



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MARIETTA

Sunday, November 16, 2025 | 8:30AM & 11:00AM

WELCOME TO FPC MARIETTA

This church welcomes you no matter who you are or from where you come. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, we can learn together. We invite you to return often.

Friendship Pad

Whether you are a member, a long-time visitor, or just passing by, please sign the friendship pad at the end of your row.

Children in Worship

The nursery is available for infants through 4-yr-olds from 9:30am-12:15pm. Children are invited to pick up worship items from the blue cart at the entrance to the Sanctuary and Great Hall. Following the Children's Time during the 11:00 service, children in 4yr Pre-K through 1st grade may go to Children's Church.

Stephen Ministers On-Call

A Stephen Minister is on call each Sunday morning from 10:00am through 12:00pm. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister during that time, please see the front desk or one of the Deacons on duty, and they will locate them for you.

Chancel Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Bob Davis and in loving memory of Carol Davis, celebrating what would have been their 47th wedding anniversary. They are lovingly given by their daughter and son-in-law, Jessica and Ian King; daughter, Melissa Davis; and, grandchildren, Davis and Owen King."

Join us

New members are received each month in worship.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Ken Farrar at kenfarrar@icloud.com.

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

The color green marks the Sanctuary during the time after Pentecost. This season of the church year is a time where the church focuses not so much on feasting (like Christmas and Easter) or penitent reflection (like Advent and Lent) as on watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

Prelude

Processional | Lasky

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 98)

O sing to the Lord a new song,

For he has done marvelous things.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness.

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

Sing praises with the lyre and with the horn,

Break forth into joyous songs and sing.

Let the floods clap their hands and the hills sing together for joy,

At the presence of the Lord who brings justice and equity.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn of Praise** No. 367 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Forgiveness

All knowing God,

We come before you today aware that our sight is limited and our hearts are hardened.

You call out to us, and we do not answer. You speak to us, and we do not listen. We are thirsty for your living water and hungry for the bread of life. Yet, we turn away from your promises and care. Forgive us for the ways we have ignored and silenced you; inspire us to do better. Open our eyes to see the ways you are working among us that we may join you in the work of restoration. In this silence, hear our confession.

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ. And Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

Amen.

***Gloria Patri** No. 581

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.

***Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(11:00am) **Children's Message**

***Hymn of Preparation No. 276**

Sing a New Song unto the Lord

Prayers of the People | 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.

Choral Anthem

There Is a Land of Pure Delight | Ives

*There is a land of pure delight,
Where saints immortal reign;
Infinite day excludes the night,
And pleasures banish pain.*

*But timorous mortals start and shrink
To cross the narrow sea,
And linger shivering on the brink,
And fear to launch away.*

*There everlasting spring abides,
And never-withering flowers;
Death, like a narrow sea, divides
This heavenly land from ours.*

*O could we make our doubts remove,
These gloomy doubts that rise,
And see the Canaan that we love
With unclouded eyes!*

*Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood
Stand dressed in living green;
So to the Jews old Canaan stood,
While Jordan rolled between.*

*Could we but climb where Moses stood,
And view the landscape o'er,
Not Jordan's stream, nor death's cold flood
Should fright us from the shore!*

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings (NRSV)

Isaiah 65:17-25

Luke 21:5-19

The Word of the Lord. | **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

What Distracts You? | Rev. Meri Kate Marcum, Associate Pastor

WE RESPOND TO GOD

***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 arose 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.

Offering/Offertory *Meditation on All Hail the Power* | Fields

***Doxology No. 606**

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Sending Hymn No. 353** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* | Rutter

***Sending Music** *Festive Trumpet Tune* | German

Today’s Worship Leaders

Rev. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor
Rev. Cassie Waits, Associate Pastor of Discipleship
Rev. Meri Kate Marcum, Associate Pastor of Fellowship & Outreach
8:30am Beadle: Bob Smith | 11:00am Beadle: Jim Ray
8:30am Acolyte: Deacon | 11:00am Acolyte: Silas Meadows
Dr. Jeffrey Meeks, Director of Music & Fine Arts
The Chancel Choir
8:30am AV: Will Myers | 11:00am AV: John Hills & Jimmy Eaves

Thanksgiving

Children & Youth Friendsgiving

Today! November 16 | 5-7pm

Children's Friendsgiving (Holland Hall)

for children and their families (birth through 5th grade)

Potluck and BINGO: Bring a side or dessert to share!

Youth Friendsgiving for Youth grades 6-12 (Great Hall)

Potluck Dinner followed by a trip to Target to buy

Christmas gifts for children in need. (Back by 7:30pm)

Gobble Jog

FPC's team, Heart & Soles for MUST, is gearing up once again for the annual Thanksgiving Day Gobble Jog to support MUST Ministries. To join the team, find the registration link at fpcmarietta.org/events.

Thanksgiving at FPC!

We're inviting families from the Pantry on Church and local college students to come for turkey, dressing, and all the rest on Thanksgiving Day at 12pm. If you find yourself in need of a Thanksgiving meal among friends, please join us - email Cheryl Davenport at cvd33music@gmail.com today.

Please consider helping out, and come to eat as well. Go to fpcmarietta.org/events to volunteer to help!

To donate a dessert, please drop it off at the church on Wednesday, 11/26, 10am-12pm. And if you would like to make a financial contribution to offset the cost of this meal, give online at fpcmarietta.org/events or write a check to FPC Marietta (memo line: Thanksgiving Meal)

YOU ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING.

God has gifted you - please don't keep them to yourself.

Opportunities abound at FPC to use your gifts.

Get involved. Bless others.



FPCMARIETTA.ORG/FIND-YOUR-PLACE

**NOVEMBER 23
8AM-1PM**



GIVE BLOOD.GIVE LIFE

**BLOOD DONATION DRIVE
FPCMARIETTA.ORG/EVENTS**

Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.



