

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday after Epiphany

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 AND MEETING OF THE CORPORATION

PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

"This Is the Truth Sent From Above"

Noel Rawsthorne

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He lays down his life for his sheep.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He knows us, and we belong to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

†HYMN #33

"Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show"

LLANFAIR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Crisis Assistance Ministry

Charlie Grissom

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us, (*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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 23

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:11-18

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

SERMON SERIES

I Am: Knowing God in Jesus Christ

SERMON

Knowing God's Care

Jill Kimbirl

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #187

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

BRADBURY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Brief Statement of Faith)

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God, who proclaimed the reign of God, was crucified for the sins of the world, and raised by God to break the power of sin and death. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives and renews life, gathers us as the Church, and sends us into the world to witness to Christ and work for justice, freedom, and peace. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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

"How Sweet the Name Of Jesus Sounds In the Believer's Ear"

Healey Willan

†DOXOLOGY #606

†DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #803

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

RESIGNATION

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

"Postlude on LLANFAIR"

James Biery

†If you are able, please stand.

THRIVE

January 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

†GATHERING SONG

"Your Love Never Fails"

Anthony Skinner, Chris McClarney

WELCOME

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Crisis Assistance Ministry

Charlie Grissom

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mary Taneti

ANTHEM

"Psalm 23 (I Am Not Alone)"

Joshua Sherman, Laurel Taylor, Steven Musso, The Emerging Sound

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23

John 10:11-18

SERMON SERIES

I Am: Knowing God in Jesus Christ

SERMON

Knowing God's Care

Jill Kimbirl

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†SONG OF DEDICATION

"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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Today, 11:00 am, Sanctuary. There will be a congregational meeting before the Traditional Service to conduct the business of the Corporation and approve the Senior Pastor's terms of call.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Monday, January 19. The office will close at noon on Friday, January 16, 2026, and will be closed on Monday for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

FAITH FORMATION: FPC MEMBERSHIP 101, STRUCTURE AND GOVERNMENT

Sunday, January 25, 10:00 am, Library. This is a brand new class being offered that explains the structure and governance of our congregation. Come learn how FPC conducts its business, understand the roles of the session, diaconate, committees, stewardship, and more. Contact the Church Office for details.

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

Sunday, January 25, 11:00 am, Sanctuary. We will recognize those involved in the scouting programs at FPC Gastonia! They will be honored during the Traditional worship service.

WNA—HOW TAX LAW UPDATES AFFECT CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Wednesday, January 28, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall. When laws change, wise planning brings peace of mind. Come learn how recent tax updates may affect charitable giving and how informed choices can support faithful stewardship in everyday life. Rachel Commerford, CPA, will be the speaker. Cost: \$8/person. Menu: BBQ, baked beans, slaw, chips, and dessert.

VALENTINE'S BANQUET

Sunday, February 1, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall, Cost: \$10/each. We invite you to join us for our Valentine's Banquet and "Not So Newlywed Game." Childcare for younger children will be provided; a K-4 program with dinner will be at the PAD. RSVP by QR code, connection card, or contact the Church Office by January 28th.



YOUTH SUNDAY COMBINED SERVICE

Sunday, February 8, 11:00 am, Sanctuary. During a combined worship service led by FPC Youth, a special offering will be taken to support the Daily Change Offering.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 18. We will observe Ash Wednesday and the start of the Lenten season.

- *Noon-1:00 pm, Chapel Portico* – Drive-thru Imposition of Ashes.
- *5:15 pm, Fellowship Hall* – Simple meal.
- *6:00 pm, Chapel* – Worship service.

Menu: Beef vegetable soup, chicken noodle soup, cheese toast, and dessert.

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



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, join us today, February 8, 2026 at 10:05 am in the Library. You may also 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; Jill Kimbirl; Mary Taneti; Noah Williams; Thrive Band

LEADING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford; Jill Kimbirl; Mary Taneti; David Jennings

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY FOOD DRIVE

Help us start the new year with generosity! We're collecting non-perishable food items to support families in our community facing food insecurity until **January 31st**. Every can, box, and bag makes a difference. Look for the collection bins at the Reception Area, Memorial Gallery, and the Fellowship Hall.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 22, 11:00 am, Fellowship Hall. As part of our commitment to a meaningful mission, First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, will be participating in Rise Against Hunger. Details to follow.

CONNECT & GROW THIS WEEK

BIBLE STUDY

- **Men's Fellowship & Breakfast:** *Tuesdays, 8:00 am, PAD.*
- **Women's Bible Study:** *2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10:30 am, Confirmation Room.*

FAITH & FICTION

Sunday, February 1, 4:00 pm, off-site. The book being discussed is Unwritten, by Charles Martin.