

First Presbyterian Church

Established 1988 PCA

April 5, 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!

Today is Resurrection Sunday, the resolution of Holy Week. Betrayal, arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, and burial give way to a glorious victory as Christ emerges from the tomb on the first day of the week. In Luke 24, the two companions and disciples of Jesus are greatly grieved by the death of Jesus. They are still in that moment of tension between Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. But then, their eyes are opened. Christ is with them; he is risen.

Our catechism locates this most powerful truth in the exaltation of Christ. Westminster Shorter Catechism question 28 asks – Wherein consists Christ's exaltation? The answer is that Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

These are the truths we celebrate today. We are glad you are here.

Let's prepare our hearts to do this well.

Then, may we make this day, the first day of the week, our habit in the days to come. That is the intent of Scripture emphasizing that it was on this day that Christ rose from the dead: Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1. Yes, that's right, 52 Resurrection Sundays a year! This point was not missed on the early church. The Apostles gave it as the pattern for worship in the New Covenant: Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 16:2.

Our elders have been praying for you. May you encounter God this morning by his Word and by the presence of his Spirit, and may this encounter have a transforming effect on your life.

Warmly,
Pastor Andy

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Psalm 68:19

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;
God is our salvation.

Preparation for Worship

Up From the Grave He Arose

Ensemble

Matthew 28:5a, 6 – But the angel said...He is not here, for he is risen, as he said.

“He is not here.” This is the only place of which it could be considered good news to say, “Christ is not here.” “Christ is here” was good news at Bethany, at Jericho, at Nain, at Capernaum, or on the Sea of Galilee; but “Christ is not here” is the good news from Joseph’s tomb.

Horatius Bonar

Call to Worship

Psalm 118:19-29

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ **Save us, we pray, O LORD!**
O LORD, we pray, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has made his light to shine upon us.

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
up to the horns of the altar!

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

²⁹ Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — Christ the Lord is Risen Today



1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day," Al - - le - lu - ia!
2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;— Al - - le - lu - ia!
3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; Al - - le - lu - ia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led,— Al - - le - lu - ia!
5. Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n Al - - le - lu - ia!



sons of men and an - gels say;— Al - - le - lu - ia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell:— Al - - le - lu - ia!
where, O death, is now thy sting?— Al - - le - lu - ia!
fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed Head;— Al - - le - lu - ia!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n;— Al - - le - lu - ia!



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Al - - le - lu - ia!
death in vain for - bids his rise; Al - - le - lu - ia!
Once he died, our souls to save; Al - - le - lu - ia!
made like him, like him we rise; Al - - le - lu - ia!
thee we greet tri - um - phant now; Al - - le - lu - ia!



sing ye— heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.— Al - - le - lu - ia!
Christ has— o - pened par - a - dise.— Al - - le - lu - ia!
where thy— vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - le - lu - ia!
ours the— cross, the grave, the skies, Al - - le - lu - ia!
hail, the— Re - sur - rec - tion, thou! Al - - le - lu - ia!

Scripture Reading — 1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Hymn of Praise — Glory to God; the Morn Appointed Breaks



1. Glo - ry to God! The morn ap - point - ed__ breaks, And
2. Glo - ry to God! The cross, with all its__ shame, now
3. Glo - ry to God! Sing, ran - somed souls, a - gain, and
4. Dark - ness and night, fare - well! the morn is__ here. Wel -
5. Great Son of God, im - mor - tal and re - nowned! Bright -



earth a - wakes from all its woe - ful past; For,
sheds its glo - ry o'er a ran - somed world. For
let your songs our glo - rious vic - tor laud. Who
come! the light that u - shers in the day! Vi -
er than morn the glo - ry on thy brow. Crowns



with the morn, the Lord of life a - wakes, and
he who bore the bur - den of our__ blame, with
by his might hath snapped the ty - rant's chain, and
sions of joy be - fore our sight ap - pear, and
must be won, and thou are no - bly__ crowned, for

