First Presbyterian Church

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

Service for the Lord's Day

November 15, 2026
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER FOR GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR
Please use this time to silently prepare for worship.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #305 (verse 1 only)
"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!" DARWALL'S 148th

PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION
"Morning Joy" Linda Scholes

CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by Colossians 1:15-20) Mary Taneti
Come and worship Christ,
The visible image of the invisible God; the firstborn of creation.
Come and worship Christ,
The eternal God, through whom all things were created, and in whom all things are held together.
Come and worship Christ,
Let us worship our King!

†HYMN #263
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" CORONATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

MOMENT FOR GIVING
Bold Generosity Caroline and Davidson Hobson

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Lord, we confess that we often underestimate the beauty of your love, settling for mere improvement of our lives instead of embracing the complete transformation you offer us. Forgive us when we only let you change aspects of ourselves, and bless our efforts to surrender everything to you, (silent confession) amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Be at peace with God and one another, for in Christ, we are all forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

†GLORIA PATRI #581

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Zac Phelps

ANTHEM

"For All That Is" — Taylor Davis

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Colossians 3:12-17

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

SERMON SERIES

This is Us

SERMON

Anything and Everything — Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" — Lloyd Larson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Tithes and offerings may be presented online at www.fpcgastonia.org/giving or by scanning the QR code on the right.

OFFERTORY

"How Firm a Foundation" — Jason W. Krug

†DOXOLOGY #606

†DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #463 (verse 1)
"How Firm a Foundation" FOUNDATION

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE
"Menuet Gothique (from Suite Gothique)" Léon Boëllmann

†If you are able, please stand.

WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! Whether you are a first-time visitor, a lifelong member, or anywhere between, we pray that you experience God's love found in Jesus Christ through our worship this morning.

CONNECTION CARDS

Please fill out a Connection Card located in front of your pew. We will reach out to you as promptly as possible if you have a prayer request, would like to sign up for an event, or need a pastor to reach out to you.

NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in becoming a member? Our next reception for new members will be on **Sunday, December 6, at 10:05 am in the Library.** If you are interested, please contact the Church Office or check the appropriate box on your Connection Card.

NURSERY CARE

Professional nursery care is offered for infants and children up to four years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

LEADING THRIVE WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford; Mary Taneti; Zac Phelps; Thrive Band

LEADING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford; Mary Taneti; Zac Phelps; Bethany Jennings; David Jennings; Sanctuary Choir; Sanctuary Ringers

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

BOLD GENEROSITY: GIVING WITH PURPOSE

As we look toward 2027, we invite you to prayerfully consider your financial commitment to FPC. Make your 2027 pledge using the QR code, a pledge card, or an orange envelope. Completed pledges may be placed in the offering plate or returned to the Church Office.

BLACK MOUNTAIN HOME ANGEL TREE

Help us raise money to purchase gifts for 20 children by **December 6**. The tree is beside the Associate Pastor's Office. Contact Susanne Current if you have questions.

CONNECT & GROW THIS WEEK

BIBLE STUDY

- **Young Presbyterians***: Sundays, 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall.*
- **Youth Group:** *Sundays, 4:00 pm, PAD.*
- **Men's Bible Study:** *Tuesdays, 8:00 am, PAD.*
- **Women's Bible Study:** *1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10:30 am, Confirmation Room.*

FAITH AND FICTION

Sunday, December 6, 4:00 pm, off-site.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Today, November 15, Sanctuary. There will be a congregational meeting at the beginning of the 11:00 am service to hear a report from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

YOUTH BAKE SALE

Today, November 15, before each service, Fellowship Hall, Memorial Gallery. Our youth are holding a bake sale to raise funds for their trips. Please support them by purchasing baked goodies made by Presbyterian Women.

