

First Presbyterian Church

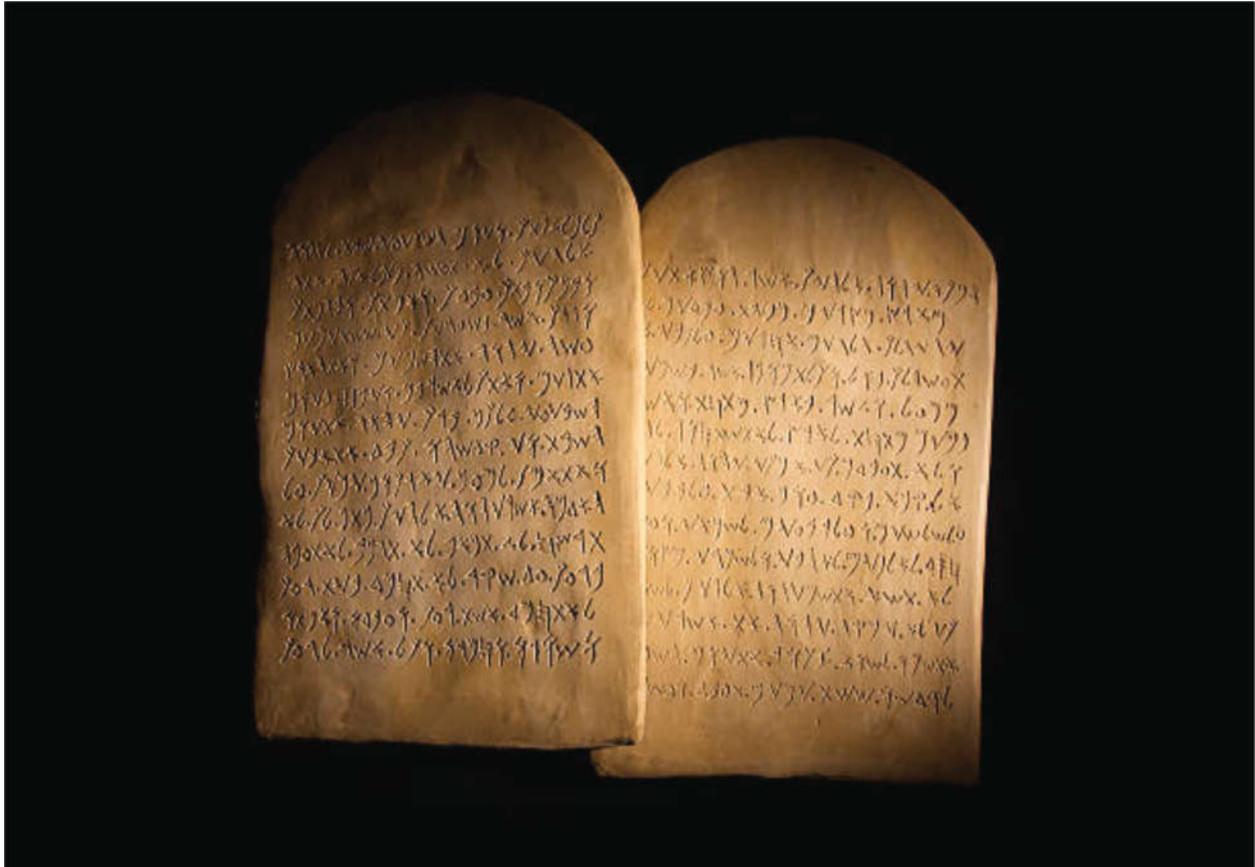
Established 1988 PCA

February 22, 2026

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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

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

Heavenly Father, save me entirely from sin. I know I am righteous through the righteousness of another, but I pant and pine for likeness to you. I am your child and should bear your image; enable me to recognize my death unto sin; when it tempts me, may I be deaf unto its voice. Deliver me from the invasion as well as the dominion of sin. Grant me to walk as Christ walked, to live in the newness of his life, the life of love, the life of faith, the life of holiness.

-The Valley of Vision

Call to Worship

Psalm 95

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

³ For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you hear his voice,

⁸ do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

⁹ when your fathers put me to the test
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

¹⁰ For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart,
and they have not known my ways."

¹¹ Therefore I swore in my wrath,
"They shall not enter my rest."

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1. Come, Christ-ians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
let prai - ses fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
on Hea - ven's bliss - ful shore, his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
his love shall ne - ver end. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
sing - ing for - e - ver - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

Hymn of Praise — 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.

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 3

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ² who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³ For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴ (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶ but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
⁸ do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
on the day of testing in the wilderness,
⁹ where your fathers put me to the test
and saw my works for forty years.
¹⁰ Therefore I was provoked with that generation,
and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart;
they have not known my ways.’
¹¹ As I swore in my wrath,
‘They shall not enter my rest.’”

