

First Presbyterian Church

Established 1988 PCA

January 4, 2026

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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

Almighty, eternal and merciful God, whose Word is a lamp unto our feet and light unto our path, open and illuminate our minds, that we may purely and perfectly understand your Word and that our lives may be conformed to what we have rightly understood, that in nothing we may be displeasing to your majesty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-H. Zwingli

Call to Worship

Psalm 113

Praise the LORD!
Praise, O servants of the LORD,
 praise the name of the LORD!

² Blessed be the name of the LORD
 from this time forth and forevermore!

³ From the rising of the sun to its setting,
 the name of the LORD is to be praised!

⁴ The LORD is high above all nations,
 and his glory above the heavens!

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
 who is seated on high,

⁶ who looks far down
 on the heavens and the earth?

⁷ He raises the poor from the dust
 and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸ to make them sit with princes,
 with the princes of his people.

⁹ He gives the barren woman a home,
 making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the LORD!

Hymn of Praise — Hallelujah, Raise, O Raise



1. Hal - le - lu - jah! Raise, O raise to our God the song of praise.
2. O'er all na - tions, God a - lone, high - er than the heav'ns his throne.
3. He can raise the poor to stand with the prin - ces of the land,
All his ser - vants, join to sing God our Sav - ior and our King.
Who is like to God Most High in - fin - ite in maj - es - ty?
wealth up - on the need - y show'r, set him with the high in pow'r.
Bless - ed be for - e - ver - more that great name which we a - dore.
Yet to view the heavn's he bends, Yea, to Earth he con - de-scends,
He the bro - ken spi - rit cheers, turns to joy the mourn-er's tears.
Round the world, his praise be_ sung through all lands in e - v'ry tongue.
pass - ing by the rich and great, for the low and de - so - late.
Such the won - ders of_ his_ ways. Praise his name; for - e - ver praise!

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — O Worship The King

1. O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly
2. O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the
3. The earth with its store of won - ders un - told, al - might - y, your
4. Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the
5. Frail child - ren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, in you do we
6. O mea - sure - less Might! In - ef - fa - ble Love! While an - gels de -

sing his pow'r and his love; our shield and De - fend - er, the
light, whose can - o - py space. His char - iots of wrath the deep
pow'r has found - ed of old; has 'stab - lished it fast by a
air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills; it de -
trust, nor find you to fail; your mer - cies how ten - der, how
light to hymn you a - bove, the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though

An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
thun - der - clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
change - less de - cree, and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
scends to the plain; and sweet - ly dis - tils in the dew - and the rain.
firm to the end, our Mak - er, De - fen - der, Re - deem - er, and Friend!
fee - ble their lays, with true a - dor - a - tion shall lisp - to your praise.

Scripture Reading — Colossians 1:9-20

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;¹¹ being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

