

First Presbyterian Church

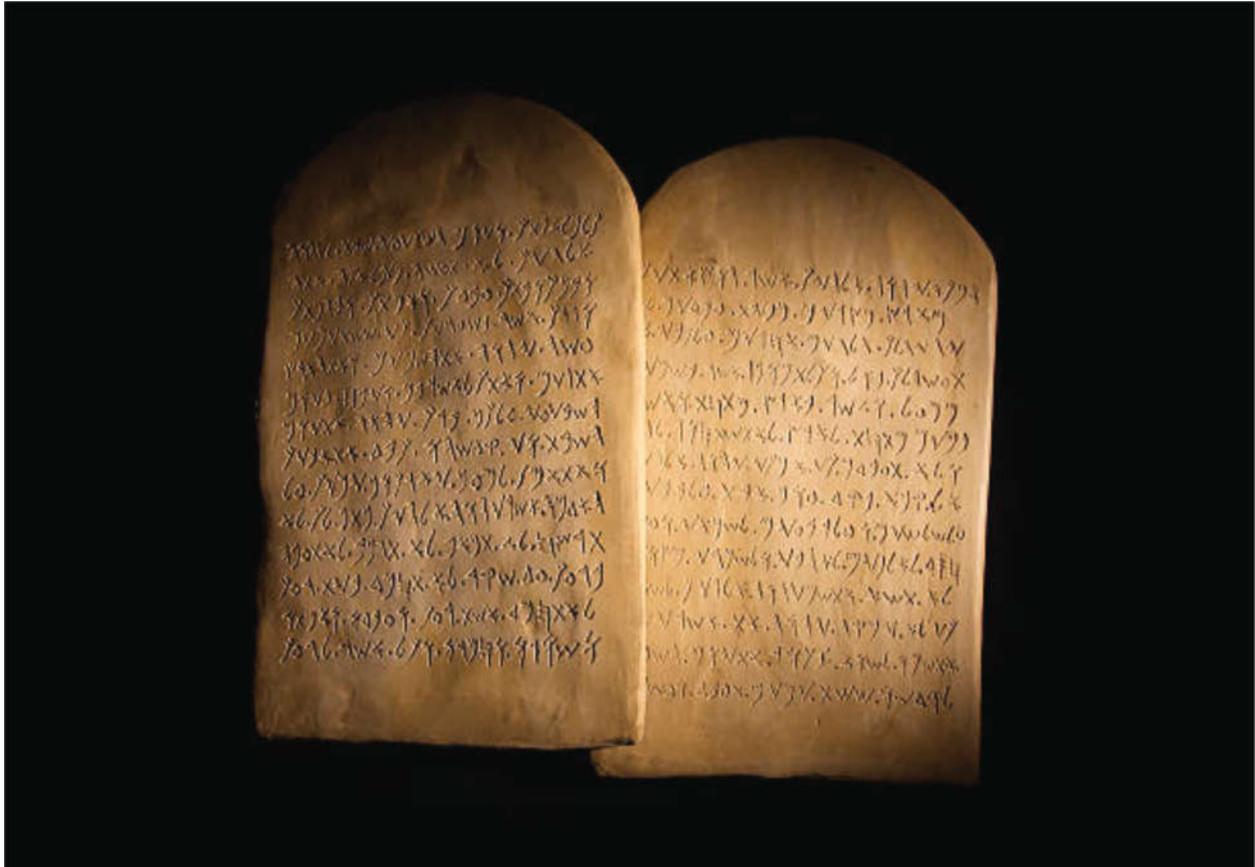
Established 1988 PCA

March 1, 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

Most merciful Father, we humbly beseech you to give every one of us grace to let every word that is read, prayed, sung, and preached sink deeply into our hearts. Bless, we pray, our wills and affections with sanctified desires to entertain them, our memories with faithfulness to retain them, our minds with serious meditation to digest them, our hearts with fervency and prayer for blessing upon them, and our lives with practice and piety to profit by them.

-from Robert Bolton, 17th century pastor

Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-10

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

² My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.

³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.

⁵ Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶ This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

⁹ Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!

¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Hymn of Praise — Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him



1. Praise the Lord! ye heav'ns a - dore him; praise him, an - gels, in the_ height;
2. Praise the Lord! for he is glo - rious; ne - ver shall his pro - mise fail;
3. Wor - ship, ho - nor, glo - ry, bless - ing, Lord, we of - fer un - to_ thee;



sun and moon, re - joice be fore him; praise him, all ye stars and light.
God hath made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.
young and old, thy praise ex - press - ing, in glad ho - mage bend the_ knee.



