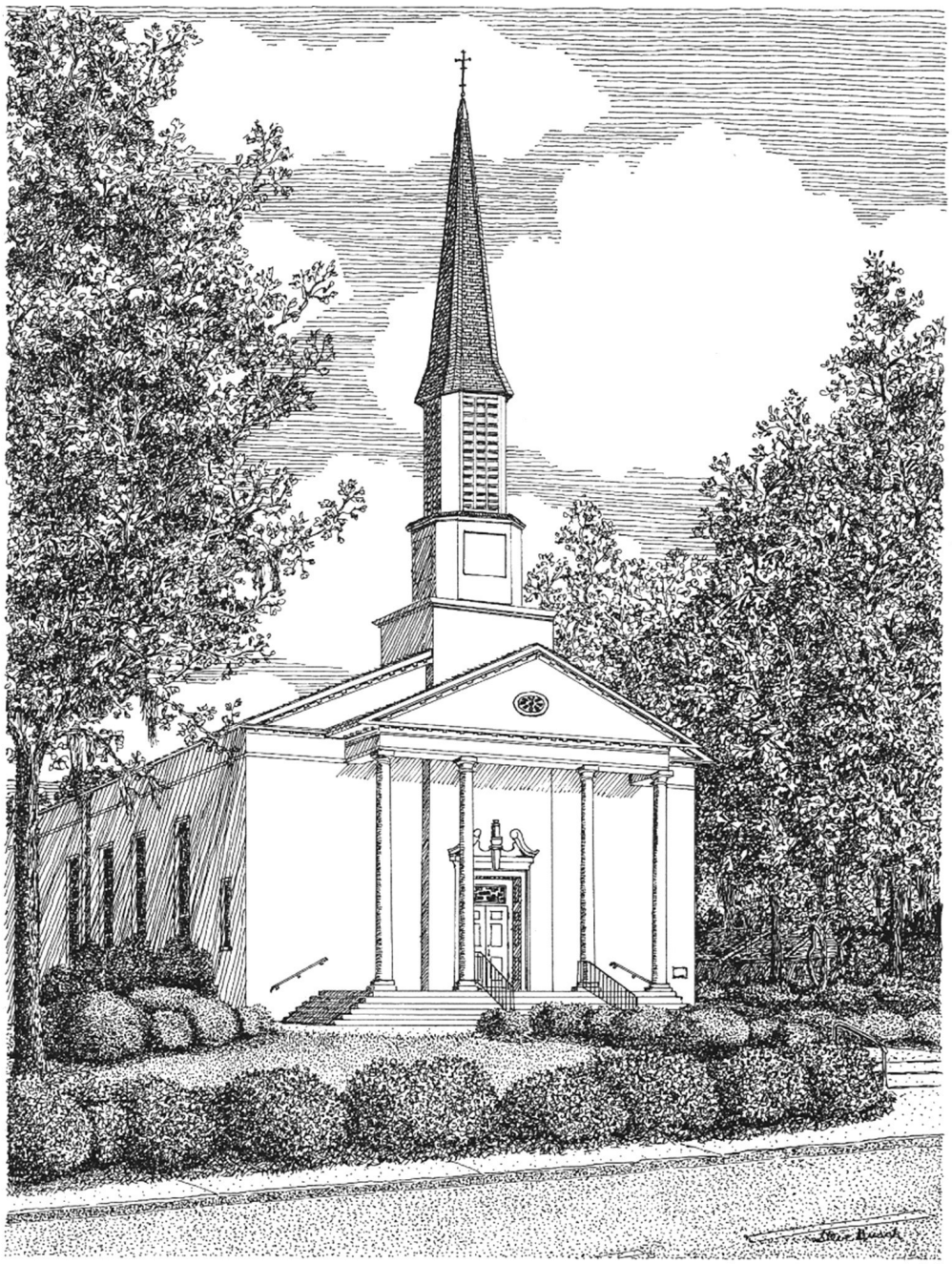
First Presbyterian Church
Orangeburg, South Carolina

A compassionate body of believers in Jesus Christ,
striving to spread the love of Christ
through word and deed to our community and the world around us.



3rd Sunday of Lent

March 12th, 2023

A Service for the Worship of God
3rd Sunday of Lent

Welcome. May our time together this morning be a journey of the heart, a renewal of your spirit, and a pause in our lives as together we worship God.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Douglas Wagner

~ Gathering ~

***Call to Worship** *(responsive)* *(based on John 4:24; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)*

Leader: Let us worship God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ.

People: We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!

Leader: Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.

People: Through us and through our worship may we announce the good news to all.

Leader: Let us worship God, in spirit and in truth.

People: Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed renewed!

All: Alleluia! We rejoice!

***Hymn No. 65** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

***Litany for Lent** *(responsive)*

Leader: O Christ, out of Your fullness we have all received grace upon grace. You are our eternal hope; You are patient and full of mercy; You are generous to all who call upon You.

People: Save us, O Lord.

Leader: O Christ, fountain of life and holiness, You have taken away our sins. On the cross You were wounded for our transgressions and were bruised for our iniquities.

