

**Adult**

**Bible 101:** all ages, SS 212

A round-table discussion on the basic studies of Scripture following the Chalmers Center Guide. Currently studying *The Jesus Storybook Bible*.

**Chapter by Chapter:** ages 50+, Tower 804

Currently studying Colossians; mostly 50s+ but all ages welcome.

**Fellowship Class:** all ages, SS 210

Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

**First Pres Forum Class:** all ages, Fellowship Hall

Offering a rotating schedule of teachers and speakers. This month, Dr. Herbert Ward, the Chair of the Biblical and Theological Studies Department at Covenant College, will be teaching a series on Old Testament Covenant Theology.

**The Joy of Learning:** ages 30s - 70s, Tower 258

A no-pressure, discussion-based class currently studying God's Biblical responses to Screwtape/Satan in C.S. Lewis's book *The Screwtape Letters*.

**Link Class:** ages 60+, Tower 301

Fellowship and prayer followed by a study of Philippians. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

**McCallie/Anderson Class:** all ages, Chapel

Class dates back to 1924 and is named after legendary Sunday School teachers J. Park McCallie and Lee Anderson. Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse.

**Reformed by the Word:** ages 50s - 80s, Tower 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

An interactive class studying the Gospel according to Mark. Lessons are followed by a time of prayer.

**Rocking Chair Class:** all ages, Tower 302

Focuses on discovering "what sayest the Scripture." Currently studying John MacArthur's series, "The Rapture & the Day of the Lord."

**International & Adult Bible Discussion:** all ages, Tower 805

Part of the First Friends Ministry, welcomes international college students. Currently studying the Kingdom of God.

**Young Couples:** ages 20s - 30s couples, SS 211

A short lesson followed by group discussion. Class is currently studying the Book of Church Order from the Presbyterian Church in America's Constitution.

**Young Professionals:** ages 20s - 30s, Tower 304

Aimed at connecting recent college graduates and newly-weds in their 20s and 30s; current series is "Soul Care: Spiritual Food for Hungry People," with a focus in the Psalms.

**Youth & Kids**

**Youth Large Group:** 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Student Center (across McCallie Ave.)

**Kid's Sunday School:** Pre K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade, ground, 1<sup>st</sup>, & 2<sup>nd</sup> level Children's Wing

**Nursery:** Infant - 4-years-old

**NEW & UPCOMING AT 1<sup>ST</sup> PRES**

**Woman at the Well - January 18**

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, January 18, from 6:30pm - 8pm for Woman at the Well! We'll enjoy a testimony from one of our women, fellowship, fun, and a delicious dessert. No registration needed, and friends are welcome! For childcare, please email [Emily@1stPresbyterian.com](mailto:Emily@1stPresbyterian.com) by January 15.

**Inquirer's Class - January 20**

Are you interested in learning more about 1st Pres or would you like to become a member? We will have our next Inquirer's Class on Saturday, January 20, 8:30am-12:00pm on the 10th floor of the Tower. Come hear about our church's vision for the city, what we believe, and discipleship and ministry opportunities. Light breakfast will be provided. Register at [1stPresbyterian.com/Events](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Events).

**Staffing Updates**

Church Administrator Don Holwerda will be retiring at the end of January, after eleven faithful years on staff. To thank him for his service, we are holding a reception for him next Sunday, January 28; details are forthcoming!

On that same note, we are thrilled to be welcoming our new Director of Finance/Office Manager, Becky Pearce! Becky recently moved on from her position as Administrator at Covenant Presbyterian and holds a degree in Management from the University of Southern Florida.

We are also proud to announce our former Sound Engineer, Dylan Thomas, has taken on the role of Director of Media Arts, and our former Nursery Coordinator, Tracey Skillman, has moved into the front desk as our new Receptionist and Office Coordinator!

**Gospel Fest - February 3**

This season's Concert Series continues Saturday, February 3, at 6pm with Gospel Fest, where we will be joined by local churches to celebrate Black History Month through songs and spirituals!

**Midweek - January 17**

Midweek continues this week, with a meal and fellowship at 5:30pm and electives for nursery, kids, youth, and adults starting at 6:15pm. This semester's adult elective features guest experts who will examine the Biblical foundations of Western society and equip you to answer the objections raised against them. Go to [1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek) for more details!



