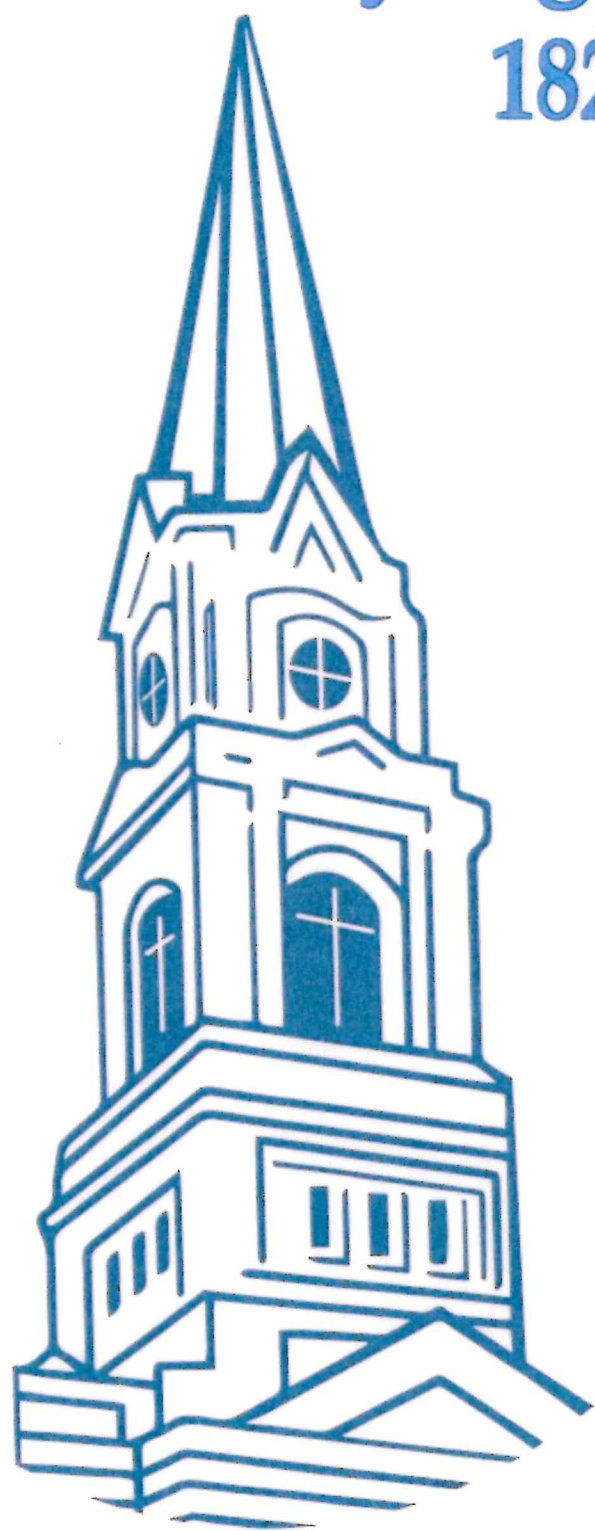


Glorifying God Forever

1823 - 2023



Celebrating
Our
Preaching
Mission

Dr. Mark Durrett

September 24, 2023

First Presbyterian Church

9 West Calhoun Street

Sumter, South Carolina 29150

(803) 773-3814

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Krystin Baier, Violin and Michael Baier, Cello

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Kimberly Land

INTROIT

Gather Us In
Chancel Choir

Marty Haugen

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Welcome to the worship of God in this place.

People: We gather this day with brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ to thank God for those who journey in faith with us.

Leader: And we remember those saints who have travelled here before us and have brought to us their deep trust in God, a faith that shines even now.

People: We are grateful for all who have gone before us in following Jesus, our Lord.

Leader: And we anticipate all who will come after us to deliver your love to this community.

People: Our hope is in no other save in Thee. We sing to God with thankful hearts!

