

First Presbyterian Church

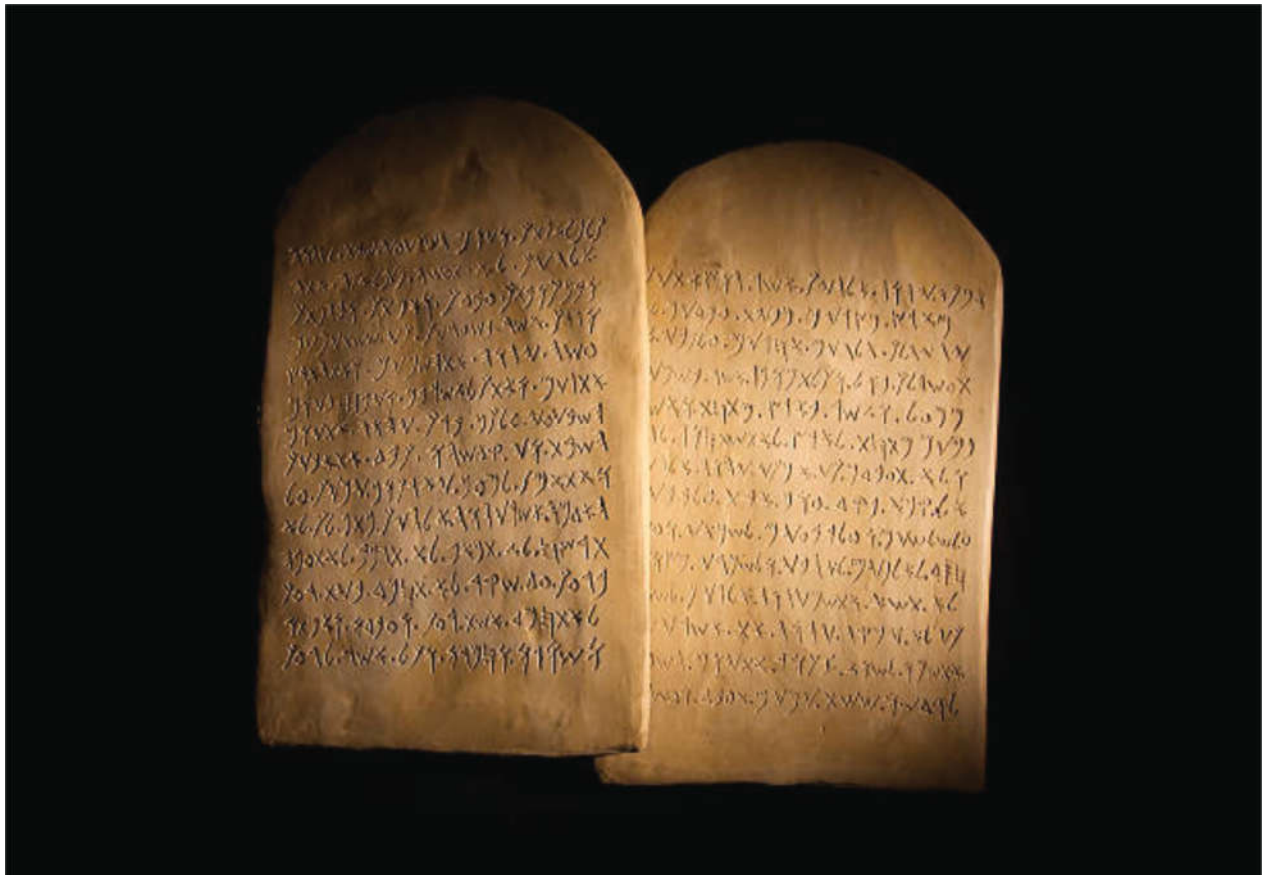
Established 1988 PCA

May 3, 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

With what shall we come before you, O Lord? Or bow ourselves in our presence, O you Most High God? Cause us to come unto you in faith: mentioning no other name, pleading no other righteousness, and trusting in no other atonement than the name, righteousness, and atonement of your blessed Son and our adorable Mediator Jesus Christ. In him, we desire to be found; through him, we hope for favor with you, and acceptance in your sight. Blessed be your goodness for the mercies of the day, for the blessings of your providence, the comforts of your Spirit, and the privileges we enjoy. Amen.

