



**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@fpcfw.org](mailto:communications@fpcfw.org).

**The World Communion Offering** is one of three special offerings within the Presbyterian Church. It enables the church to focus on the atonement and reconciliation that happens around the Table and to experience and participate in the grace that comes from reconciling all peoples from all nations around the corner and around the globe through the ministry of this offering. Offerings can be given by using the envelopes in the worship spaces 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](http://www.pcusa.org).

# Exploring Jonah's story with our neighbors at Beth-El

Today we begin a **new sermon series**, *The God of Jonah: Mercy Moves Fast*, exploring how God's mercy outruns our expectations, reaches beyond our fears, and meets us with grace at every turn.

As First Pres continues its churchwide study of Jonah this fall, you're invited to **join Beth-El Synagogue** in Fort Worth for a **Yom Kippur experience** on **Monday, September 21**. Participants may attend the **Afternoon Service** from **3-4:15 p.m.**, which includes a connection to the Jonah story, and are also welcome to stay after for the Remembrance Service (a specific service for members they've lost in the past year) from 4:15-6 p.m.



**Registration is required, and all attendees must be included on the list** submitted to the synagogue by 5 p.m. on September 16. (Once the list is submitted, we will be unable to add any additional names.) Register using the QR code here. Please arrange your own transportation, plan to arrive early, and consider carpooling, as parking will be limited. The synagogue is located at 4900 Briarhaven Rd., Fort Worth. Multiple individuals from the same household may be included on one registration form.

## 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                   |
| A/V Engineer                             | Russ Knight                     |
| Digital Content Producer                 | Felix Oyola                     |
| Liturgist                                | Carol Adcock                    |

*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*

16TH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
Sunday, September 13, 2026 | 11 a.m.



Gathering in God’s Name

PreludeImpromptuWill T. Davidson

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 AnnouncementsJosh Stewart

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

\*Call to WorshipCarol Adcock

Sing for joy, heavens and earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! Our Creator has comforted the people and will have compassion for the ones who are suffering.  
**\*\*Come Out! The imprisoned shall have freedom. Show yourselves! Those who live in darkness will see the light of day.**  
God will feed you and protect you; God will guide you and ease your way.  
**Glory be to our Protector because God will never forget us; we are inscribed in the palm of God’s hands! Sing for joy! The Comforter has love and compassion for us.**

From Isaiah 49.8-16a

\*HymnThe Church’s One Foundation321

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy Creator, we too often find ourselves fleeing your presence. Searching for a way out of your calling in our lives rather than looking for how we can more closely follow you. We have not cared for the Earth or creatures as you meant for us to do; we have not cared for one another as you have commanded; we have not loved ourselves with the regard that honors wholeness and peace of mind.**  
**We look for who should be punished rather than looking for how to offer grace and mercy. Show us, once again, the way of life abundant in you and turn us always to that path so that we may live and move in renewed commitment to what is just and good. We pray this in your holy name, Amen.**

Sung ResponseLord, Prepare Me701

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

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, in the name of the God who raised Jesus from the dead, your sins are forgiven. Walk in the way of faith, that you may have abundance and joy.  
**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 PatriGlory Be to the Father581

Encountering God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson(page 859, Old Testament)Jonah 1

Children’s MomentAnn Nielsen

Jesus Loves Me!188

Second Lesson(page 34, New Testament)Matthew 28.19-20

Sermon“Jonah’s call”Brian Coulter

Sealing God’s Word

\*HymnLord, Speak to Me That I May Speak722

Offering of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

OffertoryJubilate Deo (sung in Latin)Peter Anglea  
Chancel Choir

Jubilate Deo omnis terra, servite domino in laetitia.  
Introite in conspectu ejus in exultatione. Jubilate Deo.

Quoniam suavis est dominus, in aeternam misericordia ejus.  
Quoniam suavis est dominus et usque in generationem veritas ejus. Jubilate Deo. Jubilate Deo omnis terra.

Translation: Sing joyfully to God all the earth, serve the Lord with gladness. Come into (God’s) presence with jubilation. Sing joyfully.

For gracious is the Lord and his mercy is everlasting.  
For gracious is the Lord to all generations and God’s truth endures forever. Sing joyfully to God all the earth.

\*DoxologyPraise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow606

**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 TableMichael Waschevski

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.

**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.**

The Bread and the Cup

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

Communion SongCome to the Table of Grace507

Prayer After CommunionAshley Drake Mertz

Going in God’s Name

\*HymnLord, You Give the Great Commission298  
(v 1, 2, & 5)

\*Benediction

\*Sung Amen601

PostludeGrand March in CAlfred Rawlings