



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.

The flowers in the Chancel are given by Dana Freese.



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.



Stick around after worship today for a delicious lunch and an afternoon of family friendly fun at the annual All Church Picnic! Enjoy treats from the ice cream truck, smiles from Billy Buttons, balloon artistry, face painting, and even a blood drive. Scan the QR code to schedule your blood drive appointment and come ready for a joyful day together.



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	Beverly Howard

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

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 3, 2026 | 11 a.m.



Gathering in God's Name

Prelude "Song" from *Fiesta!* Iain Farrington

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 Robyn Michalove

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.

Minute for Mission Presbyterian Pan Am School in Kingsville Dr. Joey King President

*Call to Worship Beverly Howard

Bless the Lord, O people, sing!
****Let the sound of praise ring out.**
Come and hear what the Lord has done,
the Lord who has made everything!

*Hymn *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* 394

*Prayer of Adoration

Today is the day you have made, O Lord. This is a day for singing and worship. Be with us in our celebration. Comfort us in our confessions. Assure us that you answer our prayers. Remind us that we are not alone. In the beauty of this day, and in the beauty of this world, we sing and worship and pray with all our hearts! 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 803, Old Testament) Ezekiel 34.1-7a

Children's Moment Ann Nielsen

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 234, New Testament) 1 Peter 3.13-22

Sermon "A Good Conscience" Ashley Drake Mertz

Responding to God's Word

Anthem *Lift Up Your Heads. O Ye Gates* William Mathias
Chancel Choir

*Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors,
and the King of glory shall come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.
Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Josh Stewart

**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 *Make a Joyful Noise* William Mathias

*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness:
Come before his presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord he is God:
It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts
with praise:
Be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting,
And his truth endureth to all generations.*

*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 *O Jesus, I Have Promised* 724

*Benediction

*Sung Amen 601

Postlude "Celebration" from *Fiesta!* Iain Farrington