

First Presbyterian Church

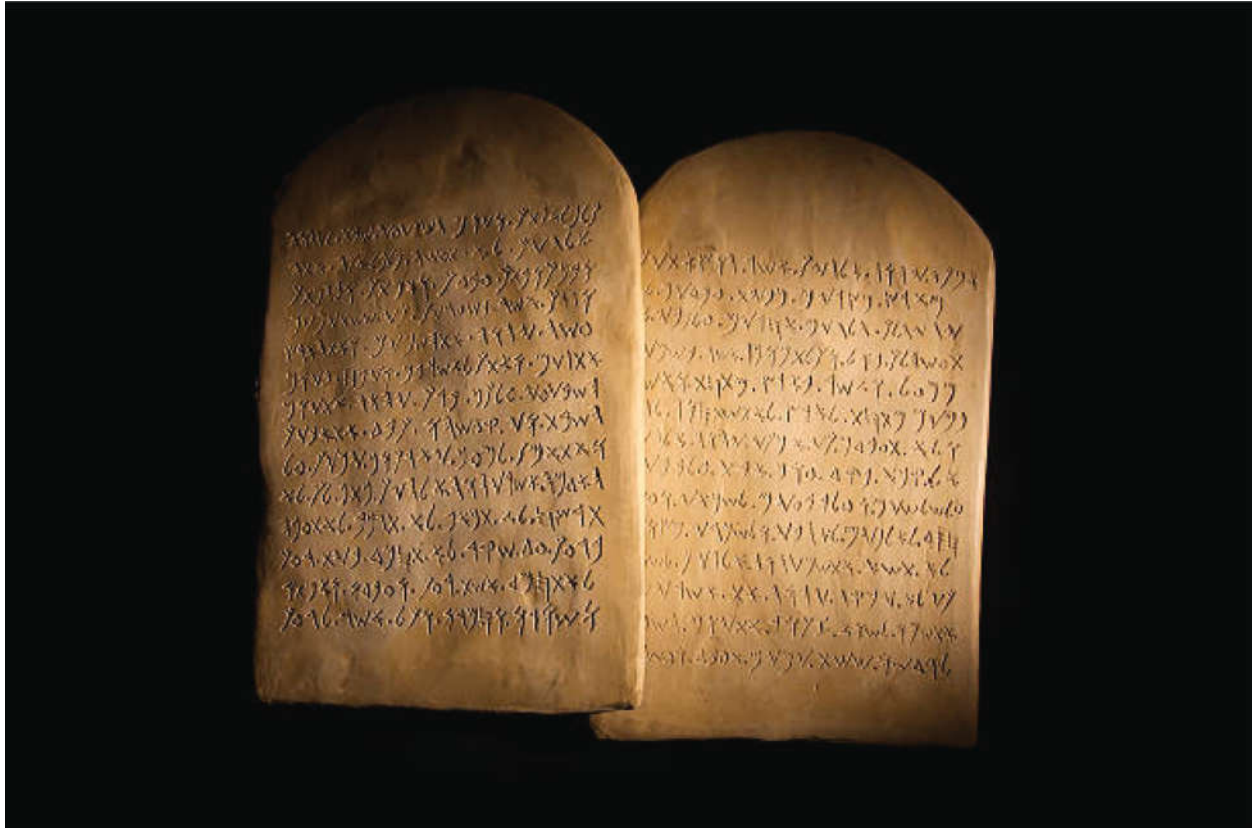
Established 1988 PCA

August 30, 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

Lord, teach me to seek you,
and reveal yourself to me when I seek you.
For I cannot seek you unless you teach me,
nor find you except you reveal yourself.
Let me seek you in longing,
let me long for you in seeking,
and love you in finding. Amen.

Ambrose of Milan

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:19-22

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

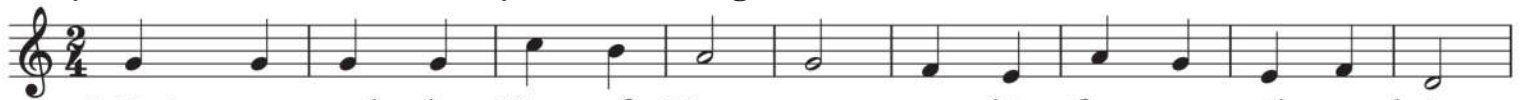
²⁰ Bless the LORD, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word!

²¹ Bless the LORD, all his hosts,
his ministers, who do his will!

²² Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Hymn of Praise — Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



1. Praise, my soul, the King of Heav - en, to his feet your trib - ute bring;
2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fa - thers in dis - tress;
3. Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
4. Frail as Sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
5. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him face to face.



ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, his praise should sing?
praise him, still the same for - e - ver, slow to chide and swift to bless;
in his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes;
but while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space,



Praise him, praise him, praise him praise him, praise the e - ver - last - ing King.
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, wide - ly as his mer - cy goes.
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the High E - ter - nal One.
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of Grace.