**Thanks to all who volunteered for
Rise Against Hunger in October!**

The 17,064 meals you packed
are heading to

Comayagüela, Honduras!

YOUR IMPACT

Located in the city of Comayagüela, the María Auxiliadora Parish operates several initiatives aimed at poverty reduction and community empowerment, such as vocational training for youth, scholarships for primary, secondary and post-secondary school, home repair support, youth development, and a training center for women to improve their economic opportunities.

Live Nativity

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
4-5:30 PM

Pet animals, feed the
camel, and enjoy a
cup of hot chocolate
& Christmas treat!

FPC Youth will gather for a
fun activity afterwards!

**cancellations due to
weather will be posted at
fpcmarietta.org/events*



ANNUAL ANGEL TREE FOR

CHILDREN/YOUTH IN
FOSTER CARE
& OTHERS IN NEED

FULFILL A CHILD'S WISH LIST.

Select a gift off the Angel Tree in the
Gathering Space and return it by the
designated date, or contribute funds for
the Angel Tree team to purchase gifts.

Questions? Anne Fletcher at
annefletcher@me.com

WINTER RECITAL & PET ADOPTION EVENT

Saturday, December 13 | 3-6pm

The Southeast School of Music (SSOM) hosts performances by
SSOM students, the Kirk Ringers, and FPC choir members.

Enjoy a post-recital reception with photos with Santa and
adoptable pets from Cobb County Animal Services.

Come enjoy beautiful music and help a furry friend find a
home. Spread the word and bring a friend.



WINTER SHELTER TRANSPORTATION

Transfiguration Catholic Church will open its
shelter when overnight temperatures are
expected to fall below 35 degrees. On those
nights, FPC volunteers pick up the shelter guests
(all women) the following morning (early!) and
take them to MUST for a meal and other services.

On Saturdays and Sundays, we are also asked to
take shelter guests back to Transfiguration.

Volunteer to drive, ride along, or transport
luggage. Email Jeff Byrd at jeffbyrdis@gmail.com

Christmas Parties

Youth (Grades 6-12):

Sunday, December 14 | 5-7pm

Scavenger Hunt around the Square & White
Elephant Gift Exchange!

Young Adults: Thursday, December 18 | 7pm

663 Frasier Cir. SE | Marietta 30060

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

Copies available in the Gathering Space and online at fpcmarietta.org/events.

POINSETTIAS through December 15

Honor or remember a loved one this Christmas by donating a poinsettia to decorate our worship space. Poinsettias may be taken home after Christmas. Forms are available at fpcmarietta.org/events and in the Gathering Space.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING through December 19

This PC(USA) offering supports church workers in need and funds leadership development and education at Presbyterian-related schools serving communities of color. Give online at pcusa.org/special-offerings/christmas-joy-offering or use the envelopes provided in the Gathering Space.



Worship Services

LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 14 | 8:30am & 11:00am

Join the Chancel Choir, brass, and Kirk Ringers during our regular worship services as we celebrate the birth of Christ and joyfully usher in the Christmas season.

CONTEMPLATIVE CHRISTMAS

Thursday, December 18 | 7pm

This quiet, reflective service offers a space of peace during the holidays, featuring music of the season with the Chancel Choir and guest musicians. Communion will be served.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24

12pm Sanctuary - Communion

3pm Great Hall - Family Service

Children and Youth ages PreK 3-Grade 12 take part in telling of the Christmas story. Baby gift items will be collected as an offering for the Georgia Division of Family and Children's Services.

6pm Great Hall - Candlelight

A nursery is available for this service only.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES:

Submit Your “Most Awesome of 2025” Photo!

Share your favorite photo from 2025 to be featured in an FPC Photo Exhibit—something that captures awe in God’s creation: the majesty of mountains, the brilliance of a rainbow, the power of a waterfall, a burst of color, a radiant smile, or the grace of motion. Email your photos (up to 2 per person) along with a descriptive title for each to Amy Sherwood (asherwood3123@gmail.com) by December 15. Open to all ages! The FPC Music and Arts Committee will display your photos in the back of the Great Hall through the new year!

Annual Churchwide Retreat in Montreat, NC

Friday, March 6 – Sunday, March 8

This retreat is open to FPC members of all ages! Join us for fellowship, missions, and worship.

Registration is open. Go to fpcmarietta.org/events.

FPC Pedalers Bike Riding Group

Next ride: Wednesday November 19 at 10:00am (Note the change from our usual start time.)

Starting from: Silver Comet Trail, Florence Road Trailhead - 3453 Florence Rd, Powder Springs, GA 30127

We usually ride about 1 hour out and then return although we can modify the ride as needed. We ride for pleasure and a little exercise so it is not a race. We welcome everyone to join us!

If you have questions, please call or text Jennifer Davis at 404-210-3697 or Nancy Jo Kirk at 678-986-3967.

Autism Support Group

Thursday, November 20 | 7:00-8:30pm

Self Care: Is taking care of ourselves even an option, what does it look like and how to achieve it.

Speakers: Elizabeth Ainsworth, NSW: Professional Counselor- Rise Gently Therapy

Rev. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor at FPC, Marietta and Dr. Janet Lewis: Chiropractor

Going Forward Widow(ers) Support Group

Next Meeting: November 20 | 4th Thursdays | 1pm | Glover Room

A place where we share our Grief and other impacts from the loss of a spouse.

A Safe Place to express feelings, emotions, doubts, and find new possibilities. Please join us!

Trumpet Recital

Saturday, November 29 | 2pm | Sanctuary

What’s Been Going on in New Orleans by Anna Hills, featuring Brian Parks and Will Myers

Works by Haydn, Handel, and Higdon



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