



REV. DR. AURELIO DUPRIEST GIVENS
“A Builder of People”

“Anticipate the good so that you may enjoy it...”
– Ethiopian Proverb

Rev. Dr. Aurelio D. Givens is a seasoned leader, educator, author, and founder of the Abundant Life Center, established in 1998. With over 32 years of experience in community development, leadership coaching, and personal empowerment, he has dedicated his career to helping individuals and organizations realize their full potential.

As the founder of A-LIFE Builders, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, Rev. Dr. Givens leads efforts in mental health advocacy, personal/professional development, and fostering productive citizenship. A-LIFE Builders also hosts annual Juneteenth and Kwanzaa celebrations to honor cultural heritage and promote civic engagement.

Rev. Dr. Givens is the author of Ivenia’s Pearls: Life Lessons for Building Character and Resilience and is releasing a new book, Get A-LIFE: A Journey to Fulfillment, which outlines 8 phases to fulfillment based on Leadership, Integrity, Faith, and Expectations—principles that guide his work and mission. As the Executive Director of A. D. Givens Funeral and Cremation Services, LLC, Rev. Dr. Givens offers concierge funeral services and grief counseling both in South Carolina and beyond, serving families with the motto, “YOUR COMFORT, OUR COMMITMENT.”

A Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and a member of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of South Carolina, Rev. Dr. Givens is committed to cultural awareness and community empowerment, using his Gullah heritage and years of experience to bridge spiritual and cultural understanding.



**FIRST UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Homecoming
2025

Reverend Delton H. Farmer
Pastor

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"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

**159 Years
of
Boots on
Holy
Ground
for God**

Order of Worship

Homecoming Sunday, November 9, 2025

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 27)

** Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*INTROIT #174 (AA) "We Have Come Into This House"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Eternal and loving God, today we give thanks to you for your goodness through all the years of worship and witness in this place. For your grace in calling us to be your people, for the love revealed to us in Christ your Son, for your gift of the Spirit and the joy of salvation.

CONGREGATION: We give you thanks, O God.

LEADER: For those who established this congregation. For their faith and vision, for their gifts and abilities.

CONGREGATION: We give you thanks, O God.

LEADER: For all who have been members of this congregation. For those who have given freely of their time and money. For those whose wisdom guided our congregation. For all who have preached and taught here. For all who have confessed here that Jesus is Lord. For all who today lead in worship, witness, and service.

CONGREGATION: We give you thanks, O God.

ALL: Give us the assurance that we too belong to that great company, and that we too may find the peace that passes all understanding through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN #590 (AA) "We're Marching To Zion"

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION *(Unison)*

Lord, we thank You for this day and for the opportunity to gather and celebrate 159 years as a church family. We praise You for Your faithfulness, O God our Father. You are the same yesterday, today, and forever and for this, we are truly grateful. We celebrate Your presence, Christ our Light, our Truth, and our Way. On this homecoming day, give us eyes to see one another with grace, and move us to support one another with sincere and earnest prayers. Stir our hearts with compassion and help us live lives that reflect our walk with You. Restore our spirits and strengthen us to continue living as Your faithful people. Bind us together with Your love. Let Your name be glorified in the renewal we experience today, for You alone are our God. For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

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.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

✠FUPCC DANCE MINISTRY✠

"The Presence Of The Lord Is Here”" *by Byron Cage*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION..... Rev. Dr. Aurelio Dupriest Givens

SCRIPTURE READINGS Rev. Dr. Aurelio Dupriest Givens

OLD TESTAMENT: 1 Peter 2:4-10

NEW TESTAMENT: Exodus 3:1-6

SERMONRev. Dr. Aurelio Dupriest Givens

"Boots Made for Stepping: When God Meets You Where You Stand"

INVITATIONAL SELECTION FUPCC CHOIR

"God Is Good" *The Regina Belle Rendition*

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

THE LORD’S PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

✠Dedication of Marque

✠Samaritans Purse/Christmas Box

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles’ Creed *(unison)* **Page 35 in the purple Glory to God Hymnal**

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

CALL FOR THE OFFERING *(Collectors asked to come forward)*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SELECTION "Be Grateful" *by Walter Hawkins*

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSINGFUPCC CHOIR

"Revelation 19:1 (Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory" *by A. Jeffrey LaValley*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION.....Rev. Dr. Aurelio Dupriest Givens

RESPONSE "Three-Fold Amen"

POSTLUDE