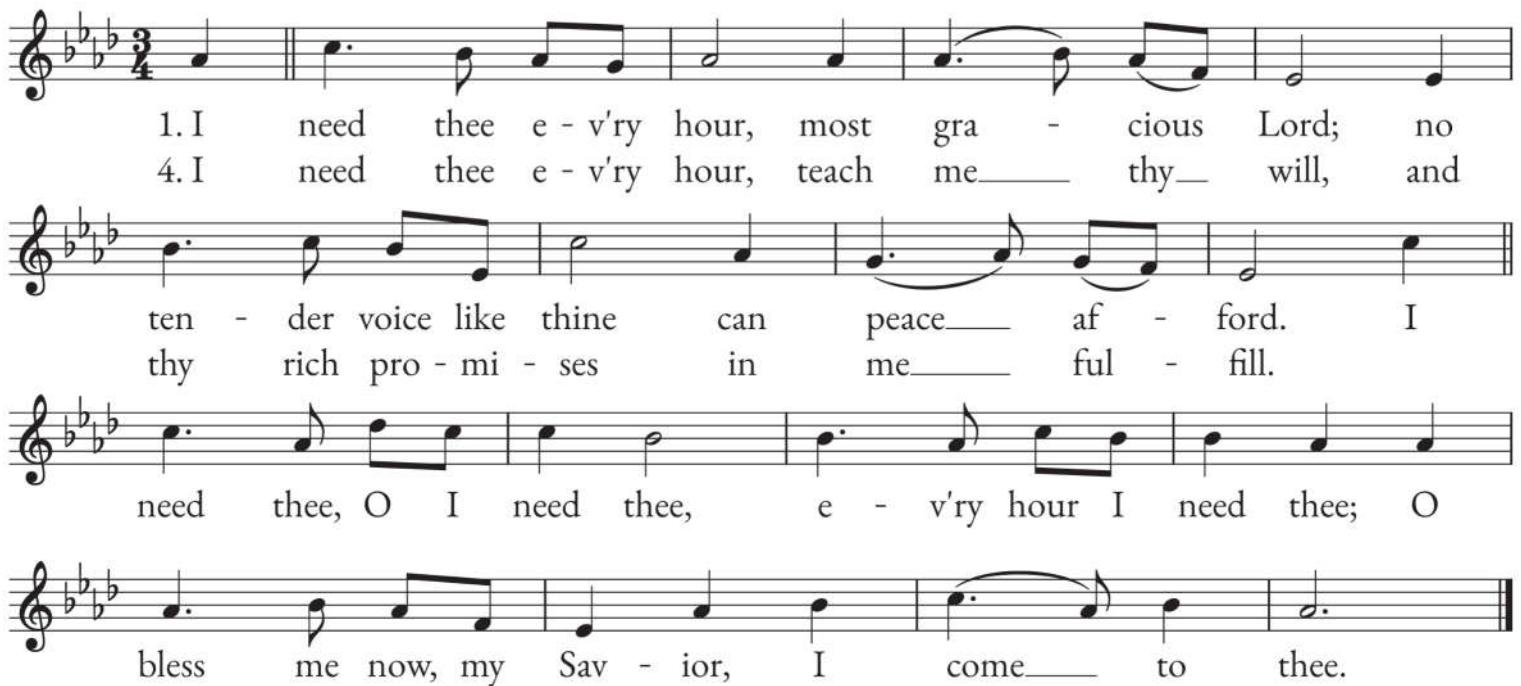
¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith, 27.1, 27.4

Sacraments are holy signs and seals of the covenant of grace, immediately instituted by God, to represent Christ and his benefits, and to confirm our interest in him: as also to put a visible difference between those that belong unto the Church and the rest of the world; and solemnly to engage them to the service of God in Christ, according to his Word.

There be only two sacraments ordained by Christ our Lord in the Gospel, that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord: neither of which may be dispensed by any but by a minister of the Word lawfully ordained.

Song of Confession — I Need Thee



1. I need thee e - v'ry hour, most gra - cious Lord; no
4. I need thee e - v'ry hour, teach me thy will, and
ten - der voice like thine can peace af - ford. I
thy rich pro - mi - ses in me ful - fill.
need thee, O I need thee, e - v'ry hour I need thee; O
bless me now, my Sav - ior, I come to thee.

Pastoral Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.

But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconstant,
our obedience incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness.

