

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

November 16, 2025

8:30am Chapel and 10:30am Sanctuary

Leading Worship Today

Amy Smith, Don Thompson, Tammie Davis, and Rev. Allen Huff

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Gathering in God's Presence

BELLS AND CENTERING MUSIC

“Here I Am, Lord”

arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (10:30)

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP ~ Mike Bunch

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, we come to the heart of the Mystery,

The Mystery of love—

The love that seeks not supremacy, but service,

The love that finds power in humility,

The love that gives itself freely, even unto death.

Come, see what love God has for us.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #367

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

INVITATION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you call us to give ourselves to you and to one another after the example of Jesus. Yet selfishness and idolatry prevent us from lasting faithfulness to your call. We pursue our own goals, worship our own gods, and place our hope in things that cannot last. May your redeeming love transform us and give us new faith to follow Christ in gratitude, generosity, and joy. In his name we pray... (silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Holy are you, O God.

And great is your will and power to redeem.

Through Christ you are making us whole again,

One with you and each other.

Through the grace of forgiveness, God heals what is hurt and hurtful within us.

Thanks be to God!

*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 READINGS ~ *Micah 6:6-8 and Luke 21:1-4*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Prophetic Stewardship”

Rev. Allen Huff

Responding to God's Call

SPIRITUAL RESPONSE

“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”

(No. 606, *Glory to God*)

CHORAL RESPONSE (10:30am)

“The Summons”

arr. Tom Fettke

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ *From A Declaration of Faith* (please see other side)

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 #36

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*GO FORTH IN PEACE

"How Firm a Foundation"

arr. Diane Bish

Affirmation of Faith
(from *A Declaration of Faith*)

We acknowledge one God alone, whose demands on us are absolute, whose help for us is sufficient. We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works. God comes to us on God's own terms and is able to do far more than we ask or think.

Jesus' involvement in the human condition is God's involvement. His compassion for all kinds of people is God's compassion. His willingness to suffer rejection is God's willingness. Jesus' love for the very people who reject him is God's love.

Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen. All thanks and praise be to 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.

Offering Invitation

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

The Chancel Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God
and in memory of loved ones by Dan and Dee Dee Dietrich.

Flower Delivery: Gray Stothart

Ushers: Ella Deakins and Gray Stothart ~ Sanctuary

Sound: Olin Babb

Celebration

Welcome to our newest members, Michael Richardson (son of Michael and Brenda Whitt) and Alan Whitt (son of Michael and Brenda Whitt), who joined First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Birthdays & Prayers of the Week

November 19: Megan Smith, Lyla Lambton

November 20: Raymond Kidwell

November 21: Tim Arrowsmith, Larry Pendleton, Greg Easley, Henry Robertson

November 22: Gary Tucker

November 23: Wendy Smith

Wednesday, November 19

Thanksgiving Dinner at 5:30 p.m. (for those who signed up by the Nov. 4 deadline) and Vespers at 6:20 p.m.

Laura Ann Singh Returns to First Presbyterian

Saturday, November 22 at 7:30 p.m. ~ *Laura Ann Singh* will return to First Presbyterian for an Evening of Song - American Songbook, Bossa Nova, Brazilian music, and popular song. Cost is \$25 for adults; \$20 for seniors; and free for students. Call (423) 946-7548. Laura is the daughter of Wally and Jan Boyd.

Decorating for Advent

Monday, November 24, and Tuesday November 25, at 9 a.m., we will be decorating for Advent! November 30 is the first Sunday of Advent! Many hands make light work and we need them all! Come make our church even more beautiful, for the Advent Season!

Fourth Advent Coffee

Let us gather together on the first Sunday of Advent **November 30** in the Fellowship Hall from 9:15-10:15 a.m. This replaces Sunday School. The church will provide coffee, punch and water. Please bring a savory or sweet breakfast food such as fruit, deviled eggs, biscuits, sausage, cheese straws, pastries, quiche, muffins etc. Any Christmas food is also welcomed. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming Community Events

- ♦ **St. Paul's Christmas Bazaar**, November 21-23, St. Paul's Episcopal Church (*see the newsletter for details*).
- ♦ **Annual Craft and Bake Sale for Oasis of Kingsport**, November 22, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
- ♦ **Community Thanksgiving Service**, November 23, 5 p.m., Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

"A Good Death" Workshop

Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church will hold a workshop on "A Good Death" with topics including funeral planning, hospice care, navigating grief, and estate planning from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on **Saturday, November 22**. Lunch will be served and the cost is \$10. Please email Pastor David Randolph at david@chpres.org to register.

Please be aware the 10:30 a.m. service is live streamed and recorded on Facebook and YouTube
WIFI Network: FPCK-GUEST ~ Password: Genesis 1:3-4