

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

September 13, 2026
8:30 a.m. ~ Chapel Worship



GATHERING MUSIC ~ *Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship our God*

PRELUDE ~ "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," arranged by Joel Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ *Please sign the friendship pads*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, bless the Lord,
bless God's holy name.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God's steadfast love for us.

*OPENING HYMN #716 ~ "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have conformed our lives to the ways of the world and not the ways of your kingdom. We have failed to live in harmony with our sisters and brothers. Self-righteous in our attitudes, closed-minded in our beliefs, and judgmental in our opinions, we shun those whose ways we do not understand, and despise those who do not endorse our convictions. Forgive our sins of discord and conceit. Heal our divisiveness and quarreling. Transform us, that we may be holy and acceptable to you, discerning and doing your will through Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. (Time for silent confession) Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING ~ Romans 12:1-8

SERMON ~ "God's Plan for Your Best Life" (*If at First You Don't Succeed . . .*) ~ Dr. Brad Walker

STATEMENT OF FAITH

From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles, rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. . . .

. . . . Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest....

. . . . great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again....

. . . . Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer

*CLOSING HYMN #526 ~ "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE ~ "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," arranged by Mary McDonald