all that can separate us from God,
exchanged by Your Grace for Love.
We cannot comprehend the reasoning
only marvel that Salvation comes to us
through a baby born in a stable,
and reaches out to a world in need.

In this season of anticipation
we prepare to welcome Your Son Christ Jesus, our Messiah.

Come, Lord Jesus! Amen!

✞ **ADVENT HYMN: No. 96** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"
{WINCHESTER NEW}

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE-HOPE: John and Jane Shuler

MUSICAL RESPONSE AFTER LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLE {ALL}

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION {unison}

God of mystery and wonder, forgive us for thinking we can contain You and control You. We confess that we forget who You are—a God of delightful surprise and deep belly laughs. Forgive us for assuming You are distant, and for forgetting You know what it's like to be in our skin. You are bigger than what we can imagine, but You know every trial and temptation we face. Revive our imaginations, restore our childlike faith, and renew us with wonder and joy, all for Your name's sake. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✞ **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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Mrs. Sarah Coggins

Children second grade and below come forward.

ANTHEM: "Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come" Allen Pote

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Isaiah 2:1-5 {Pew Bible, p. 1062}
Matthew 24:36-44 {Pew Bible, p. 1539}

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON: "IT SHALL COME TO PASS" Rev. Clark Remsburg, Jr.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

✞ **ADVENT HYMN: No. 82** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
{HYFRYDOL}

✞ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** {unison} from "A Declaration of Faith"

Hope in God gives us courage for the struggle.
The people of God have often misused God's promises as excuses for doing nothing about present evils.

But in Christ the new world has already broken in
and the old can no longer be tolerated.
We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.
But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories
over evil that are possible now in the world,
the church and our individual lives.
Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against
all opposition, however invincible it may seem,
for the new world and the new humanity
that are surely coming.
Jesus is Lord!
He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end.
Even now he is Lord.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: "He Shall Feed His Flock" from Messiah G. F. Handel

✞ **THE DOXOLOGY**

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**

✞ **ADVENT HYMN: No. 362** "Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers" {LLANGLOFFAN}

✞ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: "Tempus Adest Floridum" Ernest C. MacMillian

✞ Those able are invited to stand.

WELCOME to all who are worshipping with us this Sunday morning. We pray that you will feel the warmth of God's Spirit, and that you will be spiritually encouraged and nurtured as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please take a moment to sign our Friendship Pads found in the pew racks.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and with love for the congregation of First Presbyterian by Katherine Patterson.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION is extended to the Rev. and Mrs. Clark (Marilyn) Remsburg, Jr. and family on the death of his father, Mr. Clark Remsburg, Sr.

ADVENT RESOURCES are on the desk in the McLees Gallery.

OUR ANNUAL OFFERING for *Thornwell Home for Children* in Clinton, South Carolina, will be received today (although you may contribute at any time). *Thornwell* has been and continues to be a place of hope and healing for thousands of children. Envelopes are in the pew racks for your convenience.

THE CHRISMON TREES will be placed in the sanctuary immediately following the service of worship today. Volunteers are always welcome and needed!

THE JOHN KNOX CLASS AND THE SALTSHAKER CLASS invite you to our annual delicious Christmas breakfast! This year it will be held at 9:00 a.m. on December 4 in the Centre. Bring your favorite breakfast dish and join us before our special Advent lesson with Reverend Remsburg at 10:00.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL will be in the Centre on December 4 and in the Fellowship Hall on December 11. Our lesson will be facilitated by Reverend Remsburg.

CHRISTMAS BENEFIT CONCERT: On Wednesday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. in our sanctuary, "First Praise & Friends" will once again present an evening of Christmas music and sacred readings. This year's concert is entitled "A Manger Story" and will feature singers and musicians from several area churches. A love offering will be received for Edisto Habitat for Humanity. Please mark your calendars, as well as spread the word to family and friends.

