

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

October 19th, 2025
10:30am Sanctuary Worship



Leading Worship Today

Eli Arrowsmith, Oliver Arrowsmith, Amy Smith, and Rev. Russ Pearson

Sunday School for children 4th grade and under is held upstairs in the Children's Library

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Gathering in God's Presence

BELLS AND CENTERING MUSIC

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

arr., Jason D. Payne

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP ~ *from Psalm 118:24*

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 459

"O Word of God Incarnate"

INVITATION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, we confess that we do not pray as we ought. Forgive us for filling our lives with worry instead of prayer. Forgive us for neglecting to thank you for the many blessings that you have given. Forgive us for questioning your perfect care when you do not answer our prayers according to our expectations. Teach us true dependence upon you and foster true, Spirit-led prayer in us...

(silent confession)

WORDS OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Lord welcomes all who seek forgiveness. Be at peace, for in Jesus Christ we find our way home again where all are forgiven, loved, and restored.

In Jesus Christ we find forgiveness. Thanks be to God!

*RESPONDING TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS ~ Doxology No. 606

*HOLY INTERRUPTION ~ *An intentional time to share the peace and fellowship of Jesus Christ*

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Listening for God's Voice

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING ~ Luke 18:1-8 *The Parable of the Persistent Widow and the Unjust Judge*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Do you bother God?"

Rev. Russ Pearson

Responding to God's Call

SPIRITUAL RESPONSE

"His Voice as the Sound of the Dulcimer Sweet"

Alfred V. Fedak

Tammie Davis, Hammered Dulcimer

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ The Apostle's Creed (p. 35, *Glory to God*)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION ~ *Upcoming events, mission news, and offering*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~ *Share prayer needs by placing a pew card in the offering plate*

THE LORD'S PRAYER ~ (p.35, *Glory to God*)

God Sends Us Out

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 611

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*GO FORTH IN PEACE

"Fanfare on 'Blessed Assurance'"

Fanny Crosby

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

What does it mean to "pray always"?

List a few ways the judge is different from God.

When was the last time you "bothered" God?

Opportunities for Connection

Interested in baptism, becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, or have a pastoral concern? Please let us know. Talk to our Associate Pastor or call the church.

Prayer List

The congregation extends its Christian sympathy to the family of **Laurence Maxwell "Larry" Long**. Larry passed away on October 9, 2025, in Knoxville, TN.

Offering Invitation

Tithes and Offerings can be given online, placed in the offering plate as you leave, or mailed to the church.

Stewardship Packets

Stewardship Season is here. Please pick up your packet in the foyer and prayerfully consider your giving for next year.

The Chancel Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God
and presented by the Byrd Family in loving memory of Jeff Byrd.

Flower Delivery: Jennie Compton * **Ushers:** Nancy Knisley and Tom Sellers * **Sound:** Olin Babb

Church Office Closed during Cybercrime Seminar

The office will close at 12:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 21** so staff can attend the Cybercrime seminar.

Wednesday, October 22 ~ 5:30 p.m. ~ Breakfast for Dinner!

After dinner we will have a Vespers service at 6:20 p.m. in the Fellowship Center. The deadline for reservations is noon on Tuesday, October 21. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 10, with a family maximum of \$25.00. Reservations: sign up on the pew pads, church website, your REALM account, or call the church office.

Trunk or Treat ~ October 29

5:00pm Organ Concert in the Sanctuary - 5:30pm Church Night Supper - 6:15pm Parade of Costumes - 6:30-7:30pm Trunk or Treat in our parking lot. If you would like to donate candy ahead of time to help out, you can drop it off in the foyer.

First Presbyterian Performing Arts Series

Friday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. we will host the *Harvest Arts Hymn Tour: The Passion*, beloved hymns fused with classical music. This concert is free and open to the public and will feature flute, violin, viola, cello, and harp.

Looking Ahead

November 19 ~ Thanksgiving Dinner, 5:30 p.m. (**Deadline Nov. 4**)

November 23 ~ Community Thanksgiving Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 5 p.m.

Birthdays & Prayers of the Week

Oct. 19: Cheryl Ann Hess; Oct. 21: Bo Grover; Oct. 22: Michael Holt, Alyson Argabrite, Anna Hagan;
Oct. 26: John Alan Smith, Jacqueline Buckles, Leslie Light

Please be aware the 10:30 a.m. service is live streamed and recorded on Facebook and YouTube.

WIFI Network: FPCK-GUEST ~ Password: Genesis1:3-4
www.firstpreskiingsport.org * 423-245-0104