

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA  
704.864.2651 • [www.fpcgastonia.org](http://www.fpcgastonia.org) • streaming live

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday

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

"Communion (Op. 90, No. 15)"

Alexandre Guilmant

### CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 78)

Jill Kimbirl

Give ear to the teachings of our Lord.

*We will hear the parables and sayings of our ancestors.*

Proclaim the glorious deeds and wonders of our Lord.

*We will teach our children the ways of our Lord.*

Rise and tell your children to set their hope on God.

*We will remind them to worship and love God alone.*

We gather with God's people around the world to worship God.

*We worship God together.*

### †HYMN #12

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ST.DENIO

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Taneti

### MOMENT FOR GIVING

Bold Generosity

David Ratchford

## WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to follow your commandments. You sent us prophets, teachers, and apostles, but we rejected them and refused to accept their proclamation. You sent us your Son, but we reject him and fail to follow his path. Forgive our ignorance and rebellion. Help us to accept your Word and bind it in our hearts and minds so that we may grow in faith. Enable us to be true disciples of Christ so that we may know your love and be renewed by your Spirit, (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

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 3:5-6

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

Colossians 2:6-9

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

### SERMON SERIES

This is Us

### SERMON

Growing in Faith

Mary Taneti

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## †HYMN #829

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

OLIVET

### 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](http://www.fpcgastonia.org/giving) or by scanning the QR code on the right.



### OFFERTORY ANTHEM (congregation sings when prompted)

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

arr. by Dan Forrest

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see! All I have needed Thy hand hath provided, Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

†DOXOLOGY #606

†DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

## **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

Rev. Dr. James Taneti

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

*When directed by an usher, please come forward to receive communion. If you wish to have communion served to you in the pew, please raise your hand and our servers will come to you.*

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

## **WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD**

†HYMN #525

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

LET US BREAK BREAD

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

"Improvisation on VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN"

Alexandre Guilmant

†If you are able, please stand.

## NOTES

## 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

Mary Taneti; Rev. Dr. James Taneti; Jill Kimbirl; Thrive Band

## LEADING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP TODAY

Mary Taneti; Rev. Dr. James Taneti; Jill Kimbirl; Bethany Jennings; David Jennings; Sanctuary Choir

### MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

#### BLACK MOUNTAIN HOME FALL FESTIVAL

*Saturday, October 10, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, off-site.* Make a difference in foster children's lives by joining in on the fun of their annual Fall Festival. All proceeds raised go directly to assist children in need of out-of-home placement.

#### GUATEMALA GATHERING 2026

*October 26, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, off-site.* Contact Katie Reese, 704-747-9292.

#### PWS AMAZON WISH LIST

Scan the QR code to view the list of items needed to help teachers in our preschool classrooms.



### CONNECT & GROW THIS WEEK

#### BIBLE STUDY

- **Young Presbyterians:** *Sundays, 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall.*
- **Youth Group:** *Sundays, 4:00 pm, PAD.*
- **Men's Fellowship & Breakfast:** *Tuesdays, 8:00 am, PAD (Pastor Dan is teaching).*
- **Women's Bible Study:** *2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10:30 am, Confirmation Room.*

#### November 20-22 Women's Retreat

For more information, click the QR Code.



We need volunteers to teach the fourth and fifth grade Sunday school class. Please contact Mary Taneti.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### VACCINATION CLINIC

*Wednesday, October 7, 3:30 to 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall Hallway.* We are hosting a vaccination clinic for individuals who want to get an updated Flu, Pneumonia, RSV, or COVID-19 vaccine. No registration or appointment is required. **Bring an insurance card!** Contact Mary Taneti if you have questions.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE (WNA): SERVING WITH HUMILITY: WHO GETS THE BLESSING?

*Wednesday, October 7, 5:30, Fellowship Hall.* How can I help? Do I have anything to offer? Am I too young, too old, or have the right resources? We all have talents and opportunities to serve. Gwin Hilton will explore talents and opportunities to serve. Menu: Baked spaghetti casserole, salad, bread, apple dessert. Cost: \$8/ea.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*Sunday, October 11, 11:00 am, Sanctuary.* There will be a congregational meeting at the beginning of the 11:00 am traditional service for the purpose of electing the next class of elders, deacons, and nominating committee.

### SAVE THE DATE: A MUSICAL CELEBRATION

*Sunday, October 11, 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall.* Join us for a special Dueling Pianos Concert. Expect live music, sing-alongs, refreshments, laughter, and a few surprises along the way.



### ROAD RUNNERS: LAZY 5 RANCH FALL ADVENTURE

*Friday, October 16, all day, off-site.* Spend a beautiful fall day at Lazy 5 Ranch in Mooresville. Enjoy a guided wagon ride through the ranch where you'll see animals up close, then explore the grounds. Lunch will be at the Scratch Kitchen before returning home. Contact Connie Gesser at 704-473-6430.

### SAVE THE DATE: RECEPTION FOR MARY TANETI

*Sunday, October 18, Noon, Memorial Gallery.* Join us for a reception following the Traditional Service to celebrate Mary Taneti's graduation from Union Presbyterian Seminary. Everyone is invited to stop by and congratulate Mary.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE (WNA): LESSONS FROM THE MOUNTAIN (DR. WILL CURRENT)

*Wednesday, October 21, 5:30, Fellowship Hall.* Come hear lessons from the Wyoming mountains.

### TRUNK OR TREAT

*Sunday, October 25, 5:00 to 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall parking lot.* Please donate candy (individually wrapped Halloween candy), small toys (shop [orientaltrading.com](http://orientaltrading.com)), and treats (individually wrapped cookies). **We also need volunteers to decorate trunks.** Drop off your donations in the baskets placed at the Reception Desk, Memorial Gallery, and Fellowship Hall. Contact Mary Taneti for more information.

### HELP US WELCOME THE WNC PRESBYTERY TO FPC

*October 27, all day, church wide.* First Presbyterian Church will host an upcoming Presbytery meeting. As pastors, elders, and church leaders from across the Presbytery gather at FPC, we need volunteers to help us extend a warm welcome and provide hospitality throughout the day. If you can lend a hand, please contact Jill Kimbirl to learn more about volunteer opportunities. Help us make our guests feel at home at FPC!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS, VISIT

**FPCGASTONIA.ORG/EVENTS**





## 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

October 4, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

## WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

†GATHERING SONG  
"God So Loved"

Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash

WELCOME

Mary Taneti

MOMENT FOR GIVING

David Ratchford

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jill Kimbirl

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Zac Phelps

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 3:5-6

Colossians 2:6-9

SERMON SERIES

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## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†SONG OF RESPONSE  
"Build My Life"

Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman, Pat Barret

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Dr. James Taneti

†SENDING SONG  
"Do It Again"

Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matt Redman, Steven Furtick

†BLESSING