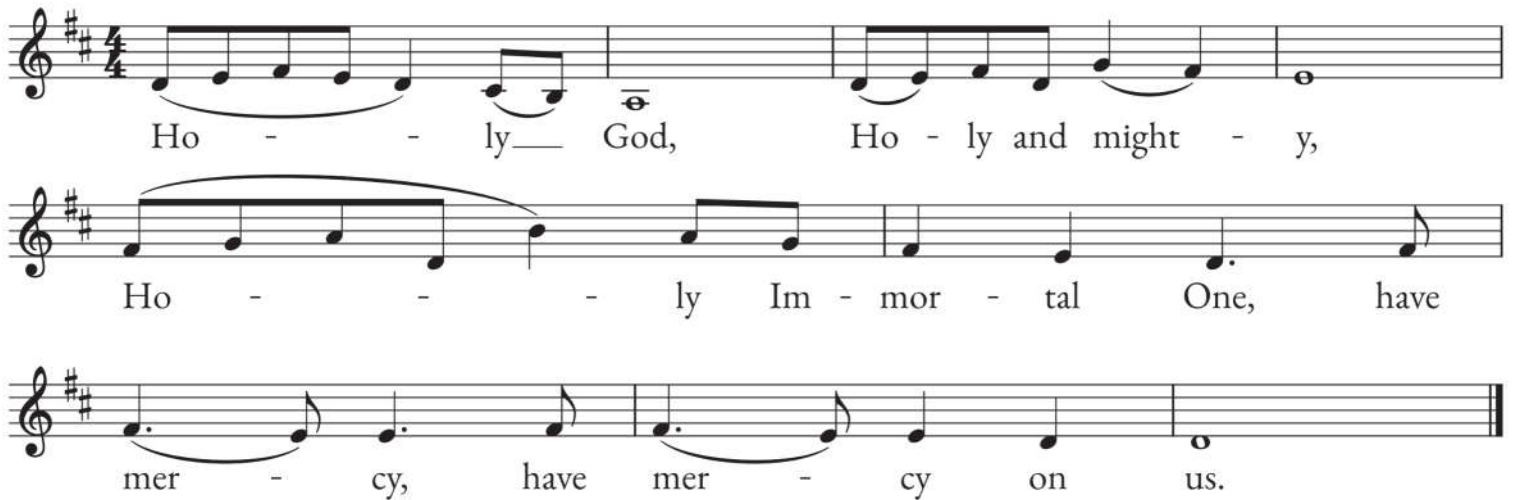


sin and death in - to the grave are cast.
pier - ced hands the foe to hell hath hurled.
set us free to rise with him to God.
like the clouds, our sor - rows melt a - way.
death is dead, and sin is van - quished now.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith 13.1

They, who are once effectually called, and regenerated, having a new heart, and a new spirit created in them, are further sanctified, really and personally, through the virtue of Christ's death and resurrection, by his Word and Spirit dwelling in them: the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified; and they more and more quickened and strengthened in all saving graces, to the practice of true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Song of Confession — The Trisagion



Ho - - ly - - God, Ho - ly and might - y,
Ho - - - ly Im - mor - tal One, have
mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Prayer of Confession

Father, I plead Jesus' blood to pay my debts of wrong.

Accept his worthiness for my unworthiness,
his sinlessness for my transgressions,
his purity for my uncleanness,
his sincerity for my duplicity,
his truth for my deceits,
his meekness for my pride,
his constancy for my backslidings,
his love for my hatred,
his fullness for my emptiness,
his faithfulness for my disloyalty,
his obedience for my lawlessness,
his glory for my shame,
his devotedness for my waywardness,
his holy life for my impure ways,
his righteous faithfulness for my faithless works,
his death for my life.

Assurance of Pardon — Romans 6:5-11

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Song of Rejoicing — See, What a Morning



1. See, — what a morn-ing, glo - rious-ly bright, with the dawn-ing of hope in Je - ru - sa - lem;
2. See, — Ma - ry weep-ing, "Where is he laid?" as in sor-row she turns from the emp - ty tomb;
3. One with the Fa - ther, An - cient of Days, through the Spi - rit who clothes faith with cer - tain - ty;



fold - ed the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light, as the an - gels an-nounce Christ is ri - sen.
hears a voice speak - ing, call - ing her name; it's the Mas - ter, the Lord raised to life — a-gain!
ho - nor and bless - ing, glo - ry and praise, to the King crowned with pow'r and au - tho - ri - ty.



See God's sal - va - tion — plan, wrought in love, born in pain, — paid in sa - cri - fice,
The voice that spans the — years, speak - ing life, stir-ring hope, bring-ing peace — to us,
And we are raised with — him, death is dead, love has won, — Christ has con - quered,



ful - filled in Christ, the — man, for he lives, Christ is ri - sen from the dead!
will sound till he ap - pears, for he lives, Christ is ri - sen from the dead!
and we shall reign with — him, for he lives, Christ is ri - sen from the dead!

Sermon

With Fear and Great Joy
Matthew 28: 1-15

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response — Keep the Feast



1. Joy - ful - ly we join you at your ta - ble, plead-ing not our right-eous-ness.
2. Who is fit to feast with such a Sa - vior? Who his san-dals could un - tie?
3. Hap-py sign of friend-ship and re - un - ion with the bless-ed three in one.



By your wealth of mer - cy, we are a - ble now to feast in con - fi-dence.
Who are we that he would show us fa - vor? Grant-ing us this gift of life.
Fore-taste of that glo - ri - ous com-mun-ion, vi - sion of the world to come.



Take this bread and eat. Take this cup and drink. Re -



mem - ber how he loved us; re - joice and keep the feast.

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 bless-ings flow; praise him all crea-tures here be-low; praise
him a-bove ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly, Ghost. A-men.

Benediction – from 1 Corinthians 15:54b, 58b

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Therefore, beloved family of God, be steadfast, immovable,
always abounding in the work of the Lord,
knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. Amen.

News and Announcements

Families with preteens and teens are invited to a gathering on Saturday, April 11. Come at 4 p.m. to the CEC prepared to get to know each other better and play ping pong, do a scavenger hunt, and eat together.

There will be a Congregational Meeting after the morning worship on April 12 to hear about the process of calling an associate pastor and electing a pulpit committee.

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 31 - April 5

How does God sanctify you?

God makes me more and more holy in heart and conduct.

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	\$ 139,471.18
2026 Budget	\$ 487,603

Deacon Fund

2026 YTD Giving	\$ 2057
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	Cecil Smith
Next Week	Tim Grimes

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

Today	David and Karen Phillips
Next Week	Ray and Carol Sprik

Nursery

Today	Jenae Larson Ivy Pacana
Next Week	Hope Aikens Eden Tuuk