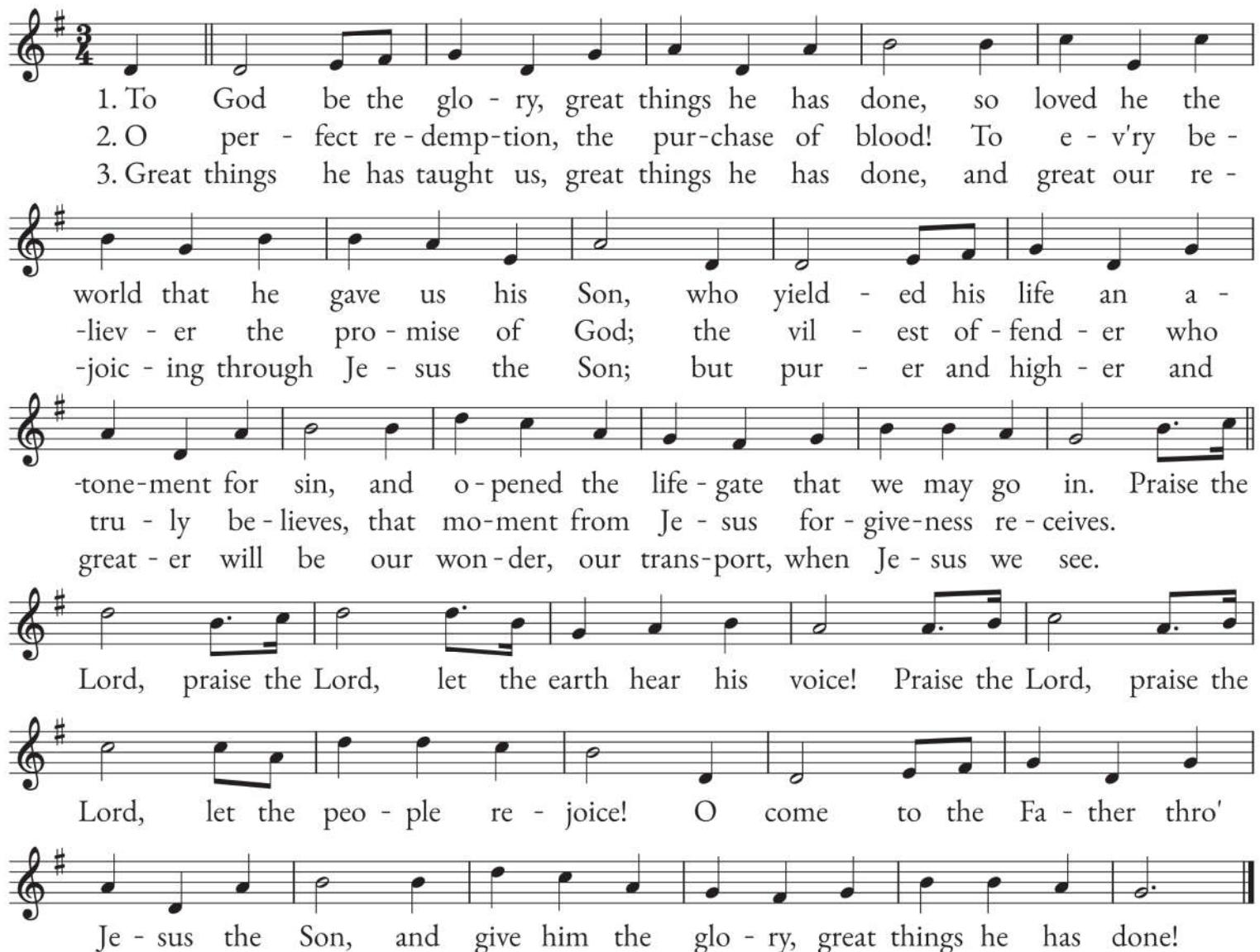
In your tender love, forgive us
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon — Romans 8:26-30

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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

Hymn of Rejoicing — To God Be the Glory



1. To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done, so loved he the
2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood! To e - v'ry be -
3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
-liev - er the pro - mise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
-joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er and high - er and

-tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that we may go in. Praise the
tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus for - give - ness re - ceives.
great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the

Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther thro'

Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

Sermon

Firstborn to Firstborn
Exodus 13:1-16

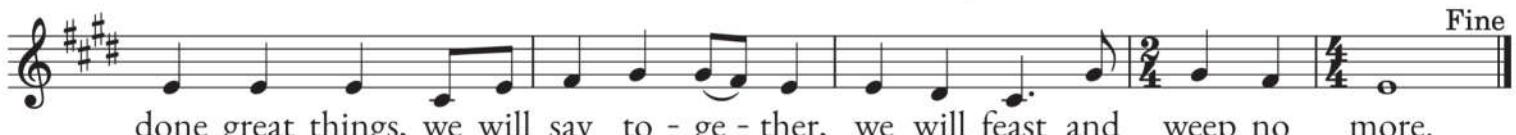
Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response – We Will Feast in the House of Zion



We will feast in the house of Zi-on, we will sing with our hearts re-restored. He has



done great things, we will say to - ge - ther, we will feast and weep no more.



