



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 in loving memory of parents, Ann and Winfred Carver, from Chris Clingman, Lisa Branton and their families.



The Peace and Global Witness offering is one of four special offerings within the Presbyterian Church. It enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Offerings can be given by using the envelopes in the worship spaces and placing your gift in the offering plate or 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.



You're invited to be part of the annual First Pres Habitat Build on Saturday, October 4, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Garden Springs Development in Fort Worth. Check-in will be at 4037 Bonita Springs Dr. To reserve your spot, please register by Monday, September 15 at <https://vhub.at/1stpresbyterianchurch>.

We're also looking for a group or individuals to provide lunch for 30 volunteers from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. If you're interested in helping with lunch, contact Robyn (robynm@fpcf.org or 817.335.1231).

Staff & Worship Participants

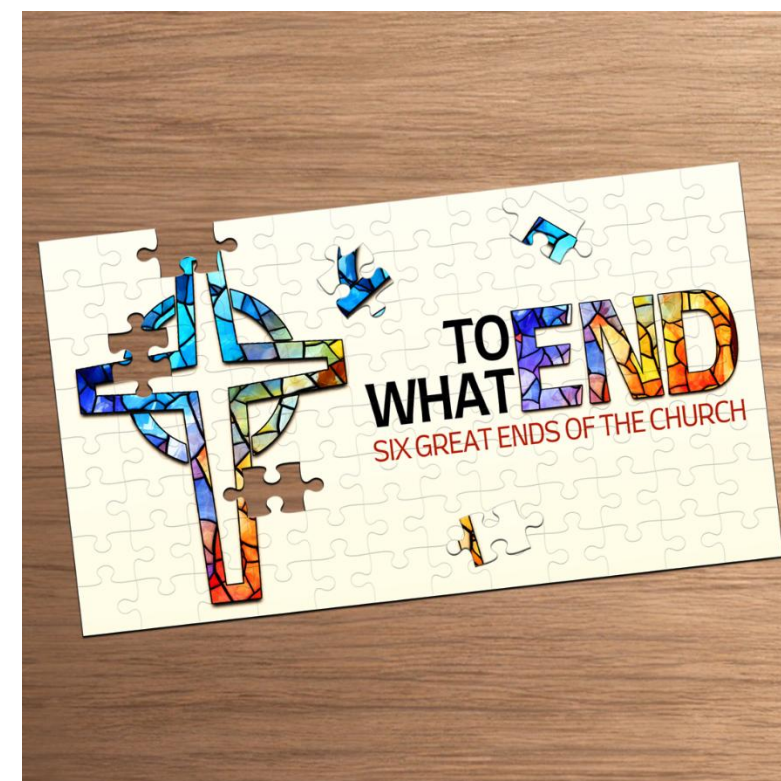
Pastor/Head of Staff
Senior Associate Pastor
Associate Pastor
Associate Pastor for Youth
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
Director of Music/Organist
Music Associates
Associate Organist & Choral Assistant
Director of Children's Ministry
Director of Young Adult Ministry
Senior Director of Engagement & Programs
Parish Visitor
Parish Visitor
Digital Content Producer
Audio/Video Engineer
Liturgist

The Rev. Dr. Brian Coulter
The Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski
The Rev. Dr. Robyn Michalove
The Rev. Dr. Josh Stewart
The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz
Dr. Ahreum Han Congdon
Rebecca Sawyer, Laura Collins
Brent McCartney
Ann Nielsen
Eric Varnon
Chris Bartley
Matt McGraw
The Rev. Lynda Dinsdale
Felix Oyola
Tristan Medina
Bryan Ballew

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

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 14, 2025 | 11 a.m.



Gathering in God’s Name

Prelude “Andante religioso” Felix Mendelssohn
from Sonata No. 4 in B-flat Major, Op. 65

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 Michael Waschevski

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 Bryan Ballew

Come, beloved of God,
**the One who shelters us is here.
Come, hungry and weary,
the Spirit will nurture us with living bread.
Come, seekers of fellowship,
Christ gathers us into a circle of love.
Come, children of God,
let us worship the One
who knits us together in grace and peace.

*Hymn Called as Partners in Christ’s Service 761

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you call us to live in unity and to share freely as
members of the body of Christ. But our lives are marked by
division and fear. We guard our possessions more than our
neighbors. We hoard grace as though it were scarce,
forgetting that your mercy overflows without end. Forgive
us, O God.

Pour out your Spirit upon us. Soften our hearts. Mend our
divisions. Weave us again in your peace, so that we may live
as your children...sheltered, nurtured, and made whole in
Christ. Amen.

We continue with a moment for silent prayers and personal confession.

*Kyrie Lord, Prepare Me 701

Lord pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - a - ry, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true With thanks-giv-ing I'll be a
liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for You.

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

*Assurance of Pardon

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation, the past is
finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*The Peace

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

*Gloria Patri Glory Be to the Father 581

Encountering God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson (page 575, Old Testament) Psalm 133

Children’s Moment Ann Nielsen

Jesus Loves Me! 188

Second Lesson (page 122, New Testament) Acts 4.32-37

Sermon TO WHAT END Brian Coulter
“spiritual fellowship”

Sealing God’s Word

*Hymn Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306
v. 1-2 all, v. 3 higher voices, v. 4 lower voices, v. 5 all

Offering of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory Oh, How Good It Is arr. Joshua Spacht

Chancel Choir
Peggy Turner – Irish whistle, James Brunke - bodhrán,
Alejandro Salazar – tambourine, Laura Collins - guitar

Oh, how good it is when the fam’ly of God
dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love,
are the fruit of His presence here among us.
So with one voice we’ll sing to the Lord.
And with one heart we’ll live out His Word
till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come,
for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh, how good it is, on this journey we share,
to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, the afflicted
find grace when we offer the blessing of belonging.
So with one voice we’ll sing to the Lord...

Oh, how good it is to embrace His command,
to prefer on another, forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one, we all share in the love of the Son
with the Father and the Spirit.
So with one voice we’ll sing to the Lord...

*Doxology Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow 606

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Table Robyn Michalove

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer

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.

The minister continues the Great Prayer, ending with the Lord’s Prayer
(The Lord’s Prayer text is found in Glory to God page 35)

The Bread and the Cup

The bread of heaven. The cup of salvation.
Amen. Thanks be to God.

Communion Music Come to the Table of Grace 507

Prayer After Communion Josh Stewart

Going in God’s Name

*Hymn We Are One in the Spirit 300

*Benediction

*Sung Amen 601

Postlude Excerpt from Passacaglia in C J.S. Bach
BWV 582