

First Presbyterian Church

Established 1988 PCA

December 28, 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

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.
Dear Name! the Rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place,
My never failing treasury filled with boundless stores of grace.
O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring.

-John Newton

Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-9

Oh sing to the LORD a new song;
 sing to the LORD, all the earth!
² Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
 tell of his salvation from day to day.
³ Declare his glory among the nations,
 his marvelous works among all the peoples!
⁴ For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
 he is to be feared above all gods.
⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
 but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him;
 strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
 bring an offering, and come into his courts!
⁹ Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
 tremble before him, all the earth!

Hymn of Praise — Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1. Ho - ly God we praise your name; Lord of
 2. Hark, the loud ce - le - stial hymn an - gel
 3. Lo! the a - po - sto - lic train join your
 4. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly

all, we bow be - fore you; all on earth your
 choirs a - bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and
 sa - cred name to hal - low; pro - phets swell the
 Spi - rit, Three we name you; while in es - sence

scep - ter claim, all in heav'n a - bove a -
 se - ra - phim in un - ceas - ing cho - - rus
 glad - re - frain, and the white - robed mar - - tyrs
 on - ly One, un - di - vi - ded God we

-dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do - main,
 prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord;
 fol - low; and from morn to set of sun,
 claim you, and a - dor - ing bend the knee,

e - ver - last - ing is your reign.
 "Ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly Lord."
 through the church the song goes on.
 while we sing this my ste - ry.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

1. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns, and light tri - um - phant breaks; when
 2. O bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall this fair morn-ing_ be, when
 beau - ty gilds the east - ern_ hills, and life to joy a - wakes. Not
 Christ, our King, in beau - ty_ comes, and we his face shall see. And
 3. The
 as of old a lit - tle_ child to bear and fight and die, but
 let the end - less bliss be - gin, by wea - ry saints fore - told, when
 King shall come when morn - ing_ dawns, and light and beau - ty brings: Hail,
 D.S. al Fine
 crowned with glo - ry like the_ sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 right shall tri - umph o - ver_ wrong and truth shall be_ ex - tolled.
 Christ the Lord! Thy peo - ple_ pray, come quick - ly King of kings.

Scripture Reading — Matthew 26:

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?”¹⁸ He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’”¹⁹ And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

20 When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve.²¹ And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”²² And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?”²³ He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me.²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”²⁵ Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”

²⁶ Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”²⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you,²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.²⁹ I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”

Profession of Faith — Ligonier Statement on Christology

We confess the mystery and wonder
of God made flesh
and rejoice in our great salvation
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit,
the Son created all things,
sustains all things,
and makes all things new.
Truly God, he became truly man,
two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary
and lived among us.
Crucified, dead, and buried,
he rose on the third day,
ascended to heaven,
and will come again
in glory and judgment.

For us,
he kept the Law,
atoned for sin,
and satisfied God's wrath.
He took our filthy rags
and gave us
his righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King,
building his church,
interceding for us,
and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord;
we praise his holy Name forever.

Amen.

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

Eternal God, we confess that often we have failed to be an obedient church:

we have not done your will;
we have broken your law;
we have rebelled against your love;

we have not loved our neighbors;
we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon — Philippians 3:8-12

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

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

Hymn of Rejoicing — Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery



1. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - 'ry in the dawn-ing of the King. He, the
2. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - 'ry: he the per-fect Son of Man, in his
3. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - 'ry: Christ the Lord up - on the tree. In the
4. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - 'ry: slain by death, the God of life. But no



theme of heav-en's prais - es, robed in frail hu - man - i - ty. In our
liv - ing, in his suff - ring, ne - ver trace nor stain of_ sin. See the
stead of ru - ined sin - ners hangs the Lamb in vic - to - ry! See the
grave could e'er re - strain him; praise the Lord! He is a - live! What a_



long - ing, in our dark - ness, now the light of life has_ come! Look to
true and bet - ter A - dam, come to_ save the hell - bound man, Christ, the
price of our re - dep - tion, see the Fa - ther's plan un - fold, bring - ing
fore - taste of de - liv' - rance! How un - wav - er - ing our_ hope! Christ in

D.S. al Fine



Christ who con - de - scand - ed, took on flesh to ran - som us.
great and sure full - fill - ment of the law; in him we_ stand.
ma - ny sons to glo - ry: grace un- mea - sured, love un - told!
po - wer re - sur - rect - ed, as we will be when he_ comes.

Sermon

The Institution of the Passover
Exodus 12:43-51

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response – Christ is Our Cornerstone

1. Christ is our cor - ner - stone, on him a - lone we build; with
2. O then with hymns of praise these hal - lowed courts shall ring; our
3. Here may we gain from Heav'n the grace which we im - plore, and

his true saints a - lone the courts of Heav'n are filled, on
voi - ces we will raise the Three in One to sing; and
may that grace, once giv'n, be with us e - ver - more, un -

his great love our hopes we place of pres-ent grace and joys a - bove.
thus pro - claim in joy - ful song, both loud and long, that glo - ri - ous name.
- til that day when all the blest to end - less rest are called a - way.

Benediction – From Ephesians 2:4-5,10

Now because of the great love with which God loved us,
that makes us alive together with Christ,
may you walk in grace and do the good works
which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

News and Announcements

Please silence your phone.

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 17 - December 28

What does every sin deserve?

The wrath and curse of God.

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

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|-----------------|------------|
| 2025 week 12/21 | \$ 7,185 |
| Giving YTD | \$ 557,767 |
| YTD Budget | \$ 484,020 |

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

Deacon's Fund

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|--------------------|-----------|
| 2025 YTD Giving | \$ 10,598 |
| 2024 Rollover | \$ 2,610 |
| 2025 Disbursements | \$ 12,092 |

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 | Tim Grimes |

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

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|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Today | John & Jill deGrassie |
| Next Week | Darlene Gendjar & Holly Kisly |

Nursery

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Today | Brianna Ragle |
| Next Week | Eden Tuuk |
| | Annalise Aikenns |
| | Nancy Tuuk |