



Welcome to First Pres! We are so glad you are here today. First Pres is an exciting faith community in which to live out your Christian discipleship. If you are a first time visitor to First Presbyterian Church, please take a moment to see one of the greeters on your way out for a special visitor gift. They will also be glad to answer any questions you might have.



We celebrate your participation in worship today. Please take a moment to register your attendance using the QR code here.

Interested in Joining First Pres? If you are considering church membership, please speak with a minister following worship. You may also call the church office at 817.335.1231 to speak with Chris Bartley (Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Children of all ages are a welcome blessing in worship! Children are invited to worship with their families. Parents, ask an usher for a worship bag full of activities to keep children engaged. Members, having children in worship is a gift and sign that our congregation is growing. Please welcome children and offer parents a smile of encouragement.

Stephen Ministry cares for people in crisis or transition. For more information, contact the Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz in the church office, 817.335.1231 ext. 264.

Large print bulletins and personal sound systems are available from an usher.

Our in-person and online congregations share worship together. This service may be livestreamed or recorded. Your image (photos and video) may appear on our Facebook page, YouTube channel, and our website. Questions about this policy? Please email communications@fpcf.org.



Offerings can be given by using the envelopes provided in the worship spaces and placing your gift in the offering plate, or by using the QR code here to give online.



First Pres is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Learn more about our denomination by visiting www.pcusa.org.



Mark your calendar for the annual Presbyterian House Build with Trinity Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, May 30, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We'll be back in the same neighborhood as last year at 4100 Joshua Springs Circle, Fort Worth (note: this is a brand new neighborhood and street may not show up on GPS, but neighborhood is across from Mary Harris Elementary School in south Fort Worth). Volunteers will help raise and brace walls, and breakfast and snacks will be provided. Sign up at <https://vhub.at/1stpresbyterianchurch>.

We also need a sponsor to provide breakfast on Saturday May 30 for 30 people to be delivered to the worksite (breakfast tacos are always a hit!). Contact Robyn Michalove (robyn@fpcf.org or 817.335.1231, ext. 266) for more info.

Staff & Worship Participants

Pastor/Head of Staff	The Rev. Dr. Brian Coulter
Senior Associate Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Robyn Michalove
Associate Pastor for Youth	The Rev. Dr. Josh Stewart
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care	The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz
Director of Music/Organist	Dr. Ahreum Han Congdon
Music Associates	Rebecca Sawyer, Laura Collins
Associate Organist & Choral Assistant	Brent McCartney
Director of Children's Ministry	Ann Nielsen
Engagement Coordinator	Eric Varnon
Senior Director of Engagement & Programs	Chris Bartley
Parish Visitor	Matt McGraw
Digital Content Producer	Felix Oyola
Audio/Video Engineer	Tristan Medina
Liturgist	Susan Maxwell Campbell

Ministers: The Entire Congregation
Partner Congregation in Fort Worth: Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church
Partner Congregations in Cuba: Buen Pastor, Resurrection,
and Cidra Presbyterian Churches

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 26, 2026 | 11 a.m.



Gathering in God's Name

Prelude *Chant Héroïque* George Blake

Use the prelude to make the transition from getting here to being here.
Open yourself to the Spirit of God moving in our midst.

Welcome, Greeting and Announcements Ashley Drake Mertz

Please pass the Ritual of Friendship down your row and back to the side aisle during worship in order to greet one another by name.

*Call to Worship Susan Maxwell Campbell

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

****I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,**
in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!

*Hymn *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* 366

*Prayer of Adoration

Everlasting God, we praise You for Your steadfast love and abundant mercy, revealed in the saving life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Even when we turn from You, You remain holy and gracious, redeeming us.

You are the Creator of heaven and earth; the vastness of Your works and the care of Your hand fill us with awe. From the heights of the mountains to the smallest details of life, all things declare Your glory and wisdom beyond our understanding.

Tune our hearts to behold Your goodness, and order our lives to reflect Your care, that we may serve as faithful stewards of all You have made and bear witness to Your reconciling grace. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*The Peace

And now, may the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you by saying,
"The peace of Christ be with you," and responding, "And also with you."

* The congregation may stand. ** Words in bold are read in unison.

*Sung Response *Alleluia!* 587

Encountering God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson (page 564, Old Testament) Psalm 116.1-4, 12-19

Children's Moment Angie Becker

Jesus Loves Me! 188

***Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.***

***Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.***

TEXT: Stanza 1, Anna Bartlett Warner, 1859; stanza 2, David Rutherford McGuire, 1971.

Second Lesson (page 232, New Testament) 1 Peter 1.17-23

Sermon "If you invoke ..." Brian Coulter

Responding to God's Word

*Song *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* 582

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Robyn Michalove

**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.**

Offering of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory *Sing Unto the Lord* Charles Yannerella
Chancel Choir

Sing, sing, sing unto the Lord, let your heart rejoice and your soul fill with gladness.

Sing, sing, sing unto the Lord, let us bless His Holy Name.

Sing, sing, sing unto the Lord, let your voice proclaim His excellent greatness.

Sing, sing, sing unto the Lord, let us bless His Holy Name.

Fill your hearts with praises and thanksgiving.

Let us go before the Lord and bless His Name forever.

*Doxology *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* 609

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1989; © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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*Prayer of Dedication

Going in God's Name

*Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* 377

*Benediction

*Sung Amen 601

Postlude "Stride Dance" from *Fiesta!* Iain Farrington