

About the Introit:
This hymn was published in 1994 by eminent hymnwriter and minister Ruth Duck. She was best known as a composer, writer, and adaptor of hymns. Two of her most popular worship resources were published in 1981, *Bread for the Journey* and *Everflowing Streams*. Dr. Duck published two hymn resources prior to those, *Because We Are One People* and *Sing a Womansong*, in 1974 and 1975 respectively. She wrote over 150 hymn texts and served on hymnal committees, including the Disciples of Christ committee for the *Chalice Hymnal*. Her most recent publications are *Worship for the Whole People of God* (2013) and *The Poetry of Grace* (2015).

Composer and arranger, Alfred V. Fedak, is currently the organist and Minister of Music at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Capitol Hill in Albany, New York. He is a graduate of Hope College (1975) with degrees in organ performance and music history. Fedak went on to complete the Master of Music in organ performance at Montclair State University. He has also studied at Westminster Choir College, Eastman, the Institute in Vienna, and at the Cambridge Choral Studies Seminar at Clare College, Cambridge. Mr. Fedak has something in common with Dr. Duck – they are both very prolific. He has over two hundred published musical works for organ and choir. Mr. Fedak is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists, a Life Member of the Hymn Society, and a frequent author for organ and worship periodicals. He was a member of the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song which prepared our current hymnal, *Glory to God*.

Spirit, Open My Heart

Lyricist: Ruth Duck (1947-2024) | Irish melody,
Arr. Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

Refrain: Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that’s kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. *Refrain*

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.
Refrain

May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. *Refrain*

ANNOUNCEMENTS		
Today	Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad	
Monday November 10	9:00-10:00am Boundary Training/Presbytery	
Tuesday November 11	Handbells 5:00pm	Ladies Dinner 6:00pm
	Session 6:30pm	
Wednesday November 12	Youth 6:00pm	
Thursday November 13	Bible Study 10:30am	Choir Practice 4:30pm
	Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am	
Saturday November 15		

We thank Jeanne Anderson for filling in for Ashley this morning. Thank you for sharing your musical talents with us today.

The Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at First Baptist Church on Monday Nov. 24th. At 7:00pm. DACAS choir and Handbell choir will offer music and Jackson Weller will be offering a Thanksgiving message.

The First Presbyterian Day School is collecting children’s clothes to be given away to our Saturday lunch ministry guests on Saturday, Nov. 29th. We are seeing more grandparents with young children attending our lunches. We are asking our church members to also participate by bring any of your grandchildren’s used clothes to the church parlor by Tuesday, Nov. 25th. Thank you for your support.

SERVING TODAY	
Minister of Discipleship	Jackson Weller
Sound	David Parris
Video	Alex Walthall
Liturgist	Brenna Takata
Greeter	David Clark
Side door/Offering	Kent Shelton

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, Ray Beale, Gary Wimer

BUDGET UPDATE		
	October 1-31	FY 2025
Contributions	\$24,835.35	\$359,975.01
Expenditures	\$32,390.90	\$358,685.91
Difference	(-\$7,555.55)	\$ 1,289.10

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 flowers in the chancel today are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Tom Barrett by his wife, Ava Barrett.

THE COLUMNS OF THE

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia

November 9, 2025 Commitment Sunday



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
937 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541-1809—434-792-7822
E-Mail: admin@fpcdanville.com
Website: http://www.fpcdanville.com

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

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

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT **"Spirit, Open My Heart"** Ruth Duck/
Irish melody, arr. Alfred V. Fedak

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP(Psalm 98)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

People: We will break forth into joyous song, and sing praises.

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord;

People: Make a joyful noise with trumpet and the sound of the horn.

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

People: The floods clap their hands and the hills sing out together;

Leader: Let us join in the joyful song of creation.

***HYMN#35** **"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"**

INVOCATION

Lord, we come before You longing for spiritual renewal. Refresh our hearts and minds. Restore our first love for You. Let this service awaken a deeper hunger for Your Word and presence. May we leave here transformed, renewed in spirit, and ready to walk in Your ways.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we are too easily influenced by peddlers of despair and alarm, too quick to sink into numbness and apathy, too tired to imagine another way. Our hopes have crumbled, and our hearts are faint. Breathe new life into us, we pray. Help us to be mindful of your promises, your faithfulness, and your presence as we face the challenges of our lives. Restore our vision and give us courage to live in your truth. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Psalm 145)

God’s ways are just, and God’s kindness is constant. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. Beloved, God draws near to us with compassion and forgives our sins. **Thanks be to God, we are a forgiven people. Amen.**

SIGNS OF RECONCILIATION

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

Leader: Let us the children of God, having confessed our sins and been reconciled to God, having been assured of God's graciousness and mercy, stand and offer that same peace and reconciliation to our brothers and sisters in Christ, forgiving each other and offering grace and peace.

Please 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Hear God’s word from Haggai 2:6-9: “For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts, and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.” Trusting in God’s abundant provision, let us offer our gifts with generosity.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, may the resources that are gathered here be a blessing to the world you so love. Guard our paths and do not let our feet slip; keep us as the apple of your eye. Give us wisdom and humility as we seek to be faithful stewards of all your good gifts. Amen.

OFFERTORY **"Be Still, My Soul"** Jean Sibelius, arr. Cindy Berry
***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.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

DUET ANTHEM **"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**
from The Daughter of Jairus by Sir John Stainer Carolyn Smith and Mack Williams, vocalists, with Robert Sutter, pianist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom, open your word to your people today, and open the hearts of your people to your Word. Let us receive the truth that your Spirit is speaking to the church, trusting that it will nourish and strengthen us. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT **(668/704)** **Haggai 2:1-9**
(369/385) **Job 19:23-27**
NEW TESTAMENT **(838/880)** **2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17**

SERMON **“Shaken and Stirred for Glory”**
Jackson Weller

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

***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.

POSTLUDE **"How Firm a Foundation"** Joseph Funk,
arr. Cindy Berry

***BENEDICTION**
***Please stand if able.**