

HERITAGE SUNDAY
RECOGNIZING THE SCOTTISH HERITAGE
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ON REFORMATION SUNDAY
KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS
& BLESSING OF THE FAMILIES

OCTOBER 26, 2025



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Organized 1892

501 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia 31768

www.moultriefirstpres.com

*To all who are weary and need rest, to all who mourn and need comfort,
to all who are lonely and need friendship, to all who are glad and would serve others,
to all who are complacent and need disturbing, to all who sin and need a Savior,
this Church opens wide its door in the name of Christ, and bids you welcome.*

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 26, 2025

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS

BLESSING OF THE FAMILIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Heber/Dykes

Susan Pearson, Cornerstones Director

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Brooks Sheldon, Liturgist

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

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us, and we are his.

People: We are God's people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter the Lord's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise

People: Give thanks to God, bless his holy name.

Leader: For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.

People: God's faithfulness is to all generations. Praise the Lord!

*HYMN #333 *(see bulletin)*

“A Mighty Fortress”

Martin Luther

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Adapted from Scottish Reformer John Knox's Liturgy of 1560):*

Almighty God, we have sinned against you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving God, to all who turn to you. And so, we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your Son, to show mercy to us. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our lives, but also the words of our mouths, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: Friends, hear and believe the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: As God in Christ forgives us, let us forgive one another. The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another.

*HYMN #138 *(see bulletin)*

“The Family of God”

Gaither

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Amazing Grace”

Newton

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

NO CHILDREN’S CHURCH TODAY

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Matthew 22:36-40

ANTHEM

“Only God”

Mary McDonald

SECOND READING:

Romans 12:1-5

SERMON

“Reformed and Always Reforming”

Austin Pounds

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Scots Confession of 1560*)

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we cleave, whom alone we serve, whom only we worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; 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.

*HYMN #9 (*see bulletin*)

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Isaac Watts

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Bless This House”

Joseph M. Martin

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL

“Scotland the Brave”

Lauder

Dan Bray, Bagpiper

(*) *We stand as we are able*

Congratulations to Cody and Aria Williams on the birth of their daughter Amelia Williams on Oct. 18 in Japan.

The proud Great grandparents are Anne Foster and Jim Soos.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God

in memory of Brooks Sheldon, Sr.

Born: January 25, 1919 — Died: October, 29, 1944,

by the Brooks Sheldon family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELDERS OF THE MONTH: Joan White and Paul Herndon

*Our Stewardship Campaign has begun.
Please support FPC with a pledge for 2026.*

COVERED DISH LUNCH FOLLOWING THE SERVICE TODAY!

Sunday, October 26 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. CONFIRMATION CLASS

Monday-Wednesday, October 27-29 CORNERSTONES RETREAT - Epworth

Wednesday, October 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. FPC/FMC COMMUNITY FALL FESTIVAL

Thursday, October 30 from 10 a.m. to noon FPC Preschool Fall Festival

Saturday, November 1 at 1 p.m. Beverly Cagle Montgomery memorial service

Sunday, November 2 at 5:30 p.m. Remembrance Service

*Tuesdays, from November 4 through January 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., the sanctuary will be open
for a time of personal prayer & reflection*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN / FIRST METHODIST

FALL FESTIVAL

Join us this Wednesday, October 29th from 5 to 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to come enjoy the games, food, treats and fun!

BEVERLY CAGLE MONTGOMERY

The family of Beverly Cagle Montgomery invites you to join them at a memorial service at the First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, on **Saturday, November 1st at 1 p.m.**

Following the service, please join us at 3 p.m. at the farm (2250 Bay Rockyford Rd.) for a celebration of Beverly's life with her favorite foods and the Georgia/Florida game.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: Sunday, November 2 at 5:30 p.m.

At our annual Remembrance Service, candles will be lit in memory of those who have passed on to the church triumphant in the last year as well as anyone who has passed that had an impact on your faith journey.

Please join us for this very moving service, a touching tribute to those who have gone before us.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

On the lobby table, there is a flyer about this year's Christmas Boxes. More details to come next week.

THERE IS NO WATCH SUPPER THIS WEDNESDAY!

History and Significance of the Kirkin' o' The Tartans

This traditional Kirkin' o' The Tartans worship service is based on the Church of Scotland where various tartans are presented for a blessing. The tartans, (symbolizing togetherness, love and family), stem from the Clans of Scotland who banded together under a specific tartan for protection as well as political and social support.

The Kirking encourages all of us to reflect with thanksgiving on our own families and to celebrate God's grace throughout the generations. We hold the Kirking service on Reformation Sunday to recognize our deep connection with the Reformation and with the Scots heritage of the Presbyterian Church.

Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, marking the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

The Bible

The Bible used in today's service was copyrighted in 1892, the year the Moultrie First Presbyterian Church was organized. In 2012 during the Centennial of the Sanctuary, the Bible was restored by the Peters family, descendants of charter member Mary Eliza McHargue Millsap.

The Benediction

Today's Choral Benediction, "Bless This House" was written in 1927 by Helen Taylor with music composed by May Brahe. When this Sanctuary was built in 1912, it was heated by coal-generated steam, but there was, and still is, a fireplace in the room on the Fifth Avenue entrance that was used as the pastor's study making the line "smoke ascending like a prayer" apropos. Also fitting to the Sanctuary is the reference to its iconic stained-glass windows "shining bright, letting in God's heavenly light." But the most significant line is the request to "bless the people here within ... that one day we may dwell, O Lord, with Thee." Amen.

The Banners

The banners hanging from the balcony represent the mission of First Presbyterian Church, "To God be the Glory," and the Scots Confession, which is used in today's worship. These banners, like the others hanging in the Fellowship Hall, were created during the Centennial Celebration in 1992 depict the various confessions of the Presbyterian Church.

***We are honored
to welcome
bagpiper
Dan Bray.***