Augustus Toplady

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

Hymn of Praise — All People That on Earth Do Dwell



1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheer-ful voice; him
2. The Lord ye know is God in - deed; with - out our aid he did us make; we
3. O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap - proach with joy his courts un - to; praise,
4. For why? The Lord our God is good, his mer - cy is for - e - ver sure; his



serve with fear, his praise forth - tell, come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
laud, and bless his name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
truth at all times firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — Behold Our God



1. Who has held the o - ceans in his hands? Who has num - bered e - v'ry grain of sand?
2. Who has gi - ven coun - sel to the Lord? Who can ques - tion an - y of his words?
3. Who has felt the nails up - on his hand, bear - ing all the guilt of sin - ful men?



Kings and na - tions trem - ble at his voice; all cre - a - tion ri - ses to re - joice. Be -
Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fa - thom all his won - drous deeds?
God e - ter - nal, hum - bled to the grave. Je - sus, Sa - vior, ris - en now to reign!



hold our God seat - ed on his throne, come let us a - dore him. Be -



hold our King; no - thing can com - pare, come let us a - dore him!

Scripture Reading — Selected Texts

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

1 Corinthians 8:1-6

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴ Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith 2.1

There is but one only, living, and true God, who is infinite in being and perfection, a most pure spirit, invisible, without body, parts, or passions; immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, most wise, most holy, most free, most absolute; working all things according to the counsel of his own immutable and most righteous will, for his own glory; most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the rewarder of them that diligently seek him; and withal, most just, and terrible in his judgments, hating all sin, and who will by no means clear the guilty.

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.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal and merciful God,
you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding,
and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

**Yet we have strayed from your way;
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone.**

As we remember the lavish gift of your grace, O God,

we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again.

Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin,
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,

**who lives and reigns with you,
and in whose strong name we pray.**

Assurance of Pardon — Romans 3:21-26

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

Hymn of Rejoicing — My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



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



dare not trust the sweet-est frame but whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name. On
e - v'ry high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with - in the veil.
all a-round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault - 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.

Sermon

God Alone
Exodus 20:1-2

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response — I Hunger and I Thirst



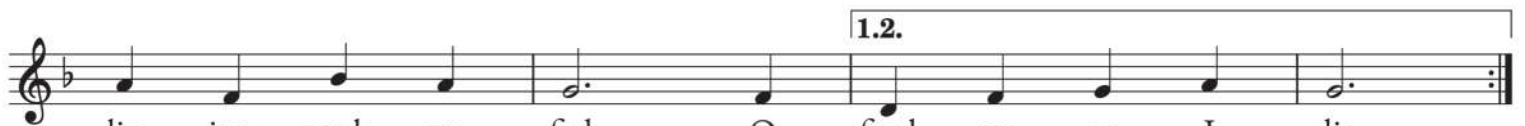
1. I hun - ger and I thirst, Je - sus, my man - na be;— ye
2. Thou true life giv - ing vine, let me thy sweet - ness prove; re -
3. For still the de - sert lies my thirst - ing soul be - fore;— O



liv - ing wa - ters, burst out of the rock for me. Thou
new my life with thine, re - fresh my soul with love. Rough
liv - ing wat - ers, rise with - in me e - ver - more. I



bruised and bro - ken bread, my life - long wants sup - ply; as
paths my feet have trod since first their course be - gan; feed
hun - ger and I thirst, Je - sus my man - na be; Ye



liv - ing souls are fed, O feed me, or I die.
me, thou bread of God; help me, thou Son of Man.
liv - ing wat - ers, burst out



of the rock for me.