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. ¹⁵ As it is said,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith 18.1

Although hypocrites and other unregenerate men may vainly deceive themselves with false hopes and carnal presumptions of being in the favour of God and estate of salvation, which hope of theirs shall perish: yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before him, may in this life be certainly assured that they are in a state of grace, and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God, which hope shall never make them ashamed.

Song of Confession — Come, Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Come, ye souls_ by sin af - flict - ed, bowed with fruit - less'. The second staff continues with 'sor - row down. By the brok - en law con - vict - ted, _'. The third staff has 'through the cross, _ be - hold _ the crown. Look to'. The fourth staff concludes with 'Je - sus. Mer - cy flows _ through him a - lone.' The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together and others having slurs or ties.

Come, ye souls_ by sin af - flict - ed, bowed with fruit - less
sor - row down. By the brok - en law con - vict - ted, _
through the cross, _ be - hold _ the crown. Look to
Je - sus. Mer - cy flows _ through him a - lone.

Pastoral Prayer

O Lord, you have fed us when we were famished;
you made the bitter water sweet.

**Yet we have not learned to trust you.
Forgive us, and soften our hearts.**

O Lord, you have been faithful in all that you have promised,

**Yet we have doubted and grumbled against you.
Forgive us, and open our eyes to your faithfulness.**

O Lord, you are the Almighty Judge.

**Yet we attempt to bring a charge against you.
Forgive us for our rebellion in the plain sight of your goodness.**

O Lord, your word tells us
that you have taken away our hearts of stone and given us hearts of flesh,

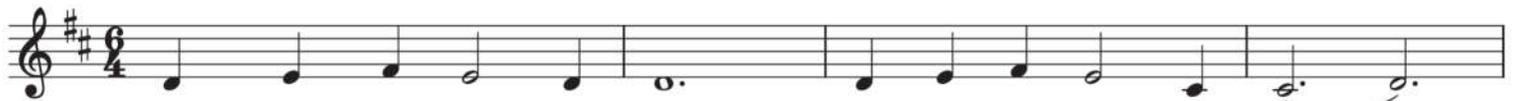
**Yet even our new hearts stray from you.
Forgive us, and let our hearts be pliable in your hands.**

Assurance of Pardon — 1 John 4:9-12

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

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

Hymn of Rejoicing — Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ



1. Thy works, not mine, O Christ, speak glad-ness to this heart;—
2. Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, can heal my bruis - ed soul.——
3. Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, has borne the aw - ful load——
4. Thy death, not mine, O Christ, has paid the ran - som due;——
5. Thy right - eous-ness, O Christ, a - lone can co - ver me.——



they tell me all is done, they bid my fear de - part... To
Thy stripes, not mine, con - tain the balm that makes me whole.
of sins that none could bear but the in - car - nate God.
ten thou - sand deaths like mine would have been all too few.
No right - eous - ness a - vails save that which is of thee.



whom save thee who canst a - lone for



sin a - tone, Lord, shall I flee?

Sermon

Provision, Protection, Presence
Exodus 17:1-7

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response — My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

1. My hope is built on no-thing less than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -
3. His oath, his co - ve - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

righ - teous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame but
chang - ing grace; in e - v'ry high and storm - y gale, my
whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he
him be found; dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name. On
an - chor holds with - in the veil.
then is all my hope and stay.
-less to stand be - fore the throne.

Christ the so - lid rock I stand; all oth - er ground is
sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

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

A New Member Orientation will be held on Sunday, March 8–29 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign up sheet in the hallway as well as a copy of *Living Stones: Why Membership Matters* for you to take.

Please show your support and join the Fine Arts School of Music at the Art Circle Public Library at noon on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, for a concert promoting the School of Music within the community. Teachers and students will present a collection of sacred, folk, and bluegrass selections. Hope to see you there!

The women's Tuesday morning Bible study of *Esther: The Hidden Hand of God* by Lydia Brownback is March 17 – June 2, 9:30 - 11 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. A sign up sheet and books are in the hallway. The cost is \$10.

Women of all ages, there is an opportunity for serving the body of Christ this year. Sign up sheets are in the hallway near the back door. For additional information, contact Hope Aikens.

YAH Group – “Young at Heart” is a new ministry for our women in their 80s and above. The first meeting will be at 12:00 p.m. March 5 at Casa Grande in Fairfield Glade. There are flyers on the table in the hallway with more information. For questions or to sign up, contact Pat Duck.

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 25 - February 22

Did Christ remain in the grave after his crucifixion?

No. He rose bodily from the grave on the third day after his death.

Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship Service	10:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 p.m. On Break
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. Begins March 17

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	Christian Ragle
Next Week	Orville Ennis & Cole Mayhugh

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

Today	John & Jill deGrassie
Next Week	Christian & Brianna Ragle

Nursery

Today	Jenae Larson Robyn Mayhugh
Next Week	Holly Kisly Keely Ragle