

THE KIRKIN' OF THE TARTANS



AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Gastonia, North Carolina

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

November 11, 2018

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Kirkin' O' the Tartans
Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

We Gather in God's Presence

CARILLON PEAL

Please enter to worship in a spirit of reverence.

†THE PLACEMENT OF THE HOLY BIBLE

Luther Blair

The kilted Beadle leads the worship procession carrying the Bible to the front of the sanctuary and the pulpit. Reminiscent of an old custom of the Church of Scotland, this tradition highlights the Bible as the Word of our Lord and the center of our faith.

PROCESSION OF THE TARTANS (please be seated)

"Scotland the Brave"

A Scotland National Anthem

ORDER OF THE PROCESSION

The Reverend Larry J. Bates
The Reverend Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.
The Reverend Lauren Sease Vanacore
Pastor John H. Stanley
The Swordbearer, Mr. Harry N. (Buck) Glenn
The Loch Norman Pipe Band



COMPANY OF THE TARTANS

Anderson	Douglas	Lauder	MacLeod/Dress	Rose
Armstrong	Elliott	Leslie	MacLeod/Harris	Ross
Barnett	Fleming	Love	MacPhail	Rotary International
Blair	Forbes	MacArthur	MacPherson	Saint Andrews
Bruce	Forrester	MacBeth	Matheson	Sinclair
Cameron	Galloway Hunting	MacDonald	McGregor	Stewart
Campbell	Gordon	MacDonald of Glenco	McQueen	Stewart Hunting
Carmichael	Graham	MacDougal	Moffatt Modern	Sutherland
Carolina	Gunn	MacFarlane	Montgomery	Wallace
Clergy	Guthrie	MacKenzie	Montreat	Wallace Hunting
Colquhoun	Home Modern	Mackintosh	Nova Scotia	Watson
Craig	Johnstone	MacLaren	Ramsey	
Crawford	Keith	MacLean	Rankin	
Cunningham	Keith Ancient	MacLean/Hunting	Robertson/Hunting	
Davidson	Lamont	MacLean of Duart	Robertson/Modern	

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Pastor John H. Stanley

This day, we bend the knee to God, our great Chief,
before whom the people of every tongue and clan and nation will one day bow.
Grant to us, Thou Savior of Glory,
the fear of God, and the love of God,
and the will of God to do on earth at all times as the angels and saints do in heaven.
In the sight of the Father who created me; in the sight of the Son who died for me,
in the sight of the Spirit who cleansed me,
let us lift up our hearts and voices and worship God!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 366

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

HYFRYDOL

We Approach God

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Collectively)

Heavenly Father, merciful and everlasting God, we acknowledge and confess before Thy Divine Majesty that we are poor miserable sinners, conceived and brought forth in sin and corruption. We are prone to all evil. We cannot, without Thee, do anything that is good. And we daily and in many ways, transgress thy holy commandments. Thereby we provoke Thine anger against us, and draw down upon ourselves by Thy just judgments, death and destruction. But, O Lord, we repent and are sorry from our hearts that we have displeased Thee. We condemn ourselves and our misdoings, and we pray that Thy grace may bring help to our distress and misery. Be pleased, therefore, to have mercy upon us, O most gracious God and Father, forgive us all our sins, through the holy sufferings of Thy dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive us our sins; and grant us now the gifts of Thy Holy Spirit. Increase in us from day to day; so that we, acknowledging with our whole hearts our own unrighteousness, may truly repent us of the same; that sin may be destroyed in us; and that we may bring forth the fruits of righteousness and a pure life which are well-pleasing unto Thee, through Jesus Christ...(silent confession)...Amen.

This Prayer of Confession was originally attributed to John Oecolampudius and Martin Bucer before being revised and utilized by John Calvin and John Knox.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI 581
“Glory Be to the Father”

GREATOREX

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.



WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE KIRK

Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Richard Rankin

We Listen to God's Word

VOLUNTARY
“Flowers of the Forest”

Scottish Folk Song

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore

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.

WORSHIP GOD WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

†DOXOLOGY 591

†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of all ages, we praise you for all your servants who have done justly, loved mercy and walked humbly with their God.

For apostles and reformers and saints of every time and place, who in life and in death have witnessed to your truth.

We praise you O, God.

Keep us forever grateful for their witness, and like them, eager to follow in the way of Christ.