CELEBRATION SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 15

Today is Celebration Sunday, and we are collecting pledges to support our church's mission for the upcoming year. Please take a moment to complete and return your pledge card as soon as possible. To continue autodraft, you must complete a new card or call the Church Office.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE (WNA): THANKSGIVING DINNER

Wednesday, November 18, 5:30, Fellowship Hall. Gather around the table as we conclude the fall season of Wednesday Night Alive with our Thanksgiving Dinner on November 18. Share an evening of food, fellowship, and gratitude, with a Thanksgiving Prayer led by Mary Taneti. Menu: Turkey breast, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes, broccoli casserole, gravy, green beans, mac and cheese, sweet potato casserole, slaw, rolls, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, pecan pie. **No RSVP Required**. Cost: Free.

POINSETTIA AND CHRISMON ORDERS

This Advent season, the church will be decorated with poinsettias and trees with chrismon ornaments. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one this season, please fill out the order form, located in the Fellowship Hall or Narthex, and return it with a check by **Sunday, December 13**.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, December 6, 10:05 am, Library. Join us between worship services for a reception as we welcome our newest members to the FPC family! This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our new members, make connections, and help them feel at home in our church community. Everyone is invited to stop by, say hello, and share in the joy of welcoming them!

SAVE THE DATE: PWS RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Thursday, December 10, 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall. Join us as we celebrate an exciting new chapter for Presbyterian Weekday School (PWS)! The congregation is warmly invited to a special ribbon-cutting ceremony as we celebrate this milestone and the opportunities it brings to serve children and families in our community.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA

Sunday, December 13, 5:30 to 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall. The Sanctuary Choir, Ringers, and special musical guests invite you to a joyful fellowship dinner filled with beautiful Christmas music, laughter, and the spirit of the holidays. Come share in the warmth of community and the sounds of the season! Cost: $10/person, $40/max for families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS, VISIT

FPCGASTONIA.ORG/EVENTS

NOTES

MISSION

United in Christ, we are a community growing in faith, caring for one another, and serving our neighbors near and far.

VISION

Belonging. Renewing. Transforming.

VALUES

Christ Centered

We proclaim the Lordship of Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection reveal God's redeeming love. Everything we do together flows from our commitment to follow Christ and share his Good News through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Authentic Worship

We gather to worship Christ in ways that are meaningful and engaging. God welcomes us as we are and transforms us through hearing and proclaiming God's Word known to us in Jesus Christ.

Growing Faithfully

We strengthen our faith together through the lifelong pursuit of Christ's ways. The Holy Spirit renews us when we gather to ask honest questions as we engage scripture and explore relevant ways to live out our faith.

Real Relationships

We welcome all to experience Christ's love here. God calls us to form intentional and genuine relationships through nurturing, encouraging, and supporting one another in all seasons of life.

Intergenerational Commitment

We are strongest when generations worship, learn, and serve together. Pursuing Christ is a lifelong journey, and every follower of every age is blessed by walking that journey together.

Meaningful Mission

We participate in the restorative work of the Holy Spirit by putting our faith into practice. When we provide hope, comfort, and service to our neighbors, we spread Christ's love in ways that make an impact.

Bold Generosity

We become the congregation God calls us to be through selfless devotion. As Christ gave himself for us, we respond with generosity by offering our time, gifts, and resources to strengthen our community and bless our neighbors.

THRIVE

November 15, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

†GATHERING SONG
"House Of The Lord" — Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham

WELCOME — Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

MOMENT FOR GIVING
Bold Generosity — Caroline and Davidson Hobson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Mary Taneti

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON — Zac Phelps

ANTHEM
"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" — Chris Tomlin, John Newton, Louie Giglio

SCRIPTURE READING
Colossians 3:12-17

SERMON SERIES
This is Us

SERMON
Anything and Everything — Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†SONG OF RESPONSE
"More Like Jesus" — Brett Younker, Brooke Ligertwood, Kristian Stanfill, Scott Ligertwood

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

PRAYER OF BLESSING

†SENDING SONG
"More Like Jesus" — Brett Younker, Brooke Ligertwood, Kristian Stanfill, Scott Ligertwood

†BLESSING