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 730**

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

GRAND ISLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most gracious God, Giver of Life, who loves and forgives us, we confess that we are burdened by excess baggage as we travel the roads you send us down. We are caught up too soon in the trappings of religion, rather than rejoicing in the life of the Spirit. We seek too quickly to be a successful organization rather than a church on a mission. Too often we wish to be served rather than to serve. Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us and free us to walk the paths of faithfulness through Jesus Christ, the Way. Our hearts bring our burdens to you.

(Silent Reflection)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God has promised never to break covenant with us and to love us without end.

We trust this day that the good news of God's grace is true: In Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God in Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Amen.

*** GLORIA PATRI**

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me!

Angie and Mark Durrett

Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2nd grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ave Maria

J. S. Bach/Charles Gounod

Krystin Baier, Violin and Michael Baier, Cello

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 13:17-22
(Pew Bible, pg. 60, Old Testament)

Bee Smith

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 12:1-2
(Pew Bible, pg. 226, New Testament)

Rev. Dr. Mark Durrett

SERMON

"Follow That Cloud!"

Rev. Dr. Mark Durrett

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' 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.

*** HYMN 314 (V. 1 and 5)**

+ *Christ, Be Our Light*

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Offertory Anthem

Bless This House

Angie Durrett, Soprano

*** Doxology**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*** Offertory Prayer**

*** HYMN 839**

Blessed Assurance

ASSURANCE

BENEDICTION

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

ASSURANCE

This is my story: this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:

This is my story: this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

*** CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

Concertino

Gordon Young

*** Please stand as you are able**

+ *Christ, Be Our Light* is our 200th Anniversary theme song.

All music is used with permission: OneLicense.net#A-711301.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in honor of our 200th anniversary by the Bicentennial History Committee.

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to fill out a Welcome card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate as it is passed. We look forward to meeting you.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Kimberly Land, Becky Owens
Assisting with Worship: Kimberly Land
Deacons: Debbie Jackson, Kathy Lyons
Youth Liturgist: Bee Smith
Junior Ushers: Millie Davis, Murrell Smith

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Bill Richardson, Glenn Woodrum
Assisting with Worship: Bill Richardson
Deacons: Kenny Jordan, Harold Nixon
Youth Liturgist: Cooper Hill
Junior Ushers: Adelaide McElveen, Connor Thames

WELCOME DR. DURRETT

Mark Durrett is a retired PCUSA minister, having served four congregations in South Carolina since 1980 and was our senior pastor from 2006-2012. In addition to his pastoral work, Mark has also taught through the years at Converse, Wofford and Presbyterian College, and has served as an Adjunct Professor at Union Theological Seminary in Charlotte. Mark is a graduate of Claremont McKenna College, Princeton Seminary and Duke University. Mark is married to Angie, a retired Special Education Teacher, and they've been singing in the First Presbyterian (Myrtle Beach) Choir since retiring to Little River in 2019. Together they raised three boys and, so far, have four grandchildren.

ARCHIVES DISPLAY

The archives display in the Fellowship Hall will remain open until October 10. If you have not had an opportunity to visit, now's the time! The History Committee is enjoying sharing First Presbyterian's journey with you.

BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Sunday, October 1, Rev. Brearley will be leading a Bible study on the book of James. The Bible study will meet every Sunday in October at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 29, 5:30 p.m.



Fall is approaching fast! Pretty soon it will be time for Halloween! If you would like to volunteer your trunk for our own Trick or Treat, please call/email Debbie Jackson (debbiejackson1954@gmail.com). We will have Trunk or Treat set up in our parking lot. Decorate your trunk, add some candy, and visit with the princesses, cowboys, aliens . . . whoever might show up! You can dress up too!

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving can be accessed from the FPC website, fpcsumter.org (press the red "Give" button), also from your mobile device (text FPCS to 73256). Follow the online instructions. You can also give online by using the QR code and your smartphone. Just hover over the QR code with the camera or scanner on your smartphone or tablet and click on the link that appears.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

National Healthcare: Isabel Gist
Home: John Michael Osteen, Sherri Redmond, Shuler Griffin