

First Presbyterian Church

Established 1988 PCA

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Who is First Presbyterian Church?

We belong to the family of the Redeemed.
Transformed by the grace of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection,
we are delighting in the supremacy of God in all things
as we reach up to Him in worship,
reach in to one another with biblical teaching and shepherding care,
and reach out to the world with Christ.

*So that in everything He might be preeminent.
Colossians 1:18*

Order of Worship

*Please stand if you are able.

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

You, Lord, have become my hope, my comfort, my strength, my all! In you does my soul rejoice. The darkness vanished from before my eyes, and I beheld you, the sun of righteousness. When I loved darkness, I knew you not, but wandered on from night to night. But you led me out of that blindness; you took me by the hand and called me to yourself, and now I can thank you, and your mighty voice which has penetrated to my inmost heart. Amen.

Augustine

Call to Worship

Psalm 111

Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

³ Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;

⁸ they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

O give the Lord whole-hearted praise, to him thanksgiving I will bring;
With all his people I will raise my voice and of his glory sing.
His saints delight to search and trace his mighty works and wondrous ways;
Majestic glory, boundless grace, and righteousness his work displays.

The wondrous works that God has wrought his people ever keep in mind;
His works with grace and mercy fraught, revealing that the Lord is kind.
God's promise shall forever stand, he cares for those who trust his word;
Upon his saints his mighty hand the wealth of nations has conferred.

His works are true and just indeed, his precepts are forever sure;
In truth and righteousness decreed, they shall forevermore endure.
From him his saints' redemption came; his cov'nant sure, no change can know;
Let all revere his holy name in heav'n above and earth below.

In reverence and in godly fear man finds the gate to wisdom's ways;
The wise his holy name revere; through endless ages sound his praise.

*Prayer of Adoration

All praise to him, the God of light who formed the mountains by his might.
All praise to him who names the stars that sing his fame in skies afar.
All praise to him who reigns in love, who guides the galaxies above,
Yet bends to hear our ev'ry prayer with sovereign pow'r and tender care.

All praise to him whose love is seen in Christ the Son, the servant king,
Who left behind his glorious throne to pay the ransom for his own.
All praise to him who humbly came to bear our sorrow, sin, and shame,
Who lived to die, who died to rise, the all-sufficient sacrifice.

All praise to him whose pow'r imparts the love of God within our hearts,
The Spirit of all truth and peace, the fount of joy and holiness.
To Father, Son, and Spirit now our souls we lift, our wills we bow.
To you, the triune God, we raise with loving hearts our song of praise.

To Father, Son, and Spirit now our souls we lift, our wills we bow.
To you, the triune God, we raise with loving hearts our song of praise.

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?”²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.”²¹ And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.”²² So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”²³ He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴ (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.)²⁵ They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”²⁶ John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know,²⁷ even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.”²⁸ These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.”³² And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

Profession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith

Chapter 8.3

Of Christ the Mediator

The Lord Jesus, in his human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, above measure, **having in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**; in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell; **to the end that, being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, he might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a mediator, and surety.** Which office he took not unto himself, but was thereunto called by his Father, **who put all power and judgment into his hand, and gave him commandment to execute the same.**

Song of Praise

O Praise the Father

O praise the Father, praise the Son, the Lamb for sinners given,
And Holy Spirit, through whom alone our hearts are raised to Heaven.

Pastoral Prayer of Confession and Intercession

*Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

To all who have received the Gospel,
know that in Christ, your sins are forgiven and be at peace.

*Song of Rejoicing

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

#521

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. (Chorus)

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. (Chorus)

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. (Chorus)

Sermon

Romans 8:9-11
Keep in Step with the Spirit Part 2

Pastor Andy Aikens

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
And make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visions, no op'ning skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength and mind.
I see thy cross— there teach me to cling:
O let me seek thee, and O let me find.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame:
The presence of thy descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Serving of the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ, to come forward to the table.

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You may use the lyrics of the hymns as well as the Scriptures to guide your praying.

*Song of Response

Doxology

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.

*Benediction

We have been fed with spiritual food.
Now because the eternal God has graciously accepted us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
may we go into the world, strengthened by his peace and empowered by his Spirit
to love and serve all those with whom we live and work. Amen.

O Give the Lord Wholehearted Praise

Psalm 111



1. O give the Lord whole-heart-ed praise. To Him, thanks

2. The won-drous works that God has wrought, his peo-ple

3. His works are true_ and just_ in - deed. His pre - cepts



-giv - ing I___ will bring; with all His peo - ple

e - ver keep_ in mind. His works with grace and

are_ for - e - ver sure. In_ truth and right - eous -



I___ will raise my voice and of___ His glo - ry sing.

mer - cy fraught, re - veal - ing that_ the Lord is kind.

-ness de - creed, they shall for - e - ver - more en - dure.



His saints de - light to search and trace His might - ty

God's pro - mise shall for - e - ver stand. He cares for

From him, his saints' re - demp - tion came. His cov - 'nant

4. In rev - 'rence and in god - ly_ fear, man finds the



works and won - drous ways. Ma - jest - ic glo - ry,

those who trust_ his word. Up - on his saints, his

sure, no change can know. Let all re - vere his

gate to wis - dom's ways. The wise, his ho - ly



bound-less grace, and right-eous-ness His work dis - plays.

might-ty hand the wealth of na - tions has con - ferred.

ho - ly name in heav'n a - bove and Earth be - low.

name re - vere. Through end - less a - ges sound His praise.