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS: The youth are filling Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army, and would love to have your help. Drop off items in the Centre lobby through Thursday, December 1. You don't need to worry about bringing enough items to fill a whole stocking because the items will be combined when we assemble the stockings. Lists for suggestions are available in the McLees Gallery; make sure the items are small enough to fit in a stocking.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER: Join us in the Centre after worship on December 11 for a fundraising lunch. The lunch will benefit the youth attending the ski trip March 4-6. The menu will be soup, baked potatoes, and salad, and donations will be accepted.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES for use in 2023 are in the parlor. Please be certain to pick up the correct box, as they are labelled and numbered.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY:	9:30 a.m. -	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m. -	Sunday School Fellowship
	10:00 a.m. -	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. -	Service of Worship
	12:30 p.m. -	Chrismon Trees set up in sanctuary
	5:15 p.m. -	Youth Handbell Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m. -	Youth Fellowship
	6:00 p.m. -	Carol and Crusader Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m. -	Cherub Choir Rehearsal
MONDAY:	7:00 p.m. -	Choir Rehearsal
TUESDAY:	7:00 a.m. -	CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
	10:00 a.m. -	Sanctuary and Grounds Decorated
	10:00 a.m. -	Staff Meeting
	11:00 a.m. -	Intercessors: Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m. -	Sanctuary open for prayer
	12:30 p.m. -	Intercessors: Conference Room
WEDNESDAY:	8:00 a.m. -	Jim Turner Men's Bible Study

COMING IN DECEMBER

Youth Handbell Choir to play in worship	11:00 a.m.	December 04
First Praise & Friends - "A Manger Story"	6:30 p.m.	December 07
Children's Choirs Participate in worship	11:00 a.m.	December 11
Church Family Fun Night	6:00 p.m.	December 14
Festival of Lessons and Carols (at Orangeburg Lutheran Church)	4:00 p.m.	December 18
Blue Christmas Service	6:00 p.m.	December 21
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion	6:00 p.m.	December 24
Christmas Day Service of Worship	10:00 a.m.	December 25

Church Staff

Clark L. Remsburg, Jr. ..... Pastor
Raymond E. Tucker ..... Minister of Music
Kaye W. Borgstedt ..... Christian Education Coordinator
Sarah B. Coggins ..... Youth and Children's Director
Harry Lewis ..... Custodian
Denise C. Seymore ..... Church Administrative Assistant
Susanne Womack ..... Bookkeeper
Martaesia Harper ..... Nursery

The Session

Worship ..... Melissa Plummer (chair), Retta Guthrie, David Bull, Kaye Borgstedt
Discipleship..... Ed Dickson (chair), Jane Holladay, Kaye Borgstedt
Evangelism ..... Chalmers Mikell (chair), David Gillespie, Jane Holladay
Fellowship ..... Delle Bolen (chair), Bob Crane, Thomas Gué
Facilities..... Jimmy Smoak (chair), Melissa Plummer, Chalmers Mikell, Bob Crane
Personnel..... David Gillespie (chair), Retta Guthrie, Delle Bolen
Finance..... Retta Guthrie (chair), David Bull, Thomas Gué

Clerk of Session ..... Ed Dickson
Church Treasurer ..... Dawes Edwards

Diaconate: Congregational Care Unit

Moderator ..... Anna House
Secretary ..... Laura Fogle

Congregational Care Teams' Deacon Advisors

Bereavement..... Kathy Bradley, Sloan Moore, Cheryl Smith
Meal Angels ..... Ashton Gué, Bonnie Jordan
Offering Collection ..... Fred Riley, Matt Coggins
Pastoral Care – Card Ministry ..... Laura Fogle
Prayer ..... Suzanna Crabb, Dawn Strickland
Shepherding..... Anna House, Kathy Fitzhugh, Dee Anne Miller
Ushering ..... Drew Shuler, Karen Johnson

Missionaries and Mission Organizations We Support

Hearts with Haiti
Catch the Vision/Amazon Mission
Medical Benevolence Foundation
Mission: Hope (Rivers of the World)
Mr. and Mrs. Ron (Betsy) Manila-Central Asia
Rev. Don and Dr. Martha Wehmeyer-Mexico
Elizabeth Codington-Christar
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey (Sissie) D'Jernes-Wycliffe

CCLI: 1162824