

First Presbyterian Church

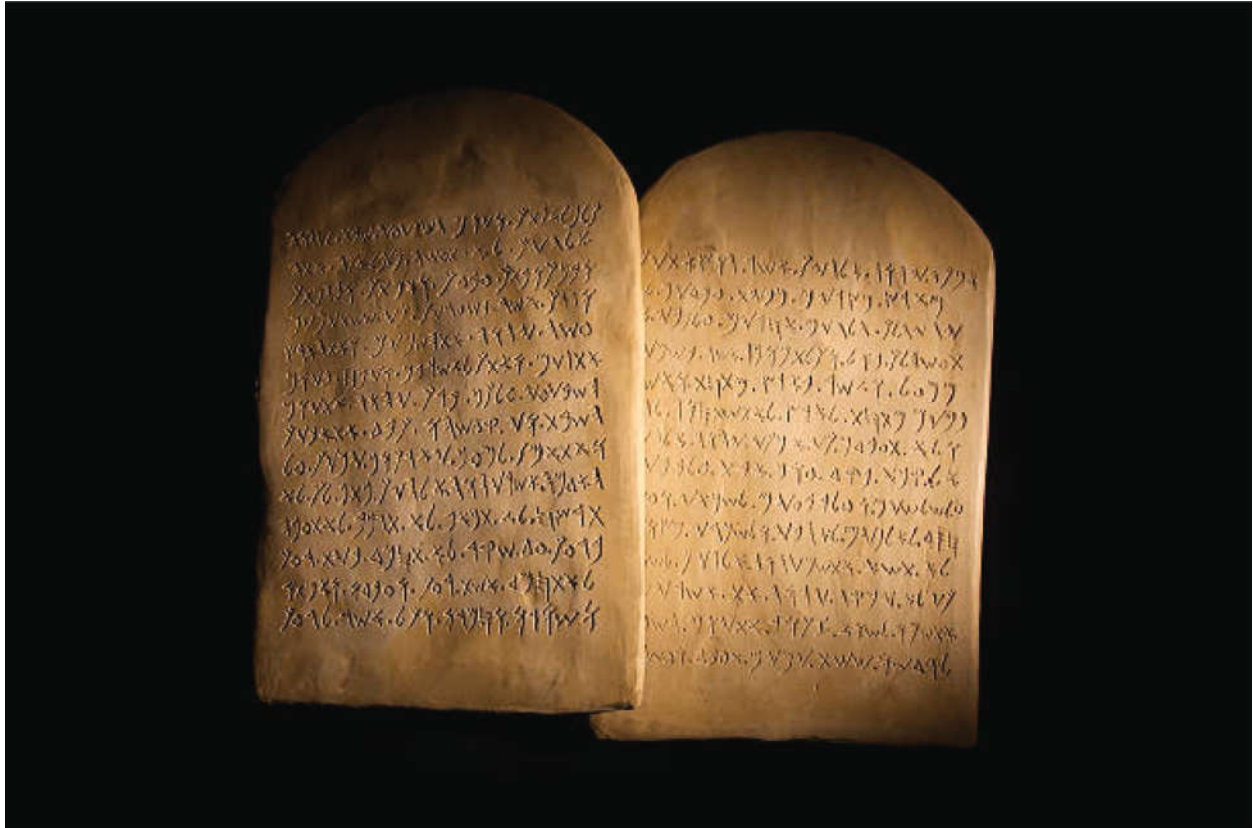
Established 1988 PCA

August 16, 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

Almighty God, the heavens declare your glory, and the skies display the work of your hands. Your eternal power and divine essence can be clearly seen and understood through your creation. Grant that we may see this glory today and not be counted with those who say there is no God. May we, because of your gracious intervention, come to believe that you are, that you save sinners, and that you bountifully reward those who diligently seek you.

Psalm 14:1, 19:1, Romans 1:20, Hebrews 11:6

Call to Worship

Psalm 97:1-6

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.

Hymn of Praise — God All Nature Sings Thy Glory



1. God all na - ture sings thy glo - ry, and thy works pro - claim thy might;
2. Clear - er still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
3. But our sins have spoiled thine i - mage; na - ture, con - science on - ly serve
4. God of glo - ry, po - wer, mer - cy, all cre - a - tion prais - es thee;



or - dered vast - ness in the heav - ens or - dered course of day and night;
ru - ler of cre - a - tion's glo - ry, i - mage of thy ma - jes - ty.
as un - ceas - ing, grim re - min - ders of the wrath which we de - serve.
we, thy crea - tures, would a - dore thee now and through e - ter - ni - ty.



beau - ty in the chang - ing sea - sons, beau - ty in the storm - ing seas;
Mu - sic art, the fruit - ful gar - den, all the la - bor of his days,
Yet thy grace and sav - ing mer - cy in thy Word of truth re - vealed
Saved to mag - ni - fy thy good - ness, grant us strength to do thy will;



all the chang - ing moods of na - ture praise the change - less Trin - i - ty.
are the call - ing of his Ma - ker to the har - vest feast of praise.
claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Je - sus sealed.
with our acts as with our voic - es thy com - mand - ments to ful - fill.

