

I ASKED THE LORD

John Newton, 1779

Traditional

1. I asked the Lord that I might grow in faith and
 2. 'Twas He who taught me thus to pray, and He
 3. I hoped that in some fa-vored hour at once He'd
 4. In - stead of this He made me feel the hid - den
 5. Yea more with His own hand He seemed in - tent to
 6. "Lord, why is this," I, trem - bling, cried? "Wilt Thou pur -
 7. "These in - ward tri - als I em - ploy from self and

love and ev - 'ry grace, might more of
 trust has an - swered prayer, but it has
 an - swer my re - quest and by His
 e - vil of my heart and let the
 ag - gra - vate my woe, crossed all the
 sue Thy worm to death?" "'Tis in this
 pride to set thee free, and break Thy

His sal - va - tion know and seek more
 been in such a way as al - most
 love's con - strain - ing pow'r sub - due my
 an - gry pow'rs of Hell as - sault my
 fair de - signs I schemed, hum - bled my
 way," the Lord re - plied, "I an - swer
 schemes of earth - ly joy that thou may'st

ear - nest - ly His face.
 drove me to de - spair.
 sins and give me rest.
 soul in ev - 'ry part.
 heart, and laid me low.
 prayer for grace and faith."
 find thy grace all in Me."

NEW & UPCOMING AT 1ST PRES

Women's Summer Bible Study - Tuesdays Starting May 28

Our study this summer is *No Empty Word: Relentless Pursuit, a Study on Hosea*. Join us this summer for 8 weeks as we dig into Hosea and learn the story of Israel's disobedience, God's discipline, and His steadfast love for Israel and for us! Childcare available with registration. Register before we begin this Tuesday at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Ladies Fellowship Luncheon - June 6

Join us for our first Fellowship Luncheon of the summer at The Tea Cottage on Hickory Valley Road, featuring our special guest Samantha Adair! The cost is \$20, and reservations must be made by May 28 at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

VBS - June 24-28

Join us for this year's VBS where your kids will set off on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. Amid sloths, butterflies, river dolphins, and dart frogs, your children will sail along on a fun jungle cruise, stopping at five ports of call: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Christ and the Cross, and Consummation. Kids will discover how these events shape our world, and they will learn to connect the Bible to their everyday lives. We're still looking for volunteers! Learn more at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Diaconate Announcement - Elevator Repairs (Your Deacons Budget at Work!)

The Diaconate is currently in the process at looking into all mechanical systems at 1st Pres and any issues that need to be addressed. The Tower elevators have served us well, and now it's time for them to be replaced. We expect them to be installed later this summer. Thank you in advance for your patience!



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, MAY 26, 2024

11:00 AM

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

Satan through his agents, both devilish and human, assaults all Christians. He does so most fiercely to leaders. Therefore, all Christians, and leaders supremely must learn to pray with Nehemiah: O God, strengthen our hands (Nehemiah 6:9). Strengthen them not only for constructive ministry, but also for mortal combat as we fight "against the schemes of the devil." His objective is to devour us (1 Peter 5:8). His typical strategies for deceiving and destroying us are: blinding us to the truth, distorting the truth, fomenting persecution against us, and discouraging us through self-condemnation, despair, or feelings of abandonment. Let us resist the devil by standing firm in our faith, and putting on the armor of God.

- adapted from J.I. Packer, A Passion for Faithfulness

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,
 Whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit
 to be tempted by Satan,
 come quickly to help us
 who are assaulted by many temptations.
 As You know the weaknesses of each of us,
 let each one find You mighty to save,
 through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
 Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRELUDE

"American River Medley" arr. Susan Whitacre

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celtic Ensemble

Information on our Sunday School options can be found at 1stPresbyterian.com/SundaySchool.

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.



*New to 1st Pres?
 We'd love to connect with you!
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*To make a secure contribution
 to 1st Pres, scan the above QR code
 with your phone camera or go to
1stPresbyterian.com/Give.*

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" arr. Mark Hayes

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 46:1,10-11 ESV

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

People: "Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!"

The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

† 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

"Soldiers of Christ, Arise" No. 575 (vv. 1-3)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 102

Pastor: What do we pray for in the second petition?

People: In the second petition,

which is, "Thy kingdom come,"

we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed;

and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced,

ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it;

and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

† HYMN OF PRAISE

"Stand Up, My Soul; Shake Off Your Fears" No. 577 (vv. 1-4)

CONFESSION OF SIN

O mighty, conquering Lord,

Your battle with Satan has never been uncertain

and will end in victory.

Calvary broke the dragon's head,

and we contend with a vanquished foe.

Where we have gathered defilement,

where our faith has suffered damage,

where our hope is less than bright,

where our love is not fervent,

where some creature comfort occupies our hearts,

or where our souls sink under pressure of the fight,

bring Your healing balm and touch.

Let us drink of the fountain

of Your everlasting love and strengthening grace.

Then shall our hands never weaken,

our feet never stumble, our swords never rest,

our shields never rust, our helmets never shatter,

and our breastplates never fall

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Peter 2:24-25 ESV

He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

By His wounds you have been healed.

For you were straying like sheep,

but have now returned

to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

† HYMN OF HEALING

"I Asked the Lord"

Bulletin

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

OFFERTORY

"If My People" by Joseph Martin

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

"Preparing for Battle"

Ephesians 6:11 (p. 979)

"A Field Guide to Spiritual Warfare"

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

SERMON OUTLINE

1. Required Armor

2. Real Enemy

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

† BENEDICTION

based on 2 Timothy 4:18

Pastor: May the Lord rescue you from every evil deed
and bring you safely into His heavenly kingdom.
To Him be the glory forever and ever.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Präludium in F" by Georg Böhm

Patrick Rice, organ

Worship Leader

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*

Presiding Minister

Randy Nabors, *Pastor of Missions*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mrs. Joan Heywood on
the occasion of her birthday by Dr. Barry Heywood. They are also given in memory of
Robert and Virginia Talley and Humphrey B. and Rosina Heywood,
parents of Joan and Barry Heywood.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, May 27.*