1. We will not be burned by the fire He
2. In the dark of night, be - fore the dawn, my
3. E - v'ry vow, we've bro - ken and be-trayed. You



is the Lord, Our God We are not con sumed by the
soul be not a - fraid. For the prom-ised morn - ing, oh, how
are the Faith - ful one. And from the gar - den to the



flood up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up.
long? Oh God of Ja - cob, be my strength.
grave, bind us to - geth - er bring sha - lom.

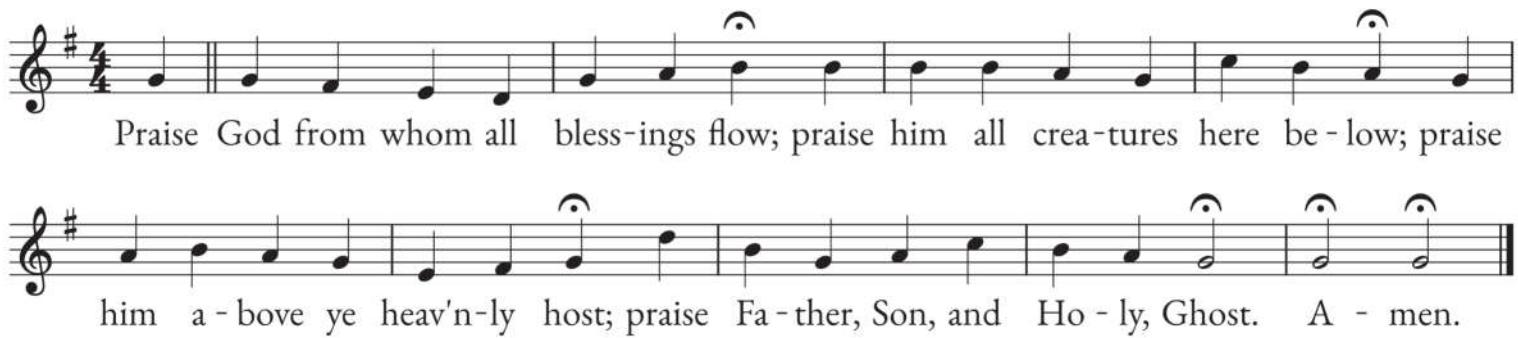
Serving of the Lord's Supper

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.

As you come to the table be mindful that all the bread is gluten free, the grape juice is in the outer ring, and the wine is in the inner ring of each tray.

Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here be - low; praise
him a - bove ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly, Ghost. A - men.

Benediction – Based on Galatians 6:7-9

In Christ, through his Spirit,
may you go out of this place
knowing the certainty of his mercy and peace
so that you do not grow weary in sowing what is good
and doing good to all people.
May the hope of eternal life encourage you
as you do what is pleasing
to the Lord through all your days.

News and Announcements

Please silence your phone.

Men's Bible study resumes Thursday, January 8, at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

First Catechism

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!

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 - January 4

How sinful are you by nature?

I am corrupt in every part of my being.

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. On Break

Giving

General Fund

2025 week 12/28	\$ 86,460
Giving YTD	\$ 644,227
YTD Budget	\$ 493,510

Deacon's Fund

2025 YTD Giving	\$ 11,138
2024 Rollover	\$ 2,610
2025 Disbursements	\$ 12,092

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
Eric Larson, RE '28
Jim Sparks RE '26
Richard Parks RE '27
Forrest Marion RE, Clerk, '26

Deacons

Dave Miser, Chair '28
John Reed '26
Mike Tuuk '27
Greg Wood '28

Staff

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

Security Team

Today	Tim Grimes
Next Week	Bob Kalb

Ministry Support

Treasurer	Bill Allbright
Newsletter	Darlene Gendjar
Library	Kathy Pipkin
Children's Ministry	Hope Aikens

Greeters

Today	Darlene Gendjar & Holly Kisly
Next Week	Eston & Reba Norris

Nursery

Today	Annalise Aikens
Next Week	Nancy Tuuk
	Bethany Powell
	Keely Ragle