Text: David Clowney, 1960; Music: ODE TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — Crown Him with Many Crowns

1. Crown him with ma - ny crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark!
2. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side, rich
3. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scep - ter sways from
4. Crown him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time; Cre -

how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mus - ic but its own: a -
wounds, yet vi - si - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied: no
pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise: his
a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime: all

wake my soul and sing of him who died for thee, and
an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight, but
reign shall know no end; and round his pier - ced feet fair
hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou has died for me: thy

hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at my - ste - ries so bright.
flow'rs of pa - ra - dise ex - tend their fra - grance e - ver sweet.
praise shall ne - ver, ne - ver fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1851; Music: DIAEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 12:18-29

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Shorter Catechism questions 4 and 7

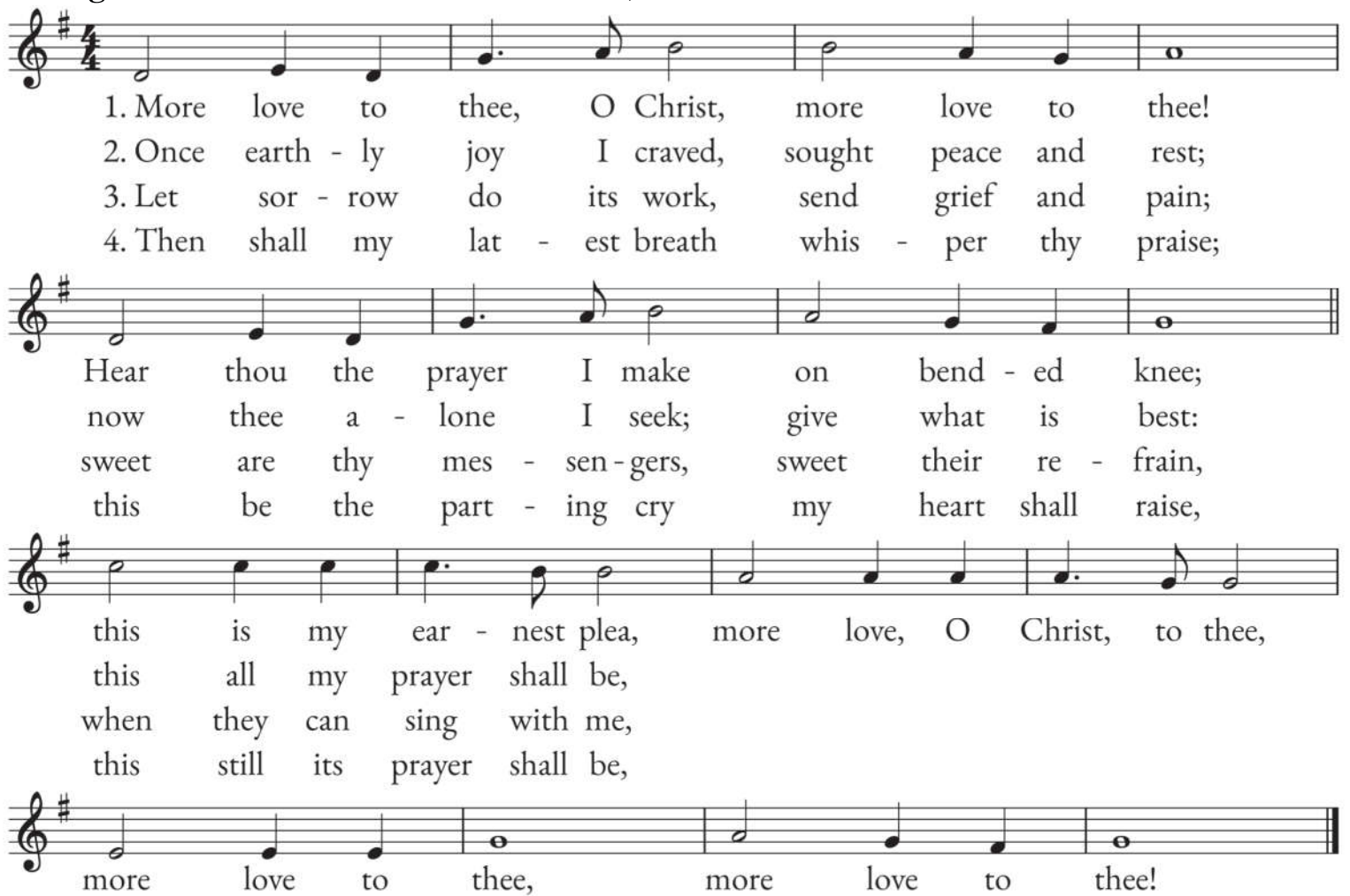
What is God?

God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.

What are the decrees of God?

