

About the Anthem:

Arlen Ronald Clarke was born and raised in New York state before attending Belhaven University in Jackson, Mississippi. After he graduated a year early in 1976, Arlen headed to Southern Methodist University in Dallas for a year before earning a Master of Music in Vocal Performance at Texas Christian University. He then spent six years as an officer in the U.S. Army. Upon his honorable discharge, Arlen first worked as a singer and the composer in residence at Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Kansas City, Missouri. He was then appointed to be Director of Choral activities at his alma mater, Belhaven University. Arlen has since relocated to Greenville, South Carolina, where he serves as the choirmaster at St. Mary’s Catholic Church. He also directs Concordiae, a small a cappella ecclesiastical choir. Arlen has composed over three hundred pieces of music, primarily choral music for worship at St. Mary’s. He has also completed five works for choir with orchestra, two orchestral symphonic poems, and four orchestral concerti. In studying Mr. Clarke’s life, what impressed me most was his intentional rest in between projects and jobs. Arlen is an excellent example of seeking mental and physical rest, as well as God’s peace, before taking up a new task or project. Upon revisiting this arrangement, I appreciate his development of a familiar tune and the interjection of very interesting harmonies during both the piano introduction and the second verse.

Let Us Break Bread Together

Traditional Spiritual | Arranger: Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

Let us break bread together on our knees.  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees.  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord have mercy on me.

Music during Communion -  
"There Is a Balm in Gilead" African American spiritual,  
arr. Mark Hayes  
"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" Southern Harmony (1835),  
arr. Ovid Young

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad
Monday September 8	PW Day Circle 12:30pm PW Evening Circle 7:00pm
Tuesday September 9	Handbells 5:00pm Ladies Dinner 6:00pm
Wednesday September 10	Youth 6:00pm
Thursday September 11	Bible Study 10:30am Choir 4:30pm
Saturday September 13	Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am

The Presbyterian Women’s Day Circle will meet on September 8th at 12:30pm in the Westminster Room. We will complete the series “Dust to Glory” with the final two DVD’s, The Christ of Revelation and The Glory of God. Everyone is welcome!

The Presbyterian Women’s Evening Circle will meet on September 8th at 7:00pm at the home Ava Barrett. All women are invited to attend the bible study with Joyce Perez and fellowship with other members. For more information you may call Bernadine Hayes at 434-799-5662.

SERVING TODAY

Minister of Discipleship	Jackson Weller
Music Director	Ashley Stanley-Robey
Sound	David Clark
Video	Alex Walthall
Liturgist	Becky Meadema
Greeter	Joan Reynolds
Side door/Offering	Kim Wimer

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

BUDGET UPDATE

	July 1-31	FY 2025
Contributions	\$34,516.62	\$257,195.03
Expenditures	\$44,201.79	\$252,158.13
Difference	(-\$ 9,685.17)	\$ 5,036.90

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.

THE COLUMNS  
OF THE

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia

September 7, 2025

13th Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome

This church opens wide its doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Celebrating 198 Years of Knowing Christ  
and Making Him Known

First Presbyterian Church  
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