

First Presbyterian Church

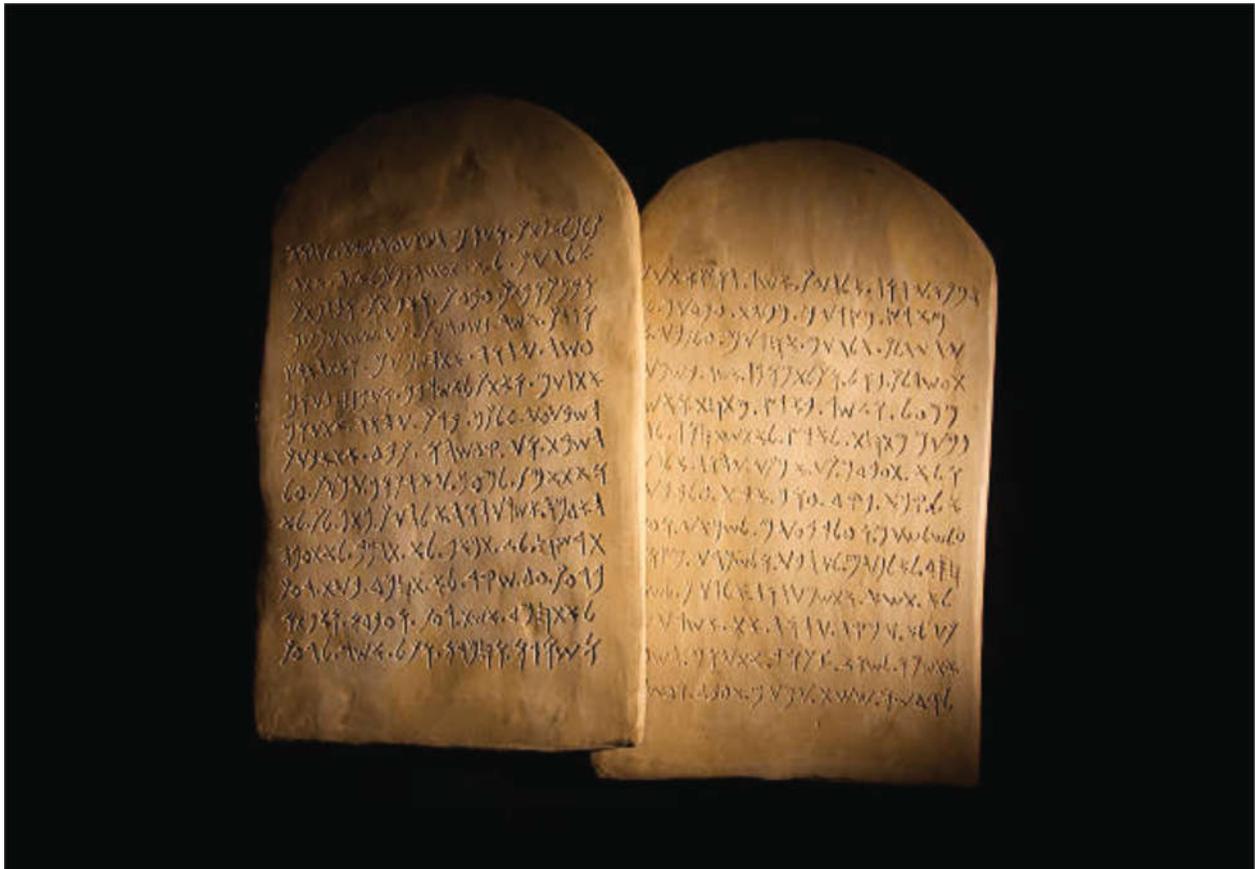
Established 1988 PCA

March 15, 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

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? May we approach you with the humility which is due to your greatness, and the hope that becomes your goodness. For though you are high, yet you have respect for the lowly; and though continually adored by thrones and dominions, principalities and powers, yet you despise not the prayer of the destitute, but will hear their prayer. Our fathers cried unto you and were delivered. They trusted in you and were not confounded. And you never said to the seed of Jacob, seek me in vain. Amen.

-William Jay

Call to Worship

Psalm 97:1-9

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;

let the many coastlands be glad!

² Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;

righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

³ Fire goes before him

and burns up his adversaries all around.

⁴ His lightnings light up the world;

the earth sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,

before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ The heavens proclaim his righteousness,

and all the peoples see his glory.

⁷ All worshipers of images are put to shame,

who make their boast in worthless idols;

worship him, all you gods!

⁸ Zion hears and is glad,

and the daughters of Judah rejoice,

because of your judgments, O LORD.

