

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday February 17th	Handbells 5:00pm Session 7:00pm
Wednesday February 18th	Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm
Thursday February 19th	Bible Study 10:30am Choir 4:30pm
Saturday February 22nd	Men's Study & Breakfast 8:00am Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am

Our weather policy Please use your own judgement when there is inclement weather. First Presbyterian Church will always be open for worship.

We will have pot pie, salad and a tasty dessert for our Wednesday Night Dinner. Team 1 will be in charge. Please use the reservation form in the bulletin or call the office by noon Wednesday if you plan to attend.

For our Souper Bowl of Caring we collected \$369.70 for our Saturday Lunch ministry.

SERVING TODAY

Minister of Discipleship	Jackson Weller
Music Director	Ashley Stanley-Robey
Sound	Sam Meadema
Video	Alex Walthall
Liturgist	Nancy Clayton
Greeter	David Swann
Side door/Offering	C. B. Strange

List of Session members

Class of 2025: David Clark, Sam Meadema*, Eddie Blount*, Jackie Rochford*

Class of 2026: Barry Cutright, Gail Jones*, Kim Wimer, Ava Barrett

Class of 2027: Barbara Wilkins, Joan Reynolds, Pat Pinckney, Kent Shelton

***Denotes Steering Committee Members**

Trustees: Bob Newnam(27), Ray Beale(26), Gary Wimer(25)

If you enter the hospital, your church will have no way of knowing unless you notify us. Please let us know of your hospital stay so that we may respond with pastoral care.

A Warm Welcome

We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do so by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

First Presbyterian Church

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*THE COLUMNS
OF THE*

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia



Welcome

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting,

We warmly welcome you to our service today and invite you to join us for refreshments after the service.

*Celebrating 198 Years of Knowing Christ
and Making Him Known*

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

February 16, 2025—11:00 a.m.

6th Sunday of Epiphany

Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT “O Holy City, Seen of John” W.R.Bowie,
Wyeth’s Repository, harmonized by C. W. Douglas

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 1)

Leader: Like trees planted by streams of water

People: Let us trust in the Lord

Leader: and meditate on God’s Word

People: so we can yield good and bountiful fruit.

INVOCATION

Compassionate God, we recognize that our world is a broken place, hurt by poverty, famine, and disease. We admit that sometimes we make the world a broken place, tolerating prejudice, conflict, and self-interest. We confess that our hearts also suffer with anger, Resentment, and jealousy. Renew us in Your love, O God, and heal us with the comfort of Your abundant love. Awaken us to the role we can play in healing Your creation. Strengthen us through the power of the Holy Spirit to hear Your word and move forward in faith. Amen.

HYMN# 743 O God, You Are My God (Step by Step)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sustaining God, you lead us through parched wilderness to streams of living water, but we do not root ourselves in health and wholeness. We ignore your rich provisions, choosing the world’s latest fad and shallow self-help. We sentimentalize the spiritual and ignore the deeper needs of our souls. Merciful God, forgive our arrogance and our ignorance. Remind us of our spiritual needs and the many ways you are here to provide. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on Jeremiah 17:8)

Blessed are those who trust the Lord. When heat comes, our leaves will stay green. In a year of drought, we will not cease to bear fruit. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us, the children of God, stand and greet those around us with a handshake, hug, or reconciling words, sharing God’s blessings and then remain standing for the “Gloria Patri.”

RESPONSE “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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

God has led us to prosperity. Let us return to God a portion of all that we have been given.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you have sustained us in lean times and led us to sources of living water. Take these gifts and multiply their blessings for those who are hungry, hurting and in need of your strength. Amen.

OFFERTORY: “Kum Ba Yah” African American Spiritual,
arr. J. W. Krug

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host. praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM “We Shall Overcome”
African American Spiritual, arr. W. F. Smith

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Lord tests the mind and searches the heart. In this moment of proclamation, O God, may our hearts and minds be receptive to you and your way. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: (579/548) **Jeremiah 17:5-10**
(400/383) **Psalm 1**
(767/729) **Luke 6:17-26**

SERMON “Are You Trusting?” **Jackson Weller**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN# 816 If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Q&A 21 Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is faith?

A. True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a whole-hearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ’s merit.

POSTLUDE “Chariot’s A-comin’!”

African American Spirituals, arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

BENEDICTION

About the Anthem:

The spiritual “We Shall Overcome” is closely associated with the 20th century Civil Rights Movement. Like most spirituals, its original writer and composer are unknown. The version of the song we sing today most likely descended from Reverend Charles Tindley’s 1901 gospel song “I’ll Overcome Some Day.” Reverend Tindley, a Methodist minister, took inspiration for his song from Galatians 6:9, “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

The arrangement of “We Shall Overcome” in our hymnal was written by William Farley Smith, a United Methodist minister originally from Durham, North Carolina. Smith earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the Manhattan School of Music (1963, 1964). He went on to earn master’s and doctoral degrees in education from Columbia University (1982, 1984). He taught in New York and New Jersey public schools for over twenty years, as well as at Montclair State College. Dr. Smith was appointed to Drew University as a dual Professor of Music and Professor of Worship in 1990. He also served as minister of music at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Harlem during the 1990s. His arrangements were published in many hymnals, including Songs of Zion (1981), the United Methodist Hymnal (1989), and the Celebrating Grace Hymnal. In addition to this arrangement of “We Shall Overcome,” Dr. Smith is best known for his harmonization of the gospel song, “Soon and Very Soon” and his arrangement of “I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing.”

“We Shall Overcome”

African American spiritual | Arranger: William Farley Smith (1941-1997)
We shall overcome; we shall overcome; we shall overcome someday.
Refrain: O, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday!
We’ll walk hand in hand; we’ll walk hand in hand; we’ll walk hand in hand someday. *Refrain*

We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace; we shall live in peace someday. *Refrain*

We are not afraid; we are not afraid; we are not afraid today. *Refrain*

God will see us through; God will see us through; God will see us through today. *Refrain*