D.S. al Fine

All Praise to Him, the God of Light

1. All praise to him, the God of light, who formed the
2. All praise to him whose love is seen in Christ the
3. All praise to him whose pow'r im-parts the love of

4
moun - tains by his might. All praise to him who names the
Son, the ser - vant king, who left be - hind his glo - rious
God with - in our hearts. The Spi - rit of all truth and

7 §
stars, that sing his fame in skies a - far. All praise to
throne to pay the ran - som for his own. All praise to
peace, the fount of joy and ho - li - ness To Fa - ther,

10
him who reigns in love, who guides the gal - ax - ies a -
him who hum - bly came to bear our sor - row, sin, and
Son, and Spir - it now our souls we lift our wills we

13
bove, yet bends to hear our ev - 'ry
shame, who lived to die, who died to
bow. To you, the Tri - une God, we

15 D.S. al Fine
prayer, with sov - reign pow'r and ten - der care.
rise, the all suf - fi - cient sac - ri - fice.
raise with lov - ing hearts our song of praise.

Words by Horatius Bonar; music and additional
words by Matt Merker and Bob Kauflin
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Spirit of God

Descend Upon My Heart

George Croly

Karl Digerness



1. Spi - rit of God, de - scend up - on my heart.
2. I ask no dream; no pro-phet ec - sta - sies,
3. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
4. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,



Wean it from earth; through all its pul - ses move.
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
One ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;



stoop to my weak - ness, mighty as thou art;
no an - gel vi - sion, no op'ning sky;
to check the ris - ing doubt, the re - bel sigh,
I see thy cross; there teach me to cling:
the presence of thy de - scended Dove,



and make me love thee as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
teach me the pa - tience of un - answered prayer.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

News and Announcements

Men's Bible Study resumes on Thursday, **January 9**.

If you are interested in cleaning toys and surfaces in the nursery for 2025, please let Hope Aikens know. The approximate time commitment is 2 hours one day a month if there are several folks in the rotation.

The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study details will be coming soon via an email and an announcement in the Bulletin. Stay tuned!

Printed copies of the January FPC Newsletter are on the table in the hallway.

Take an opportunity to clean out your mailbox and start 2025 with a clean slate.

First Catechism (for children of all ages)

Weeks 1-5 God

Weeks 6-12 Creation

Weeks 13-19 Fall/Sin

Weeks 20-28 Salvation by grace alone, through Christ alone

Weeks 29-30 Repentance and Faith

Weeks 31-48 Growing in Grace

Weeks 49-52 Heaven now and in the future

Week 18, December 29

How sinful are you by nature?

I am corrupt in every part of my being.

Week 19, January 5

Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?

No. Our hearts must be changed before we can believe in Jesus and go to heaven.

Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship Service	10:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Study	6:00 p.m. On Break Winter Months
Women's Monday Theology Study	2:00 p.m.
Men's Thursday Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
Octogenarian/Nonagenarian (ON) Lunch	Monthly
Women's Tuesday Bible Study	9:30 a.m. On Break

Giving

General Fund

2024 week 12/29	\$ 4,760
Giving YTD	\$ 620,618
YTD Budget	\$ 360,049

Deacon's Fund

2024 YTD Giving	\$ 9,714
2023 Rollover	\$ 4,841
2024 Disbursements	\$ 12,016

Our Missionary Family

International

Lydia Goeglein, MTW Sofia Bulgaria
Brian & Becky Schrader, Pioneers in Africa
Lee Leadbetter, RUF International at UT
Julian & Rachel Bacon, MTW Brussels

Local

Christ Church Presbyterian in Powell
Plateau Pregnancy Services
Good Samaritans, 10th Street
RUF Tennessee Tech, Ryan Angel
Rural Church Development, Corey Pelton

Session

Andy Aikens TE, Senior Pastor
Robert Berman, RE '27
Bobby Duck RE '25
Jim Sparks RE '26
Richard Parks RE '28
Forrest Marion RE, Clerk, '26

Deacons

Dave Miser, Chair '25
Vince Grilley '26
John Reed '26
Mike Tuuk '28

Staff

Assistant Pastor	Dick Gillen TE
Music Director	Matt Bundy
Finance/Admin	Holly Kisly

Security Team

Today	Bill Allbright
Next Week	Christian Ragle

Ministry Support

Treasurer	Bill Allbright
Newsletter	Darlene Gendjar
Technology Specialists	Matt Bundy, Jeff Nichols, Tom Buettner, Levi Powell,
Accompanists	Matt Bundy, Robert Berman, Scott Hewitt, Isabelle Aikens
Sanctuary Flowers	Sherry Hewitt

Greeters

Today	Holly Kisly
Next Week	Sherry Nichols

Nursery

Today	Hope Aikens Reba Norris Brianna Sears
Next Week	Lorelei Pacana Laura Powell Sandy Reed