

NEW & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES

Tennessee Valley Reformation Hymn Festival – Tonight!

Please join us in celebrating the Reformation alongside Lookout Mountain Presbyterian tonight at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary! Learn more about Reformation Sunday at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

New Sunday School Class – starting Today

We're excited to announce the kick-off of a new Sunday class offering in the Fellowship Hall: the Foundations Class! Led by Pastor Ron Brown, the purpose of the Foundations Class is to equip in word and faith through God's word and to be a launching pad for newcomers. If you're not already connected with a class, please take this opportunity to explore the initial teaching series: "Order of Salvation – This Is Your Life! God's plan for your life, past, present, and future."

New Church Directory Program – starting October 31

As a reminder, we have implemented a new church management system, which includes our directory and calendar. We are asking all members to transition to our new system, ShelbyNext, by October 31. You can download the ShelbyNext app for Android and iPhone by searching "ShelbyNext Membership." If you need your login, or you need assistance, please reach out to the church office at Office@1stPresbyterian.com or 423-267-1206 ext. 101.

Inquirer's Class – November 2

Are you interested in learning more about First Pres or would you like to become a member? Come hear about our church's vision for the city, what we believe, and discipleship and ministry opportunities at our next Inquirer's Class on Saturday, November 2, in the Nell Davis Room from 8:30am - 12:00pm! A light breakfast will be provided. Register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events by Tuesday, October 29.

First Cup – November 5

1st Pres men are invited to First Cup, our monthly men's breakfast, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00am in the Nell Davis Room! As part of our study, "The Marks of an Emotionally Healthy Disciple of Jesus," Pete Austin III will give his personal testimony on how his prayer life helped shape him to follow Jesus faithfully and to lead his family. We'll also enjoy delicious egg & cheese biscuits from Bluegrass Grill (\$5 charge) and lots of coffee!

Officer Nominations Month – November

During the month of November, First Pres members can nominate qualified men in our congregation who might be a good fit for Deacon or Elder. Nomination forms and drop-box will be available at the Front Desk in the Connector starting November 1. Men who are qualified to be a Deacon must have been a member in good standing for at least 18 months, and those qualified to be an Elder must have been a member in good standing for at least 3 years. View the full list of requirements and a sample form at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Children's Ministry – Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers for our Children's Ministry! We especially ask that parents whose child(ren) regularly participate in our Children's Ministry commit to volunteering with us at least once a quarter. Note that a background check may be required for you to volunteer, and we will reach out to you if necessary. Learn more and fill out the interest form at 1stPresbyterian.com/Kids.

Midweek – continues October 30

Break from your usual weeknight routine and join us for dinner & teachings starting at 5:30pm! Learn more at 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM

Adult

Bible 101: SS 212, *Martha Meeks*

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

Chapter by Chapter: Tower 804, *George Clark, Brad Gruner*

Currently studying Colossians.

College Class: SS 203, *Gunther Griffin*

Invites rising and current college students.

Fellowship Class: SS 210, *Donnie Bostick*

Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse.

Foundations Class: Fellowship Hall, *Ron Brown*

A launch-pad for new-comers with no long-term commitment expected. Current series is "Order of Salvation – This Is Your Life! God's plan for your life, past, present, and future."

Icebreakers Class: SS 211, *Mike Kramer*

A short lesson followed by small group discussion, focused on understanding Reformed Theology. Currently studying the Westminster Standards.

The Joy of Learning: Tower 258, *Steve & Sue Sawrie*

A no-pressure, discussion-based class currently studying 1 Timothy.

Link Class: SS 209, *Bruce & Leslie Cory*

Fellowship and prayer followed by a study of selected Psalms.

McCallie/Anderson Class: Chapel, *Sam Clyatt*

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: Tower 10th Floor, *Jerry Stauffer*

An interactive class studying Hebrews. Lessons are followed by a time of prayer.

Rocking Chair Class: Tower 302, *Frank Eldridge*

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

International & Adult Bible Discussion: SS 204-F, *Andy & Lisa Fischer*

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

Welcome All Class: SS 202, *Steve Dunn*

Currently studying how Jesus lived as a person and what it means to be fully human as God planned, using Paul Miller's *The Person of Jesus*.

