



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH *of*  
CHATTANOOGA

# The Lord's Day

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

9:00 AM

*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 GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### WORSHIP REFLECTION

Today is Epiphany Sunday.  
The word epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning “manifestation or appearance.”  
In church history this word is closely associated with the revelation of Jesus Christ in connection with the visit of the Magi.  
Epiphany is regularly observed on the Sunday closest to January 6.

What is the significance of the epiphany of our Lord?  
We cannot know the Lord in a saving way apart from Him revealing Himself to us.  
The Apostle Paul writes to Titus:  
“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy” (*Titus 3:4-5a ESV*).

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O Lord, in this new year,  
unveil Your beauty to our sight  
that we might love You more.  
Grant us the blessing of remaining faithful  
to our divinely-appointed tasks,  
and grant to us a child-like heart of trust  
in You for Jesus's sake. Amen.

## THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† GATHERING SONG

*“We Three Kings”*

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I'll bring to crown Him again  
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign, O

Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect Light

Glorious now, behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice  
Alleluia, alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies, O

I'm gonna need, gonna need some perfect Light  
I'm gonna need, gonna need some perfect Light  
Let your light shine, let your light

Come on, guide us to thy perfect Light  
Come on, guide us to thy perfect Light  
We're all gonna need, gonna need some perfect Light  
So let your light shine, let your light

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

*Isaiah 60:1-3, 16b* ESV

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;

**People: But the LORD will arise upon you,  
and His glory will be seen upon you.  
And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising. . . .  
You shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior  
and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 26*

Pastor: How does Christ execute the office of a king?

**People: Christ executes the office of a king,  
in subduing us to Himself,  
in ruling and defending us,  
and in restraining and conquering  
all His and our enemies.**

† SONG OF PRAISE

*“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

Come, Thou fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise;  
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of God’s unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I’m come;  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand’ring from the fold of God:  
He to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace, how great a debtor, daily I’m constrained to be.  
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand’ring heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it; prone to leave the God I love;  
Here’s my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

O that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;  
Full arrayed in blood-washed linen how I’ll sing Thy sov’rign grace;  
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, take Thy promises to pass  
For I know Thy pow’r will keep me ‘til I’m home with Thee at last.

CONFESSON OF SIN

Almighty and merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against You and one another  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.  
Jesus Christ has come among us as the light of the world,  
yet we often walk in the shadows,  
plagued by faithless fears, worldly anxieties, and arrogant pride.  
Purify us by the blood of Your Son so that we might walk in the light  
and the radiance of Jesus Christ might become more visible in us.  
We make our prayer in His great name. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin,  
so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

*“One Day (When We All Get to Heaven)”*

One day You'll make ev'rything new Jesus; one day You will bind ev'ry wound  
The former things shall all pass away, no more tears

One day You'll make sense of it all Jesus; one day ev'ry question resolved  
Ev'ry anxious thought left behind, no more fear

*Chorus:*

When we all get to heaven what a day of rejoicing that will be  
When we all see Jesus we'll sing and shout the victory

One day we will see face to face, Jesus; is there a greater vision of grace?  
And in a moment we shall be changed, on that day *Chorus*

And one day we'll be free, free indeed Jesus; one day all this struggle will cease  
And we will see Your glory revealed, on that day *Chorus*

Yes one day we will see face to face, Jesus; is there a greater vision of grace?  
And in a moment we shall be changed; yes, in a moment we shall be changed  
In a moment we shall be changed, on that day *Chorus*

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS & COVENANT BAPTISM

*James Lanier Taylor*  
*son of new members Ben & Charis Taylor*

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

## OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*More news and other resources are located on pages 8-10.*

## GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station  
at the 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Children's Wing on the first floor behind the Sanctuary.*

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Amen! Amen! Amen!  
God we praise You  
God we praise You

THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

SERMON

*“The Fullness of Christ”*  
**Ephesians 4:11-16 (p. 977-78)**  
Randy Nabors

SERMON OUTLINE

*More room for notes on p. 7.*

1. Filled Up

2. Filled Out

† SONG OF RESPONSE

*“Turn Your Eyes”*

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace

Turn your eyes to the hillside where justice and mercy embrace  
There the Son of God gave His life for us and our measureless debt was erased

*Chorus:* Jesus to You we lift our eyes, Jesus our glory and our prize  
We adore You, behold You, our Savior ever true; oh Jesus we turn our eyes to You

Turn your eyes to the morning and see Christ the Lion awake  
What a glorious dawn, fear of death is gone, for we carry His life in our veins *Chorus*

Turn your eyes to the heavens; our King will return for His own  
Every knee will bow, every tongue will shout, “All Glory to Jesus Alone!” *Chorus*

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† BENEDICTION

*adapted from Philippians 4:6-7*

May the peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
guard your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of God’s Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and may the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
remain with you always. Amen.

**Worship Leader**

West Breedlove, *Assistant Director of Worship*

**Presiding Minister**

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*

**Minister of the Word**

Randy Nabors, *Pastor of Missions*

*Today’s Flowers*

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Olan Mills, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Malone, and Mr. Charles G. Mills, by Mrs. Charles G. Mills and family.

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our home-bound and hospitalized on Monday, January 6.

## SERMON NOTES



## RESOURCES

### *Connect with Us*

New to 1st Pres? Scan the QR code with your phone camera to fill out a connect card, and one of our pastors will get in touch with you.