⁹ For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;

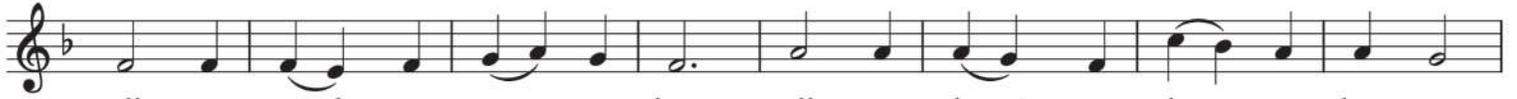
you are exalted far above all gods.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — Holy God, We Praise Your Name



1. Ho - ly God we praise your name; Lord of all, we bow be - fore you;
2. Hark, the loud ce - le - stial hymn an - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;
3. Lo! the a - po - sto - lic train join your sa - cred name to hal - low;
4. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three we name you;



all on earth your scep - ter claim, all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you.
cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing,
pro - phets swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low;
while in es - sence on - ly One, un - di - vi - ded God we claim you,



In - fi - nite your vast do - main, e - ver - last - ing is your reign.
fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord; "Ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly Lord."
and from morn to set of sun, through the church the song goes on.
and a - dor - ing bend the knee, while we sing this my - ste - ry.

Hymn of Praise — Christ is Made the Sure Foundation



1. Christ is made the sure found-a - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner-stone;
2. To this tem - ple where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, to - day;
3. Here vouch-safe to all thy ser - vants as they ask of thee to gain;
4. Praise and ho - nor to the Fa - ther, praise and ho - nor to the Son,



cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious, bind - ing all the Church in one,
with thy want - ed lov - ing-kind - ness hear thy ser - vants as they pray.
what they gain from thee for - e - ver and thy bless - ed rest re - tain,
praise and ho - nor to the Spi - rit, e - ver three and e - ver one;



ho - ly Zi - on's help for - e - ver, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Be our com - fort, light and shep-herd, be our life, our truth and way,
and here - af - ter in thy glo - ry e - ver-more with thee to reign.
One in might and one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!



He the bod - y bro - ken for us, raised from death to make us one.
and thy full - est be - ne - dic - tion shed with - in these walls al - ways.
Our sal - va - tion poured out on us once for all for - ev - er - more.
One in might and one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 5:1-10

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³ Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴ And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵ So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶ as he says also in another place

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

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰ being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith 8.2

The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him man’s nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God, and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

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

Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy for us to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep for us to undo.

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
a consuming fire of judgment.**

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;

**and grant us grace
to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

Assurance of Pardon — 1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

Hymn of Illumination — Speak O Lord



1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you_ to re-ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word.
2. Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di-ence, ho-ly re - ve-rence true hu - mil - i - ty.
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us:



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fash-ion us_ in your like - ness. That the Test our thoughts and our at - ti-tudes in the ra - di-ance of your pu - ri - ty. Cause our truths un - changed from the dawn of time that will e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to-day in our acts of love and our deeds of_ faith. faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your maj - es - tic love and au - tho - ri - ty. grace, we'll stand on your pro - mis-es, and by faith, we'll walk as you walk with us.



Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us_ all your pur - po-ses_ for your glo - ry. Words of pow'r that can ne - ver fail: let their truth pre-vail o - ver un - be-lief. Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built and the earth is filled with your glor - ry.

Sermon

A Treasured Position
Exodus 19:1-9

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response — Turn Your Eyes



1. Turn your eyes up-on Je - sus, look full in his won-der-ful face, and the
2. Turn your eyes to the hill - side, where just - ice and mer - cy em-braced, there the
3. Turn your eyes to the morn - ing and see Christ the li - on a - wake. What a
4. Turn your eyes to the hea - vens; our King will re - turn for his own. E - v'ry



things of earth will grow strange - ly dim in the light of his glo - ry and grace.
Son of God gave his life for us, and our meas-ure-less debt was e - rased.
glo - rious dawn; fear of death is gone, for we car - ry his life in our veins.
knee will bow e - v'ry tongue will shout: "All glo - ry to Je - sus a - lone!"



Je - sus, to you we lift our eyes; Je - sus, our glo - ry and our prize. We a -



- dore you, be - hold you, our Sa - vior e - ver true. Oh Je - sus, we turn our eyes to you.

Benediction – Based on 1 Timothy 6:11-13

May God,
who gives life to everything,
and our gracious Savior,
who bought you with his precious blood,
now empower you by his Holy Spirit to pursue
righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.
May you fight the good fight of the faith
so that his name is exalted
and you may take hold of the eternal life
to which you were called,
for his glory alone.
Amen.

News and Announcements

All women in the church are invited to meet for prayer this week on Thursday, March 19 at 10:00 a.m. We will meet in the CEC building. Please come through the door on the side of the gravel parking lot. If you are able, please join us for lunch and fellowship following our prayer time.

Join us for the Fine Arts School of Music Concert in the library at noon on Wednesday, March 25.

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. Please note this is the last week to sign up.

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 28 - March 15

How does God justify you?

God forgives all my sins and accepts me as righteous through Christ.

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	Gary Thompson & John Reed
Next Week	Kevin Wyson and Paul Folta

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

Today	Greg & Lory Wood
Next Week	Mike and Nancy Tuuk

Nursery

Today	Piper Larson Nancy Tuuk
Next Week	Jenae Larson Isabelle Powell