Young Professionals: Tower 304, *Dick Cain*

Current series is "Psalms: Prayers of the Heart."

Youth & Kids

Youth Large Group: 6th – 12th grade, Student Center (across McCallie Ave.)

Kid's Sunday School: Pre K – 5th grade, ground & 1st level Children's Wing

Nursery: Infant – 4-years-old

SS = Sanctuary Side

Find more info on our Discipleship Ministries at 1stPresbyterian.com/Discipleship.



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 REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 27, 2024

11:00 AM

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

In our sermon text today, Nehemiah demonstrates the fruit of his relationship with the Lord, not only in his refusal to lord it over those he governs (5:14–18), but also in his personal communion with God (v. 19). He understood the great commands: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:35–40). Nehemiah's leadership would one day be filled out and perfected in Jesus, who supremely refused to lord it over others, despite His right to do so as Lord of the cosmos (Mark 10:45).
– *ESV Gospel Transformation Bible*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity,
and make us love what You command
so that we may obtain what You promise
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
We pray to the One
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

PRELUDE

"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" arr. Kristin Campbell

William Navalon, violin & Dr. Sigrid Luther, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

“Total Praise” arr. Joel Raney

Youth Choir

† Please stand as you are able.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 121:1-2 *ESV*

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?

**People: My help comes from the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† HYMN OF PRAISE

“Holy, Holy, Holy” *No. 100 (vv. 1-4)*
“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” *No. 53 (vv. 1-3,5)*

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Heavenly Father,
we come before You
fully aware of our unworthiness.
In Your presence, we are reminded
of Your holiness and our sinfulness.
We confess that we are people of “unclean lips,”
and our hearts often wander far from You.
Forgive us for our pride, selfishness,
and lack of love for others.
Cleanse and purify our hearts
that we might become vessels fit for Your use.
We thank You for Your mercy and grace,
which You freely give through Jesus Christ.
Restore us, renew us, and send us out
as Your faithful servants in this world.
In the name of Your Son, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Isaiah 6:6-7 *ESV**
Then one of the seraphim flew to me,
having in his hand a burning coal
that he had taken with tongs from the altar.
And he touched my mouth and said:
“Behold, this has touched your lips;
your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” *No. 457 (vv. 1-3)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Mark & Julie Brown
Susan Brown
Kelly Dibrell
Tripp Dudley
Thomas & Kate Eischeid

Don & Joyce Godsey
Gunther & Sam Griffin
Jim Bob & Amy Howard
Adam & Andrea Jones
Fred & Martha Whitmire

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

“Order My Steps (In Your Word)” arr. Jack Schrader

Youth Choir

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station
at the 1st – 3rd grade Children’s Wing on the first floor behind the Sanctuary.

† DOXOLOGY

THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

SERMON

“A Generous Savior”
Nehemiah 5:1-19 (p. 401)
A City That Lasts: Seeing Christ in the Book of Nehemiah
Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

SERMON OUTLINE

1. The Folly of Greed (vv. 1-13)
2. The Freedom of Fear and Generosity (vv. 14-19)

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Christ for the World We Sing” *No. 447 (vv. 1-4)*

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† BENEDICTION

based on Nehemiah 8:10
As you go forth to serve the LORD,
may the joy of the LORD be your strength,
and may His faithful hand guide you
in every endeavor, now and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele” by Georg Böhm
 (“Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul”) Josh Park, organ

Worship Leader

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*

Presiding Minister

Joshua Adair, *Pastor of Discipleship*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*



*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 1st Pres, scan with your
phone camera or go to
1stPresbyterian.com/Give.*

Giving Update as of 10/13 – fiscal year April 1 - March 31

	<u>Deacons (General Fund)</u>	<u>World Missions</u>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	\$3,460,000	\$900,000
<i>Budgeted Giving</i>	\$1,863,077	\$484,615
<i>Raised</i>	\$1,628,255	\$345,623

Donations to First Presbyterian Church are tax-deductible. In accordance with IRS regulations, donors agree that ultimate control over donated funds lies with the church.

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Tricia Laws Elkins, who went home to be with our Lord six years ago,
by her beloved husband Don, children Heather Guffey & family, and Tripp Dudley & family.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, October 28.*