Then at the last, bring us with them to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Larry Bates

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ruth 1:1-18

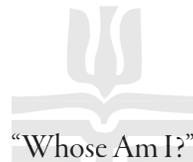
NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

Galatians 4:4-7

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON



Rev. Larry Bates

We Respond to God's Word

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from The Scots Confession, 1560)

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom alone we must worship, and in whom we put our trust. Who is one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by His inscrutable providence, for such end as His eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of His own glory. Amen.

ANTHEM

"Highland Cathedral"

Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

PRESENTATION OF THE TARTANS

On behalf of all Scots away from Scotland, and in the name of all the Scottish clansfolk that are here represented, we present these tartans before Almighty God in appreciation of our heritage, and we ask his blessings upon these, his humble servants.

On behalf of all clans represented here raise your tartans to Almighty God in gratitude for our heritage and pray God's blessing on His servant people in all lands.

BLESSING OF THE TARTANS

Almighty God, who has promised that in all places You will meet with Your servants to bless them; we rejoice in the opportunity to dedicate to You these tartans as symbols of the unwavering loyalty, steadfast faith and great achievements of our Scottish forefathers. We praise you for their rugged individualism, their respect for law and order, their hatred for pretense and hypocrisy, their regard for human personality and their belief in the equality of all persons before you. Grant, O God, that you too, may ever be true in the faith of our fathers which has played such a great part in the building of our beloved land. Use us and all Your servants everywhere, we pray, to bring peace and goodwill, equality and justice to all throughout the world, in and through the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Bear God's Word into the World

†HYMN 649
"Amazing Grace"

AMAZING GRACE

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RECESSIONAL
"Scotland the Brave"

A Scotland Nation



†If you are able, please stand.

About The Rev. Larry Bates

Larry is a graduate of Wofford College and Columbia Theological Seminary. He is a native of Columbia, SC. He has served on staff at Eastminster, South Aiken, First Spartanburg and New Kirk.

Today's Offertory

*The offertory is based on the hymntune CRIMOND and was composed by Jessie Seymour Irvine (1836 – 1887) who was the daughter of a Church of Scotland parish minister who served at Dunottar, Peterhead, and Crimond in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. She is referred to by Ian Campbell Bradley in his 1997 book *Abide with Me: The World of Victorian Hymns* as standing "in a strong Scottish tradition of talented amateurs ... who tended to produce metrical psalm tunes rather than the dedicated hymn tunes increasingly composed in England".*

Opportunities for Service, Study & Fellowship

YOGA: NOVEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 13

Classes will be on Mondays and Thursdays. Pick Mondays (\$30), Thursdays (\$30), or both (\$60). Register with Donna Kerns at the Reception Desk. She can also provide more information. Payment is due by the first class of the session.

HURRICANE RESPONSE

The Deacons and Missions Ministry are working together to coordinate our response to Hurricane Florence. We are delivering items to the East Community of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, coordinating through Rev. Nancy Gladden in Wallace, NC. Drop off cash and gift cards in the offering plate or at the church office. Other items can be dropped by the Reception Desk, Lauren's office, or in the atrium by the Fellowship Hall. In addition to cash and gift cards to Walmart, Food Lion, or Piggly Wiggly, we are collecting coats, hoodies, hats, gloves, socks, underwear, diapers, and the following nonperishable food items: peanut butter and jelly, canned fruit, canned meat, rice, pasta, breakfast cereals, spaghetti sauce, mac & cheese. We will receive items now through November 16. Thank you for your love and concern for those impacted!

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS AND PROGRAMS

Join us on Wednesday, November 14 for a meal and program starting at 5:30 p.m. Our meal will be provided by the Henderlite Class (breakfast for dinner). Our children have a special production to share with the congregation! Don't miss *100% Chance of Rain*, a fun telling of the story of Noah.

UPCOMING ROADRUNNER TRIP

Plan to attend "Masters of Soul" (a celebration of the legendary songs and performers that defined Motown and Soul music) Thursday, November 15, 8:00 p.m. at the Clover School District Auditorium. Tickets are \$15. Call the Reception Desk or email dkerns@fpcgastonia.org to sign up.

FPC TO HOST THE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

We will worship with our sisters and brothers in Christ here at FPC on Sunday, November 18, 5:00 p.m. Children and families are welcome! A joint choir will enhance worship! Rev. Carolyn D. Bratton of St. Stephens AME Zion Church will preach. Invite your friends and neighbors!

YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP

This group of women (ages 22-35-ish) meets the third Tuesday of each month at Grape and Barley at 7:00 p.m. Join us at our next gathering on November 20th! Questions: caroline.k.hobson@gmail.com.

FAITH AND FICTION

Faith and Fiction will meet at the home of Sarah Wentz on Sunday, December 2, at 5:00 p.m. We will be discussing *Long Way Gone* by Charles Martin. Hostesses will be Sarah Wentz, Jean Hileman and Bev Bryant. Lenise Melton will arrange to have the church bus bring everyone from Covenant Village.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Anyone interested in becoming a new member or in finding out more about that process is invited to our next New Member Class on Sunday, December 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Please let Trip Stewart know you plan to attend (tstewart@fpcgastonia.org). You may join that morning if you are ready to do so.

YOUNG MEN'S GROUP

Our young men are starting a monthly meeting built around faith and fellowship. Please contact Davidson Hobson for more info. All are welcome! dhobson@gastonday.org.

The Kirkin' O' Tartans

Today we celebrate the Scottish Heritage of the Presbyterian Church. The Kirkin' in its present form was probably first held in Washington's New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in 1941. The minister was Dr. Peter Marshall, Chaplain of the U.S. Senate. He was also Chaplain of the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, whose members took part in the ceremony. Dr. Marshall was born in Scotland, graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary and had previously been the minister of a Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. His wife Catherine was an Agnes Scott College graduate.



Nasmyth, Alexander. "Highland Loch Landscape." Oil on Canvas.

Kirk is the Scottish word for church and the tartan represents specific Scottish clans, families, regions, and regiments. Perhaps no symbol is more associated with Scotland and the Scottish tradition than the colorful Highland dress.

John Knox, the Scottish Reformer, studied under John Calvin, the father of Presbyterianism, in Geneva, Switzerland in the 1500's. Upon returning to Scotland, he wrote the first Book of Church Order and established the first Presbyterian churches. The church spread to Ireland, and it was immigrants from Scotland and Ireland who brought the Presbyterian Church to America. The Scots Confession, was the first Reformed confession in the English language. It has been called the charter of the Church of Scotland and of world Presbyterianism.

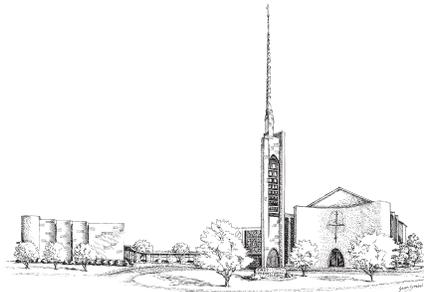
The Scottish Parliament, at the conclusion of a civil war, invited John Knox and five colleagues to prepare a confession of faith for the church and the nation. During the Middle Ages and through the Reformation, Bibles were rare among common people. The Bible of the Kirk (church) was a treasured possession. The value of the sacred scriptures and the danger of theft led to the establishment of a special lay office within the Kirk known as "the Beadle". The Beadle begins the worship service by carrying the Bible ceremoniously into the sanctuary. The Beadle begins the worship service by carrying the Bible ceremoniously into the sanctuary. The Beadle removes the Bible from the Kirk for safekeeping following the service.

The bagpipe is a musical instrument now regarded as the national instrument of Scotland. Each clan had its own bagpiper and its fame was based to some extent on the bagpiper's ability. Crimond, the bagpiper of the clan McLeod, wrote a tune to the Twenty-Third Psalm still used today.

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church - where faith is alive!
Your presence here is our honor and joy.
We pray that your heart is encouraged, that the Word is clear,
and that you go from this place renewed and refreshed -
in search of an ever deeper connection with our awesome God!
If you would like more information about First Presbyterian Church,
please sign the welcome forms in your pew or stop by the welcome table.*

*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.
Older children are invited to worship with their parents during this special service.*

*Leading worship today are:
Rev. Larry Bates, Guest Preacher
Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.;
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore, Associate Minister;
Pastor John H. Stanley, Minister of Visitation;
Bethany Jennings, Director of Music Ministries,
Charles Austin, Guest Organist,
and The Loch Norman Pipe Band.*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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