People: Save us, O Lord.

Leader: O Christ, obedient unto death, source of all comfort, our life and our resurrection, our peace and reconciliation:

People: Save us, O Lord.

Leader: O Christ, Savior of all who trust You, hope of all who die for You, and joy of all the saints:

People: Save us, O Lord.

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God,

People: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People: grant us You peace.

Leader: God of love, as in Jesus Christ You gave Yourself to us, so may we give ourselves to You, living according to Your holy will. Keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us; make our mouths speak the truth that Christ teaches us; fill our bodies with the life that is Christ within us. In His holy name we pray. Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Word of God Incarnate, You came to this world to accomplish salvation. By Your grace You call us to repent, to be crucified with You, that we might be raised as new creations. But we confess that often we do not live as renewed people. We confess that often we "go with the flow" instead of stemming sin's tide. Forgive us when we do not show evidence of renewal. Forgive us when we let the fruit of the Spirit be choked by the weeds of evil. You have made us Your children, members of Your Kingdom. Help us to show evidence of that every day as we work to bring Your justice, peace, gentleness, good news, love, joy, and hope to all we meet. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri**

Children's Sermon *Mrs. Sarah Coggins*

{Children second grade and below come forward.}

~ The Word ~

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Lessons ***Exodus 17:1-7 (ESV),*** *Psalm 95 (ESV)*
Romans 5:1-11 (ESV), ***John 4:5-42 (ESV)***

Sermon **"Is the Lord Among Us, Or Not"** *Rev. Clark Remsburg, Jr.*

***Affirmation of Faith** *(unison)* *(The Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, pp 35)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** Hymn No. 735** "I Need Thee Every Hour"

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Look to the Rock" *Lloyd Larson* Chancel Choir

***Doxology**

Prayer of Dedication

~ Sending ~

***Hymn No. 744** "Arise, Your Light Is Come"

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing" arr. Albin Whitworth

Depart to Serve ****Those that are able please stand.***

You are the light of the world.
Go now into the world that the Good News may be heard and experienced by those with whom you will be in "contact" this week.

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

First Presbyterian Church

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www.1stpresbyterian.org

Find us on: facebook

Take Note

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY:	9:30 a.m. -	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m. -	Prayer Room Open
	9:30 a.m. -	Sunday School Fellowship
	10:00 a.m. -	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. -	Service of Worship
	Post-worship. -	Officer Nominating Ministry meeting
	3:45 p.m. -	Confirmation Class
	5:15 p.m. -	Youth Handbell Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m. -	Youth Fellowship
	6:00 p.m. -	Carol and Crusader Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m. -	Cherub Choir Rehearsal
MONDAY:	11::30 a.m. -	Circle 3: Conference Room
TUESDAY:	7:00 a.m. -	CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
	9:45 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

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

DURING THIS TIME OF TRANSITION as we look for a new administrative assistant, the church office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. You may wish to call prior to coming, as staff may not be available or in other buildings on the campus (803-534-0088).

SUPPER CLUBS ARE BACK! We have many opportunities to gather and fellowship with each other this Spring. Sign up sheets for all parties will be available before/after worship today. If you would like to sign up for a Supper Club and are not able to do so on a Sunday, please contact Anna House to sign up over the phone. 803-707-2161 or annafhouse@gmail.com.

THE SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR has multiple dates open. If you wish to choose a Sunday to place flowers in the church contact Jane Holladay (mholladay11@att.net or 347-5977).

LENT:

- Devotional materials for this Lenten season are on the round table in the McLees Gallery.
- As part of the Sunday School fellowship (Assembly), we will have a brief devotion around the Lenten Cross of candles. Please join us Sunday morning at 9:40 am in the Fellowship Hall for this brief devotion.

WINDOW COVERINGS DURING LENT

THIRD STEP INTO DARKNESS: The Lenten window symbols this week are the crown of thorns and the blood of Christ. The crown of thorns is mentioned in Matthew 27:29, Mark 15:17 and John 19:2, 5. We know the Roman soldiers taunted Jesus by thrusting a crown of thorns on His head. Pilate wore a crown of laurel leaves while Jesus wore thorns. Genesis 3:18 speaks of the curse of thorns and thistles, and sees thorns as emblems of the fall of man. The crown of thorns is thought by some to symbolize the curse of sin Jesus took upon Himself at his crucifixion.

The blood of Christ is referenced several times in the New Testament (Hebrews 9:2; Hebrews 7:27; Luke 22:20; I Peter 1:19; Hebrews 10:3; Hebrews 9:12). Jesus bled and died for sinners. His blood was shed to atone for our sins. In Mosaic Law, the priest made an offering of the blood of animals on the altar for the sins of the people. These sacrifices were limited and had to be offered repeatedly. The new covenant is based on the blood of Christ, which paid in full the debt of sin we owe. When Jesus said, "It is finished," redemption was complete for believers (Hebrews 9:12). "We are now new creations in Christ." (II Corinthians 5:17)