

# First Presbyterian Church

Established 1988 PCA

August 31, 2025

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*Departure of the Israelites from Egypt* by David Roberts 1830

## 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

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here today to worship the Triune God with us. Our prayer is that we will delight to:

Glorify God in all things,  
Trust him for all things,  
Proclaim him as King over all things,  
So that we might love God and others through all things.

Our worship begins with God calling us into worship from his Word; we respond in adoration and praise.

We then hear our God speak to us in his Word, profess our faith in him, confess our sins to him, and hear his assurance of our pardon by the work of Christ.

This leads to a response of rejoicing as we prepare to hear the Word of God preached. Our church practices expository preaching. This means that the Bible determines the content of the messages. The messages “come out of” the text. Ordinarily, we preach through books of the Bible; currently, we are working our way through Exodus.

In the book of Exodus we see the invisible hand of God leading God’s people out of their sin and slavery into the promised land where they can worship him according to the instructions he gives. We are always looking for how these stories and instructions point us to Christ and the gospel empowered way to live.

Our Elders have been praying for you. May you encounter God today through his Word and by the presence of his Spirit.

Warmly,  
Pastor Andy

## Order of Worship

### Welcome and Announcements

Psalm 121:1-2

Where does our help come from?  
**Our help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

### Preparation for Worship

O God most high, most glorious, the thought of your infinite serenity cheers me, for I am toiling, troubled and distressed, but you are forever at perfect peace. Your designs cause you no fear or care of unfulfillment, they stand fast as the eternal hills. Your power knows no bond, your goodness no stint. You bring order out of confusion, and my defeats are your victories: the Lord God omnipotent reigns. I come to you as a sinner with cares and sorrows, to leave every concern entirely to you, every sin calling for Christ's precious blood. Revive deep spirituality in my heart; let me live near to the great shepherd, hear his voice, know its tones, follow its calls.

*The Valley of Vision*

### Call to Worship

Psalm 96

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup> Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

<sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

<sup>4</sup> For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

<sup>5</sup> For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup> Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

<sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

<sup>9</sup> Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

<sup>10</sup> Say among the nations, **"The LORD reigns!**

**Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;**  
**he will judge the peoples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

<sup>12</sup> let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

<sup>13</sup> before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

## Hymn of Praise — O Father, You Are Sovereign

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are arranged in four columns, each corresponding to a different verse of the hymn. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are as follows:

1.O Fa - ther, you are sov - 'reign in all the worlds you made; your  
2.O Fa - ther, you are sov - "reign in all af - fairs of man; no  
3.O Fa - ther, you are sov - 'reign, the Lord of hu - man pain, trans-  
4.O Fa - ther, you are sov - 'reign! We see you dim - ly now, but

might - y word was spo - ken and light and life o - beyed. Your  
pow'rs of death or dark - ness can thwart your per - fect plan. All  
-mut - ing earth - ly sor - rows to gold of heav'n - ly gain. All  
soon be - fore your tri - umph earth's e - v'ry knee shall bow. With

voice com-mands the sea - sons, and bounds the o - cean's shore, sets  
chance and change tran - scend - ing, su - preme in time and space, you  
e - vil o - ver - rul - ing, as none but Con-qu'ror could, your  
this glad hope be - fore— us our faith springs up a - new: our

stars with - in their cours - es and stills the tem - pest's roar.  
hold your trust - ing chil - dren se - cure in your em - brace.  
love pur - sues its pur - pose, our souls' e - ter - nal good.  
sov - 'reign Lord and Sav - ior, we trust and wor - ship you!

## Prayer of Adoration



# Hymn of Praise — How Firm a Foundation



1. How\_ firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is\_\_\_\_  
 2. "Fear\_ not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed; for\_\_\_\_  
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the\_\_\_\_  
 4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my\_\_\_\_  
 6. "The\_ soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose, I\_\_\_\_



laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What  
 I am your God, and will still give you aid; I'll  
 ri - vers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for  
 grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the  
 will not, I will not de - sert to his foes; that



more can he say than to you he has said, to\_\_\_\_  
 strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand, up -  
 I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless, and\_\_\_\_  
 flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign your\_\_\_\_  
 soul, though all hell should en - dea - vor to shake, I'll\_\_\_\_



you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 - held by my righ - teous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est di - stress.  
 dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 ne - ver, no ne - ver, no ne - ver for - sake."

## **Scripture Reading — 1 Peter 1:3-12**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

<sup>10</sup> Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, <sup>11</sup> inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. <sup>12</sup> It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

## **Profession of Faith — The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Song of Confession — He Will Hold Me Fast

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
2. Those he saves are his delight; Christ will hold me fast.  
3. For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast.

When the temp - ter would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.  
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.  
Jus - tice has been sa - tis - fied; he will hold me fast.

I could ne - ver keep my hold through life's fear - ful path;  
He'll not let my soul be lost; his pro - mi - ses shall last.  
Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast,

for my love is of - ten cold. He must hold me fast.  
Bought by him at such a cost; he will hold me fast.  
till our faith is turned to sight; when he comes at last.