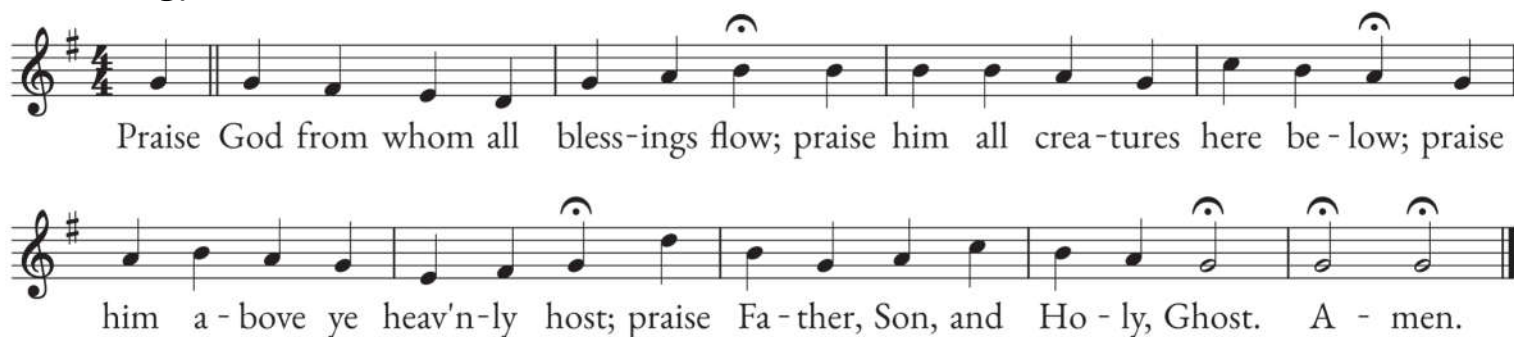
Serving of the Lord's Supper

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

We have been fed with spiritual food.
Now because the eternal God has graciously accepted us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
may we go into the world,
strengthened by his peace
and empowered by his Spirit
to love and serve all those with whom we live and work.
Amen.

News and Announcements

Plateau Pregnancy Services Annual Fundraising Banquet is Thursday, May 7, at 6 pm. Attendance is free, there is an opportunity to support PPS during the event. A sign up sheet is on the hallway table. Please come and support the important service to our community.

The candidate for Associate Pastor and his wife will be here on May 17. You will have a chance to interact with them during Adult Sunday School, 9:30-10:15, and at the Fellowship Lunch. Sign up sheets for the Fellowship Lunch are on the hallway table.

The next Octogenarian/Nonagenarian (ON) lunch is Wednesday, May 6, 1 pm, at Willow Cafe. Reservations need to be made for attendance and the “World Famous” loaded baked potato. The “ON” Group is not inclusive but exclusive. Requirements to be part of this unique, august, one-of-a-kind group are: age 80 or older, male and to be a member of FPC. To learn more, contact Bobby Duck.

The “YAH” Group will be meeting for lunch at The Market Place in Crossville on Wednesday (instead of Thursday this month) May 6 at noon. Please let Pat Duck know whether you can come so reservations can be made.

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 35 - May 3

What is the first commandment?

You shall have no other gods before Me.

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.

Giving

General Fund

2026 YTD Giving	\$ 162,458
2026 Budget	\$ 487,603

Deacon Fund

2026 YTD Giving	\$ 2,592
2026 Budget	\$ 9,000
2026 Disbursements	\$ 300

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
Koos & Bhless Hagg, MTW, Southeast Asia

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	Bob Kalb
Next Week	Paul Folta/John Reed

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

Today	Kevin & Val Wyson
Next Week	Bob & Sasha Graham

Nursery

Today	Brianna Ragle Jenae Larson
Next Week	Reba Norris Hope Aikens