*At First Presbyterian, we seek to be a healthy church exhibiting all the fullness of Christ as we disciple believers who develop spiritually, connect relationally, and engage missionally to reach Chattanooga and the world with the gospel.*

**The Lord's Day**  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024  
11:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

**THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**WORSHIP REFLECTION**

We can only trust with confidence  
a LORD Who controls everything.  
If He is unable to use wickedness to further His plan,  
then evil remains free from His rule,  
and we could never be sure of His final victory.  
Sin may hinder God's plans,  
but it cannot ultimately defeat His purposes.  
Good can be brought about in spite of evil.  
And so it came to pass  
that the very steps Joseph's brothers took  
to defeat God's purposes  
were used to fulfill Joseph's dreams,  
and, more importantly, to preserve and save their very lives...  
those who were most unworthy of being rescued.  
— adapted from W.H. Griffith Thomas

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Grant, O Lord,  
that the course of this world  
may be peaceably governed by Your providence  
and that Your church may joyfully serve You  
in confidence and peacefulness,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
forever and ever. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

"God's Time Is Best" by J. S. Bach

*Ann Shaw, organ*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



*New to 1st Pres?  
We'd love to connect with you!  
Scan with your phone camera  
to fill out a connect card.*



*To make a secure contribution  
to First Pres, scan the above QR  
code with your phone camera or  
text GIVE to 423-888-0345.*

For more information on these and other upcoming events, subscribe to our Weekly Email Announcements on our website under the "Resources" tab, or go to [1stPresbyterian.com/Events](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Events).

## THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### CHORAL INTROIT

*"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"*

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 103:1-4 NIV*

Pastor: Praise the LORD, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise His holy name.  
Praise the LORD, my soul,  
and forget not all His benefits—

**People: Who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
Who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion.**

### † PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### † 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.**

### † HYMN OF PRAISE

*"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (Psalm 103)" Bulletin*

### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 34*

Pastor: What is adoption?

**People: Adoption is an act of God's free grace,  
whereby we are received into the number,  
and have a right to all the privileges,  
of the sons of God.**

### † HYMN OF PRAISE

*"Children of the Heavenly Father"*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

**Gracious heavenly Father,  
thank You for sending us heaven's Prince.  
In Him, Your love to rebels has reached its height.  
Forgive us for the ways that we distrust Your loving heart.  
We confess our slowness to grieve over our sins  
and acknowledge the ways that we have played the prodigal.  
Today we return home saying, "Father, forgive us."  
Thank You for bringing forth the best robe.  
May we wear it gladly as we marvel  
at the exceeding wonder of Your grace  
through Jesus Christ, our true Elder Brother. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Ephesians 1:7 ESV*

In Him we have redemption through His blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of His grace,  
which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

### HYMN OF HEALING

*"Grace Greater Than Our Sin"*

### PRAYERS FOR HEALING & EDUCATORS

### OFFERTORY

*"Amazing Grace" by Craig Courtney*

### GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station  
at the PreK-K department on the Fellowship Hall level.*

### † DOXOLOGY

## THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

### SERMON

*"Living the Nightmare"*

**Genesis 37:12-36**

*"Keeping Your Faith When Life Lets You Down: A Study of the Life of Joseph"*

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

### OUTLINE

1. A Pit
2. A Plan
3. A Purchase

### † HYMN OF RESPONSE

*"I'd Rather Have Jesus"*

## THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### † BENEDICTION

*based on 2 Corinthians 13:14 ESV*

Pastor: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**People: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

*"Jesus, Lover of My Soul" arr. Craig Duncan*

*Celtic Ensemble*

## Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

PSALM 103

Unison/2-part

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to His feet your trib - ute  
2. Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor to our fa - thers in dis -  
3. Fa - ther - like, He tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame He  
4. Frail as sum - mer's flower we flour - ish—blows the wind, and it is  
5. An - gels in the heights, a - dore Him— ye be - hold Him face to

bring. Ran - sored, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er -  
-tress. Praise Him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to  
knows. In His hands He gen - tly bears us, res - cues  
gone. But while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en -  
face. Saints tri - um - phant, bow be - fore Him, gath - ered

Harmony

-more His prais - es sing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
chide and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
-dures un - chang - ing on! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
in from eve - ry race. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Praise the ev - er - last - ing King! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Praise the High E - ter - nal One! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Praise with us the God of grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Words: Henry F. Lyte, 1834, alt; Music: American folk melody, in *The Sacred Harp*, 1844  
Arr. © 2015 Grace Immanuel Bible Church

BEACH SPRING  
87 87 D

-lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!  
-lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.  
-lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.  
-lu - ia! Praise the High E - ter - nal One!  
-lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Giving Update	Deacons (General Fund)	World Missions
Annual Budget	\$3,046,380	\$850,000
Raised Year-to-Date	\$2,244,801	\$938,678*

\*World Missions fiscal year ended as of December 2023

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bryce and Sallie Holt by Thorny and Laura (Holt) Strang, Linda Holt, and David and Pat Holt.  
"Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances."  
I Thessalonians 5:16-18*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, January 15.*

*Stay connected and informed with the 1st Pres app. Text APP to 423-888-0345.*

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