

OPTIONS TO GIVE EASILY AND SECURELY

- 1) Offering envelopes during service or by mail.
- 2) Set up *Bill Pay* straight from your bank.
- 3) On our website www.fernwoodchurch.org
- 4) Directly through our online giving
<http://onrealm.org/FernwoodBaptist/give/now>
- 5) Text from your phone: 73256 then keyword
“fernwood” and dollar amount and follow the instructions.

WELCOME!

We are honored to worship God with you today! If you would like to become a member of Fernwood Baptist Church or if you need pastoral care, we invite you to speak with the pastor following the Worship service, email office@fernwoodchurch.org or call the office at 864-582-7467.

IF YOU'RE A GUEST

We invite you to visit our Welcome Center for a free gift. You may also **scan the QR code** with your mobile device or text **“hello” to 864-501-0585** for more information.



NURSERY SCHEDULE

August 30 – Bailey Erps
September 6 – Moriah Starr

INTERGENERATIONAL SMALL GROUPS

Sundays, September 6 to November 8.

This is a 10-week opportunity from to build meaningful relationships across generations at Fernwood. **Scan the QR code.**



BACK TO SCHOOL COLLECTION

Stock “Care Closets” Through August 30

Look for donation bins in the concourse.

New Clothing

Socks, underwear
Belts
Sweatpants
Hoodies, light jackets
Plain T-Shirts

Hygiene

Deodorant
Toothpaste, toothbrushes
Menstrual Products
Hair care – brushes, etc.
Culturally inclusive hair needs

***Our Vision is to be Christ to each other and our community –
doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly with our God.***

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

9:00am – 9:45am – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

9:45am – Sunday School *(in-person and online)*

10:55am – Worship *(in-person and online)*

200 Fernwood Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29307

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 7058, Spartanburg, SC 29304

Office: 864-582-7467

Website: fernwoodchurch.org / Email: office@fernwoodchurch.org

Facebook: [@fernwoodbaptistchurchspartanburg](https://www.facebook.com/fernwoodbaptistchurchspartanburg) / Instagram: [@fernwoodbaptist](https://www.instagram.com/fernwoodbaptist)

Ministers and Staff of Fernwood Baptist Church

Ms. Bobbie Jean Arrington -----Nursery Attendant
Mrs. Lee Anne Bailie - communications@fernwoodchurch.org ----- Director of Communication Ministries
Ms. Sunny Hall - office@fernwoodchurch.org ----- Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Marcia Harris -----Assistant Music Associate
Rev. Dr. Kelli Kirksey - pastor@fernwoodchurch.org ----- Pastor
Mr. Bennie Harris ----- Custodian
Mrs. Rebecca Turner ----- Music Associate
Dr. Stafford Turner ----- Director of Music Ministries
Mrs. Mary Helen Wessinger - maryhelen@fernwoodchurch.org ----- Financial Administrator
Rev. Dr. P. Randall Wright ----- Pastor Emeritus



***The Lord’s Day | Sunday, August 23, 2026
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

The Welcome & Announcements

Lee Anne Bailie

The Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Lee Anne Bailie

The Preparation for Worship

Dan Schutte
arr. Janet Vogt

Here I Am, Lord
Rebecca Turner, piano

The Call to Worship

Here, there is a God who labors.
Here, there are chosen people who labor.
Here, there is a midwife who labors.
Here, there is a woman who labors.
Here, there are reeds in the water, a basket among the reeds, a baby in the basket.
Come, let us worship together.

Stafford Turner

†The Hymn of Praise and Offering, No. 295

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise:
teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I’m come;
and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home:
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here’s my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Mason Harris

†The Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God, above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The First Reading

Exodus 1:8–21 NRSV
(Pew Bible, page 43)

Quinn Willett

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The Hymn of Adoration, No. 69

TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA

Children of the Heavenly Father

1. Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e’er was given.

2. Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

3. Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne’er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

The Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Kelli Kirksey

The Anthem

Mary Nelson Keithahn
John D. Horman

A Mother Lined a Basket
Sanctuary Choir; Rebecca Turner, piano

A mother lined a basket to keep her baby dry, then rocked him on a river, lest he awake and cry.
She let a princess name him her son that he might live. God's people had a leader. She had such hope to give.

A mother sewed a jacket, lined in the softest wool, then dressed her little boy-child, her cup of blessing full.
She brought him to the temple where he would serve and live. God's people had a prophet. She had such faith to give.

A mother laid her baby in a manger lined with straw; then, in the shepherds' story, his call from God foresaw.
She nurtured him and taught him the way that he must live. God's people had a savior. She had such love to give.

Like Jochebed and Hannah, and Mary too, we know the hardest part of loving is learning to let go,
so when we send our children out in the world to live, grant us such hope and faith, God, and love enough to give.

The Second Reading

Exodus 1:22–2:10 NRSV
(Pew Bible, page 43)

Kelli Kirksey

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Kelli Kirksey

The Power of a Faithful Choice

†The Hymn of Response, No. 482

HERE I AM, LORD

Here I Am, Lord
(vs. 1, 3)

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Refrain

The Pastoral Benediction

Kelli Kirksey

The Reflection of Worship

John Wyeth
arr. Victor Labenske

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Rebecca Turner, piano

†Please stand, as you are able.

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Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing; Words 1758 Robert Robinson; Music 1813 Wyeth’s Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second
Old 100th 1551 Genevan Psalter
Children of the Heavenly Father; Words 1855 Caroline V. Sandell Berg, trans. 1925 Ernst W. Olson, © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America; Music Traditional Swedish melody
A Mother Lined a Basket © 1998 Abingdon Press and harmonization © 1998 Choristers Guild
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The flowers are placed today in celebration of the wedding anniversary of Manning and Margaret League by their children. Today, August 23, is their 76th anniversary.

The Faith Initiative to End Child Poverty will be holding its quarterly luncheon meeting at 12:00 on Thursday, September 10, at Fernwood. The Faith Initiative to End Child Poverty is a coalition of congregations working to end child poverty in Spartanburg. It addresses the broad areas of Housing and Homelessness, Mental Health, Education, Immigration, and Neighborhoods. This is where **A Way Home** was born and where Fernwood’s participation in that program started. If you are interested in learning more about the Faith Initiative, you are invited to join us for lunch. You will need to email Scott Neely at scott@faithinitiativesspartanburg.org to let him know you are coming. If you have any questions, ask Suzanne Brown, Wendy Case, Kathy Hensley, or Kelli Kirksey. The four of us encourage you to come and learn all that is happening in Spartanburg to help end child poverty.