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;  
for my Sav - ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

## Pastoral Prayer of Confession with the Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done in 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, for ever.  
Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon — 1 Peter 2:22-25

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup> When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

## Hymn of Rejoicing — On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

1. On Jor - dan's stor - my banks\_ I stand and  
2. All o'er those wide\_ ex - tend - ed plains shines  
3. No chill - ing wind\_ nor poi - sonous breath can  
4. When shall I see\_ that hap - py place and

cast a wish - ful eye to Can - aan's fair\_ and  
one e - ter - nal day, where God the Son\_ for -  
reach that health - ful shore. Sick - ness, sor - row,  
be for - e - ver blest? When shall I see\_ my

hap - py land, where my pos - sess - ions\_ lie. I am  
- e - ver reigns and scat - ters night a\_ way.  
pain, and death are felt and feared no\_ more.  
Fa - ther's face, and in his bo - som\_ rest?

bound, I am bound, I am bound for the Prom - ised Land\_ I am  
bound, I am bound, I am bound for the Prom - ised Land\_



## Song of Response – How Long, O Lord, How Long?

1. O Lord, our God, to you we come. Will you still hide your  
 2. Our sor - rows leave us weak and worn, sur - round - ed by our  
 3. Our foes and en - e - mies re - joice, in - jus - tice seems to  
 4. But we will trust your stead - fast love; your grace will be our

face? We cry be - fore you, and on your  
 fears. We look to hea - ven through fee - ble  
 reign. Lord, we are sha - ken and we are  
 song. You bring new mer - cies with e - v'ry

1.  
 knees we pray, how long, O Lord, how long?  
 faith and tears, how long, O Lord, how  
 los - ing strength, how long, O Lord, how  
 ri - sing sun, how long, O Lord, how

2.  
 long? Till your glo - ry fills our eyes and our

faith is turned to\_\_ sight, till our thirst - y souls are\_\_

sat - is - fied, how long, O Lord, how long?

## Benediction — Number 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
<sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
<sup>26</sup> the LORD lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace.

## Song of Response — Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it

was in the be - gin - ning, is now and e - ver shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

## News and Announcements

Next Sunday, September 7, during the worship service, we will recognize the opening of the Fine Arts School of Music. Please try to attend so we can worship God together and pray for his blessing over the newest ministry at FPC. April Stewart has been hired as the director and can answer any questions you have. We are still looking for more teachers and enrolling new students. You can help spread the word! Pick up a flyer in the hallway.

The men's breakfast and study of *How to Lead Your Family: A Guide for Men Wanting to Be More* by Joel Beeke will meet on Saturday, September 6 and on September 20 at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The women's Fall Bible study on Philippians begins Tuesday, September 16, 9:30-11 a.m. For those who are unable to attend on Tuesday mornings, an additional opportunity to participate in a Fall study will begin on Sunday, September 7, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. High school young women are also invited to join! Sign-up sheets are available in the hallway.

Mark your calendars for our next Fellowship Lunch on September 14. This will be "Italian Style." Sign up on the sheets in the hallway to bring your favorite pasta dish, salad, or dessert. If you have any questions, please contact Beth McCrabb.

## First Catechism

Weeks 1-5 God  
Weeks 6-12 Creation  
Weeks 13-19 Fall/Sin  
Weeks 20-28 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

What is the gospel and its reward?

**God, the righteous Creator, rescues sinful people from separation to himself through Jesus' sinless life, death, and resurrection. Repenting of our sins and believing in Jesus' work unites us to Jesus and transforms us to grow in ways pleasing to God. The eternal presence of God is our reward!**

Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship Service  
Sunday Morning Bible Study (all ages)  
Sunday Evening Worship  
Women’s Monday Theology Study  
Men’s Thursday Bible Study  
Octogenarian/Nonagenarian (ON) Lunch  
Women’s Tuesday Bible Study

10:45 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.  
6:00 p.m. On Break  
2:00 p.m.  
9:00 a.m.  
Monthly  
9:30 a.m. Begins September 16

Giving

General Fund

2025 week 8/24	\$ 7,586
Giving YTD	\$ 434,274
YTD Budget	\$ 332,680

Deacon’s Fund

2025 YTD Giving	\$ 8,448
2024 Rollover	\$ 2,610
2025 Disbursements	\$ 2,092

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

North America & Local

Plateau Pregnancy Services  
Good Samaritans, 10th Street  
RUF Tennessee Tech, Ryan Angel  
Rural Church Development, Corey Pelton  
Myers Park Initiative, Greg Salazar  
Mercy Presbyterian, Rob Herron  
Occom Ministries, Native American Initiative

Session

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

Deacons

Dave Miser, Chair ‘25  
John Reed ‘26  
Mike Tuuk ‘27

Staff

Music/Sound Director	Matt Bundy
School of Music Director	April Stewart
Finance/Admin	Holly Kisly

Security Team

Today	Orville Ennis
Next Week	Kevin Wyson

Ministry Support

Treasurer	Bill Allbright
Newsletter	Darlene Gendjar
Library	Kathy Pipkin

Greeters

Today	Aubrey & Charlotte Lewis
Next Week	Ralph Jansen

Nursery

Today	Hope Aikens Eden Tuuk
Next Week	Amber Pacana Lorelei Pacana