### *Sunday School*

Scan the QR code, or go to [1stPresbyterian.com/SundaySchool](http://1stPresbyterian.com/SundaySchool) to view a list of Sunday School offerings for adults, youth, and children. Flyers with adult classes are also available in the Connector and posted around the building.



### *Stay Up-to-Date*

Sign up for our newsletter to receive a comprehensive email each Friday on all things First Pres and the occasional letter from our pastors with important updates. Scan the QR code, or go to [1stPresbyterian.com](http://1stPresbyterian.com) under the “Resources” tab.



### *Giving Update*

as of 12/29

Fiscal year runs April 1 - March 31

	<u>Deacons (General Fund)</u>	<u>World Missions</u>
Annual Budget	\$3,460,000	\$900,000
Budgeted Giving	\$2,595,000	\$675,000
Raised	\$2,590,417	\$694,052



To make a secure contribution to 1st Pres, scan the QR code or go to [1stPresbyterian.com/Give](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Give).

NOTE: 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.

## NEW & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES

### ***First Cup – January 7***

Please join us for our First Cup Men's Breakfast on the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00am - 8:00am in the Nell Davis room. Hank Wilson will continue our study "The Marks of an Emotionally Healthy Disciple of Jesus" with a devotional on applying the gospel to difficult relationships. Come enjoy delicious egg & cheese biscuits from Bluegrass Grill (\$5), good fellowship, and lots of coffee!

### ***Midweek Spring Semester – starting January 8***

Midweek is back for the spring semester! Please join us each Wednesday at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall for food and fellowship, followed by a variety of electives for all ages starting at 6:15pm! We are asking families to pre-register your children for nursery and for the children's electives (k-5th grade Kids Quest) for the semester. Keep an eye on your inbox and our social media next week for more information about our adult elective offerings. In the meantime, you can view our updated dinner prices, upcoming menus, and find the childrens registration at [1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek).

### ***It's a Wonderful Life! Senior Fellowship & Program – January 9***

This month, Todd Morgan of Preserve Chattanooga will speak on "The Power of Preservation." He'll give us an overview of local preservation efforts, explain why historic preservation is important to our lives and communities, and touch on some recent initiatives. Fellowship begins at 10:30am, followed by the program at 11:00am and lunch (\$8) at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Reservations are required; please email [Janette.Barnes@Gmail.com](mailto:Janette.Barnes@Gmail.com) or [Rwrenn@Epbfi.com](mailto:Rwrenn@Epbfi.com).

### ***Women's Winter/Spring Bible Studies – starting January 10 & 14***

Women's Bible Studies start January 10<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> and we'd love for you to join us! Our women's studies offer a place to grow spiritually and connect with friends. There are 7 options to choose from in a variety of formats and meeting days/times and frequencies. For details on times and study topics and to register, go to [1stPresbyterian.com/Women](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Women). If you registered for a study in the fall, you do NOT need to re-register unless you are joining a different study. **Childcare** is available upon registration for the morning studies only.

### ***McCallie/Anderson Class – New Study starting Today***

After concluding its 3-year study of Isaiah, the McCallie/Anderson Class will begin a verse-by-verse study of Hosea this Sunday, and all are invited to join!

### ***The Foundations Class – New Study starting January 12***

Ron Brown is kicking off the new year with a study of Genesis during the Foundations Class in the Fellowship Hall! If you are not currently connected to a Sunday Class, we invite you to join this study!

### ***High School Winter Retreat – January 17-20***

Our High School students will be going to Pigeon Mountain Crossing in Lafayette, Georgia, for a weekend away. Gunther Griffin, 1<sup>st</sup> Pres College Ministry Director, will be our speaker! We will have times of fellowship, worship, games, hiking, teaching, prayer, and frisbee golf all on the beautiful 80-acre retreat center! Sign up today at [1stPresbyterian.com/Events](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Events).

## NEW & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES, CONTINUED

### ***Gospel Fest – February 2***

Celebrate Black history month with First Pres the other local churches on February 2 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary as we worship the Lord together through song and spirituals!

### ***Inquirer’s Class – February 22***

Are you interested in learning more about 1<sup>st</sup> 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, February 22, in the Nell Davis Room from 8:30am - 12:00pm! A light breakfast will be provided. Register at [1stPresbyterian.com/Events](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Events) by Friday, February 14.

### ***Nursery Coordinator Position***

Our Interim Nursery Coordinator Mary Campbell Harris stepped away at the end of December. We are so thankful for the time and love she has poured into our Children’s Ministry during her time with us. If you, or someone you know, are be interested in this part-time position, a job description and more information are available at [1stPresbyterian.com/Jobs](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Jobs).

### ***“First Takes,” a Podcast from First Pres***

*I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:14 ESV)*  
Make this the year you learn Christ! Take some inspiration for your new year goals from Randy and Gabe in this episode from early last year. Just search for “*First Takes* Episode 15” anywhere you get your podcasts!

### ***First Pres Sermons Podcast***

Our sermons are available to listen to on your favorite podcast platform! Just search “First Presbyterian Church Chattanooga.”

### ***Recently Bereaved***

Please be in prayer for those in our congregation who have recently lost a loved one: First Pres member Becky Davidson and family, in the passing of her father, Tom Barker; First Pres member Debbie Smith, in the passing of her mother, Inez Smith.

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