Praise the Lord! for he hath spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;
Praise the God of our sal - va - tion! hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;
All the saints in heav'n a - dore thee; we would bow be - fore thy throne;



laws which ne - ver shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance hath he_ made.
heav'n and earth and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his_ name.
as thine an - gels serve be - fore thee, so on_ earth thy_ will be_ done.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Psalm 23)



1. The King of love my Shep-herd is, whose good-ness fail - eth_ ne - ver; I
2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my_ ran-somed soul he_ lead - eth; and
3. Per - verse and fool - ish, oft I stray, but yet in love he_ sought me; and
4. In death's dark vale I_ fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy
5. And so through all the length of days, thy_ good-ness fail - eth_ ne - ver; good



no - thing lack if I am his, and he is mine for - e - ver.
where the ver - dant pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
on his shoul - der gent - ly laid, and home re - joic - ing brought me.
rod and staff my com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
Shep - herd, may I sing thy praise with - in thy house for - e - ver.

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 7:11-28

Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?¹² For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well.¹³ For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar.¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

¹⁵ This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek,¹⁶ who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.¹⁷ For it is witnessed of him,

“You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek.”

¹⁸ For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness¹⁹ (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

²⁰ And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath,²¹ but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him:

“The Lord has sworn
and will not change his mind,
‘You are a priest forever.’”

²² This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

²³ The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office,²⁴ but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.²⁷ He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith 8.5

The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience and sacrifice of himself, which he through the eternal Spirit once offered up unto God, has fully satisfied the justice of his Father, and purchased not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father has given unto him.

Song of Confession — Hear My Words (Psalm 5)



1. Hear my words, O gra - cious Lord; to my thoughts, at - ten - tive be.
2. With the morn - ing light, O Lord, thou shalt hear my voice a - rise,
3. Thou art ho - ly, O my God; thou de - light - est not in sin.
4. In the full - ness of thy grace, to thy house I will re - pair;



Hear my cry, my King, my God; I will make my prayer to thee.
and ex - pec - tant I will bring pray - er as morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
E - vil shall not dwell with thee, nor the proud thy fa - vor win.
bow - ing toward thy ho - ly place, lost in love I wor - ship there.

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 — O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer



1. O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, great-est trea - sure of my long-ing soul. My
2. O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, strong de-fend - er of my wea - ry heart, my
3. O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, gra-cious Sa - vior of my ru - ined life, my



God, like you there is no oth - er; true de - light is found in you a - lone. Your
sword to fight the cruel de - cei - ver and my shield a-against his hate - ful darts. My
guilt and cross laid on your should-ers. In my place, you suf-fered, bled, and died. You



grace, a well too deep to fath - om. Your love ex - ceeds the heav-ens' reach. Your
song when e - ne - mies sur - round me, my hope when tides of sor - row rise. My
rose; the grave and death are con-quer-ed! You broke my bonds of sin and shame. O



truth, a fount of per-fect wis - dom, my high-est good and my un - end-ing need.
joy when tri - als are a-bound-ing, your faith-ful-ness, my re-fuge in the night.
Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem - er, may all my days bring glo-ry to your name.

Sermon Notes:

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.

Song of Response — The Church's One Foundation

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord; she
 2. E - lect from e - v'ry nat - tion, yet one o'er all the earth, her
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed, by
 4. The church shall ne - ver pe - rish! her Dear Lord to de - fend, to
 5. 'Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war, she
 6. Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God the Three in One, and
 is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word; from
 char - ter of sal - va - tion, on Lord, one faith, one birth; one
 schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed, yet
 guide, sus - tain, and che - rish, is with her to the end; though
 waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - e - ver - more; till
 mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won: O
 heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride; with
 ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food, and
 saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?" and
 there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale, a -
 with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest, and
 hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we, like
 his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 to one hope she press - es, with e - v'ry grace en - dued.
 soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 gainst or foe or trai - tor she e - ver shall pre - vail.
 the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Benediction – Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless and keep you;
 the LORD make his face to shine upon you
 and be gracious to you;
 the LORD lift up his countenance upon you
 and give you peace.

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.

The First Fellowship Dinner of 2026 will be on March 22. The church is providing ham, bread, and beverages. There are sign up sheets in the hallway for salads, vegetables, macaroni & cheese, potatoes, and desserts.

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 26 - March 1

What is meant by the atonement?

Christ satisfied God's justice by his suffering and death as a substitute for sinners.

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

Giving

General Fund

2026 YTD Giving	\$ 77,064
2026 Budget	\$ 487,603

Deacon Fund

2026 YTD Giving	\$ 1,595
2026 Budget	\$ 9,000
2026 Disbursements	\$ 0

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	Orville Ennis & Cole Mayhugh
Next Week	Michael McCrabb

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

Today	Christian & Brianna Ragle
Next Week	Orville & Audrey Ennis

Nursery

Today	Holly Kisly Keely Ragle
Next Week	Annalise Aikens Reba Norris