

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 17, 2026

Ascension of the Lord

11:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER FOR GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Please use this time to silently prepare for worship.

PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

"Prelude in F"

Johann Krebs

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ was born.

Joy to the world!

Christ lived.

He revealed God's way.

Christ died.

He exemplified God's love.

Christ is risen.

He is risen, indeed!

Christ will come again.

Until that day, let us gather to worship God.

Rev. Grady Moseley

†HYMN #310

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

ST THOMAS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Officer Nominating Committee

Greg Sellers

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that we do not live by the words your Word has given us. You give us new life through Jesus Christ, but we ignore the impact he makes in our lives. Too often, Lord, we fail to be the witnesses you call us to be. Forgive us and remind us how to be disciples of your Son who lived, died, was raised from the dead, and will come again, (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

Mary Taneti

ANTHEM

"Hold on to the Rock"

Pepper Choplin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:44-53

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

SERMON SERIES

Pivot Points

SERMON

Soaking In to Sharing With

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #370

"This Is My Father's World"

TERRA BEATA

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed)

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.

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 MUSIC

"Holy Manna (A Merry Mallet Melody)"

Susan Geschke

†DOXOLOGY #606

†DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #37 (verse 1 only)

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

"Thou Art The Rock"

Charles-Marie Widor

†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? If so, you may 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; Rev. Grady Moseley; Mary Taneti; Noah Williams; Thrive Band

LEADING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford; Rev. Grady Moseley; Mary Taneti; Bethany Jennings; David Jennings; Sanctuary Ringers, Sanctuary Choir Men with guest singers from Stuart W. Cramer High School

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

May 23, off-site. Beds will be delivered to children. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Church office at 704-864-2651 and add your name to the waitlist.

CONNECT & GROW THIS WEEK

BIBLE STUDY

- **Youth Group:** *May 16, 2:00-7:00 pm, Whitewater Center.*
- **Young Presbyterians:** *May 17, 3:00-5:00 pm, Falls Family Farms.*
- **Men's Fellowship & Breakfast:** *Tuesdays, 8:00 am, PAD.*
- **Women's Bible Study:** *2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10:30 am, Confirmation Room.*

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Faith and Fiction:** *June 7, 5:00 pm, off-site.* The book being discussed is The List by Robert Whitlow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE HOURS

The church office will close Friday, May 22, at noon for Memorial Day weekend and remain closed through Monday, May 25. Normal office hours resume, Tuesday, May 26 at 9:00 am.

OUTDOOR SERVICE AND PICNIC AT WARLICK YMCA

Sunday, May 24, 10:00 am, Warlick Family YMCA. Join us for the first summer combined service! Bring a lawn chair or blanket as we kick off our summer worship services. Everyone is invited to bring a picnic lunch and eat together after the worship service. Childcare will be provided on-site. Service will be moved to the Chapel in case of rain.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our combined summer worship schedule begins May 31 at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary and runs through August 9. The Connections, Henderlites, and Seekers Sunday School classes will meet at 9:00 am.

OFFICER NOMINATING FORMS

The Congregational Nominating Committee is now receiving suggestions for new church officers. Please prayerfully consider who might be called to lead our church. Send names to the committee using the Nominations for Church Officers ballot, and place it in the ballot box in the receptionist area. Submit form by Sunday, June 7, 2026. Questions can be addressed to Greg Sellers, Chair of the Nominating Committee at greg@tandem78.com.

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST AND STUDY

Sunday, June 14, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall. Join us for an intergenerational time of fellowship. We will have a short devotion, enjoy a delicious breakfast (prepared by Gwen), and gather around the table to play Bible Trivia.

COLLEGE STUDENTS WELCOME HOME BAGS

June 14 and 28, immediately following the 10:00 am worship service in the Memorial Gallery. We want to welcome home our college students with goody bags to show our love and care for them. Please be sure to stop by and collect yours. Let us know how we can assist you this summer.

VOLUNTEER AT VBS JULY 27-30, 9 AM-NOON

Join us for a week that shapes young lives and strengthens our church community. VBS volunteers help create a safe, joyful space where faith comes alive. There is a role for you. Contact Mary Taneti (mtaneti@fpcgastonia.org) or scan the QR code to sign up.



SAVE THE DATE: GHOST PEPPERS

June 19, 7:00 pm, off site. Join us for an evening of fellowship and baseball. Details coming soon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS, VISIT
FPCGASTONIA.ORG/EVENTS



THRIVE

May 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

†GATHERING SONG

"This Is Amazing Grace"

Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro, Phil Wickham

WELCOME

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Greg Sellers

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Grady Moseley

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mary Taneti

ANTHEM

"O Come To The Altar"

Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, Wade Joye

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:44-53

SERMON SERIES

Pivot Points

SERMON

Soaking In to Sharing With

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†SONG OF RESPONSE

"Goodness of God"

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

†SENDING SONG

"Goodness of God"

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson

†BLESSING

†If you are able, please stand.