The decrees of God are his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he has foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Song of Confession — More Love to Thee, O Christ



1. More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!
2. Once earth - ly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
3. Let sor - row do its work, send grief and pain;
4. Then shall my lat - est breath whis - per thy praise;
Hear thou the prayer I make on bend - ed knee;
now thee a - lone I seek; give what is best:
sweet are thy mes - sen - gers, sweet their re - frain,
this be the part - ing cry my heart shall raise,
this is my ear - nest plea, more love, O Christ, to thee,
this all my prayer shall be,
when they can sing with me,
this still its prayer shall be,
more love to thee, more love to thee!

Text: Elizabeth Payson Prentiss, 1869; Music: MORE LOVE TO THEE, William H. Doane, 1868

Prayer of Confession

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you
and for ignoring your immensity and greatness.
Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule
the nations and our small lives.
Holy Spirit, we offend you in minimizing your power
and squandering your gifts.

**We confess that our blindness to your glory, O Triune God,
has resulted in shallow confession,
tepid conviction, and only mild repentance.
Have mercy upon us,
in Jesus' name.**

Assurance of Pardon — Hebrews 7:23-25

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.

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

Song of Rejoicing – Before the Throne of God Above

1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a strong and per - fect
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me of the guilt with-
3. Be - hold him there, the ri - sen Lamb, my per - fect, spot - less right-eous-

plea: a great High Priest whose name is love, who e - ver lives and pleads for
-in, up-ward I look and see him there, who made an end of all my
-ness, the great un - change - a - ble "I AM", the King of glo - ry and of

me. My name is grav - en on his hands; my name is writ - ten on his
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sa - vior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
grace. One with him - self, I can - not die; my soul is pur - chased by his

heart. I know that while in Heav'n he stands no tongue can
free, for God the just is sa - tis - fied to look on
blood. My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my

bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.
Sa - vior and my God, with Christ my Sa - vior and my God.

Text and Music: Charitie Lee Bancroft, Vikki Cook © 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship, CCLI #2306412

Sermon

The Fear of God
Exodus 20:18-26

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response – Only a Holy God



1. Who else com - mands all the host of heav - en?___
 2. What o - ther beau - ty de - mands such prais - es?___
 3. What o - ther glo - ry con - sumes like fi - re?___
 4. Who else can res - cue me from my fail - ing?___

Who else could make e - v'ry king bow down?
 What oth - er splen - dour out - shines the sun?
 What oth - er po - wer can raise the dead?
 Who else would of - fer his on - ly Son?

Who else can whis - per and dark - ness trem - bles?___
 What oth - er maj - es - ty rules with just - ice?___
 What oth - er name re - mains un - de - feat - ed?___
 Who else in - vites_ me to call him Fa - ther?___

On - ly a Ho - ly God.

Come and be - hold him, the One and the On - ly.

Cry out, sing ho - ly, for - e - ver a Ho - ly

God; come and wor - ship the Ho - ly God.

Text and Music: Michael Ferren, Jonny Robison, Dustin Smith and Rich Thompson; © CityAlight Music; CCLI #7073332

Benediction – 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
 and the love of God
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
 be with you all.

News and Announcements

All women in the church are invited to meet for prayer this week on Thursday, August 20 at 10 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, join us for lunch and fellowship following our prayer time

Sign-up sheets for the August 30 Fellowship Lunch are now available on the table in the hallway. Please sign up today to help the Hospitality Team prepare.

There are two options to join in on the Women's Fall Bible Study of *Colossians: Fullness of Life in Christ* by Lydia Brownback, beginning Thursday, August 27, 6 p.m., at April Marion's house or beginning Tuesday, September 15, 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets and books are available on the table in the hallway. The cost is \$10.

With the completion of Systematic Theology, the Monday afternoon study will continue with John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*, September 21–December 14, 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets are available in the hallway. Contact Lory Wood for more information.

Mark your calendar to attend the installation service for Pastor Peter Dietsch on September 13 at 5 p.m. Sister Presbyterian churches will be joining us. Refreshments will be provided.

First Catechism

What is the gospel and its reward?

God, the righteous Creator, rescues sinful people by reconciling them 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 50 - August 16

What happens to believers when they die?

Our bodies will return to dust and our souls will go to be with the Lord forever.

Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship Service
Sunday Morning Bible Study (all ages)
Sunday Evening Worship
Women's Monday Theology Study
Men's Thursday Bible Study
Octogenarian/Nonagenarian (ON) Lunch
Women's Tuesday Bible Study
Women's Thursday Bible Study

10:45 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m. On Break
2:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m.
Monthly
9:30 a.m. Resumes September 15
6:00 p.m. Resumes August 27

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	Michael McCrabb
Next Week	Robert Kalb

Ministry Support

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

Greeters

Today	Bill & Fran Allbright
Next Week	Andrew & Diane Remillard

Nursery

Today	Piper Larson
	April Marion
Next Week	Robyn Mayhugh
	April Stewart