Text: From Psalm 103, Henry F. Lyte, 1834; mod. Music: LAUDA ANIMA, John Gross, 1869; CCLI #1850411

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Praise — My God, My Portion, and My Love



1. My God, my Por - tion_ and my Love, my e - ver - last - ing_ All, I've
2. What em - pty things are_ all the skies and this in - fer - ior_ clod! There's
3. In vain, the bright, the_ burn-ing sun scat - ters his fee - ble_ light. 'Tis
4. Let all that dwells a - bove the sky and air and earth and seas con -
5. The whole cre - a - tion_ join in one to bless the sa - cred name of



none but thee in heav'n a - bove, or on this earth - ly ball.
no - thing here de - serves my joys; there's no - thing like my God.
thy sweet beams cre - ate_ my noon; if thou with-draw, 'tis night.
-spire to_ lift thy glo - ries high and speaks thine end - less praise.
him that sits up - on_ the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, 1814; © Oxford University Press Inc.; CCLI #1850411

Scripture Reading — Romans 7:1-12

Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ² For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.

³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

⁴ Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵ For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶ But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

⁷ What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” ⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹ I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰ The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Profession of Faith — Westminster Confession of Faith, 19.1, 19.2

God gave to Adam a law, as a covenant of works, by which he bound him and all his posterity to personal, entire, exact, and perpetual obedience, promised life upon the fulfilling, and threatened death upon the breach of it, and endued him with power and ability to keep it.

This law, after his fall, continued to be a perfect rule of righteousness; and, as such, was delivered by God upon Mount Sinai, in ten commandments, and written in two tables: the first four commandments containing our duty towards God; and the other six, our duty to man.

Song of Confession — Franklin Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy— Lord.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy— Lord.

Text: Luke 18:13, Music: Greg Wilbur, 2009; © 2009, Gregory D. Wilbur; CCLI #1850411

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have given us your holy law, written on tablets of stone through Moses and by your Holy Spirit on the tablets of our hearts through the work of Christ.

Yet, O God, we confess that the ways of death have a strong attraction and that we often succumb to their lure. Give us the vision and courage to choose and nurture life, that we may receive your blessing.

Assurance of Pardon — Hebrews 6:17-20a

So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath,¹⁸ so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,²⁰ where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf...

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

Song of Rejoicing – He Will Hold Me Fast

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some lines split across two staves. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those he saves are his de - light; Christ will hold me fast.
3. For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast.

when the temp - ter would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.
Jus - tice has been sa - tis - fied; he will hold me fast.

I could ne - ver keep my hold through life's fear - ful path,
He'll not let my soul be lost; his pro - mi - ses shall last.
Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast,

for my love is of - ten cold; he must hold me fast.
Bought by him at such a cost; he will hold me fast.
till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last.

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
for my Sav - ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Text and Music: Ada Hadershon, additional words and music by Mart Merker ;© Getty Music Publishing; CCLI 1850411

Sermon

Abiding Principles
Exodus 21:12-36

Pastor Andy Aikens

Sermon Notes:

Song of Response – Sing Ye Saints

1. Sing, ye saints, ad - mire and won - der, Je - sus' match - less love a - dore; sing for
 2. Sing, though sense and world - ly rea - son tries to stop the joy - ful song; sing and
 3. Sing, ye saints, ad - mire and won - der, Je - sus' match - less love a - dore; sing for

Si - nai's aw - ful thun - der shall up - on you burst no more. Sing, in
 count it high - est trea - son for a saint to hold his tongue. Sing ye
 Si - nai's aw - ful thun - der shall up - on you burst no more. Sing, for

spite of Sa - tan's ly - ing; sing, though sins are black and large; sing, for
 loud, whose ho - ly call - ing your e - lec - tion plain - ly shows; sing, nor
 you shall heav'n in - her - it, sing, and ne'er the song have done; sing to

Je - sus, by his dy - ing, set you free from e - v'ry
 fear a fi - nal fall - ing, Je - sus' love no chang - es
 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, One in Three and Three in

charge,— set you free from e - v'ry charge.
 knows.— Je - sus' love no chang - es knows.
 One,— One in Three and Three in One.

Text: John Ryland, 1775, alt. 2022; Music: ADMIRE AND WONDER, Gregory Wilbur, 2022; © Gregory Wilbur 2022; CCLI # 1850411

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

Please stay for the Fellowship Lunch following today's worship service.

The next Octogenarian/Nonagenarian (ON) lunch is Wednesday, September 2, 1 p.m., at Willow Cafe.

The "YAH" Group is meeting at St. George Marina on Thursday, September 3, 12 p.m. Le Voss has invited us for a ride on her pontoon boat. Bring a sack lunch and beverage.

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.

Women in God's Service (WinGS) will meet September 12 at 11:30 a.m. See Bonnie Stanley for more information.

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 52 - August 30

What will God do for believers at the last day?

He will give them a home with him in the new heaven and the new earth.

What will the new heaven and the new earth be like?

A glorious and happy place, where the saved will be with Jesus forever.

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.
Women's Tuesday Bible Study	9:30 a.m. Resumes September 15
Women's Thursday Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
Men's Thursday Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
Octogenarian/Nonagenarian (ON) Lunch	Monthly
Young at Heart (YAH) Lunch	Monthly
Women in God's Service (WinGS)	Quarterly

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

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

Staff

Music/Sound Director	Matt Bundy
School of Music Director	April Stewart
Finance/Admin	Holly Kisly

Ministry Support

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

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

Deacons

Dave Miser, Chair, '28
John Reed '26
Mike Tuuk '27
Greg Wood '28

Security Team

Today	Dan Dolan
Next Week	Paul Folta

Greeters

Today	Jay & April Stewart
Next Week	Kevin & Val Wyson

Nursery

Today	Robyn Mayhugh April Stewart
Next Week	Jenae Larson Brianna Ragle