

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH *of*
CHATTANOOGA

The Lord's Day

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025

11:00 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 REFLECTIONS

As we begin our study in the Gospel of Mark,
“let us mark the great name that stands at the head of this book:
Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Here is a name which is
the joy of believers, the terror of devils, and the glory of the redeemed.
Let us see in these words the foundation of our hope and
the rock upon which our faith is built.”

– *J.C. Ryle*

“Mark wastes no time. He makes plain from the start
that his account is not just about Jesus of Nazareth.
It is the gospel—the good news—about the Messiah, the Son of God,
Who brings the fulfillment of all God’s promises.”

– *Sinclair Ferguson*

“Mark announces that the gospel finds its source and origin
in the person of Jesus, Whose life, death, and resurrection
fulfill God’s promises of salvation. The phrase ‘beginning of the gospel’
suggests the unfolding of a story that transforms history.”

– *William Lane*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Eternal Father, You gave to Your incarnate Son
the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation.
Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of Him
Who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ;
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

PRELUDE

William Navalon, violin, & Sigrid Luther, piano

“Give Me Jesus” arr. Kristin Campbell

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

More news & resources located on pp. 8 - 10

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 103:1-4 ESV

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless His holy name!
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits,

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

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 297 (vv. 1,3,5,6)

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

**All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall, let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,**

*Chorus: And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
And crown Him Lord of all!*

**Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, *Chorus***

**Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball, on this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe, *Chorus***

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall, we at His feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song, *Chorus***

“Man of Sorrows! What a Name”

**“Man of Sorrows!” What a name for the Son of God, Who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim; Hallelujah! What a Savior!**

**Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned He stood,
Sealed my pardon with His blood; Hallelujah! What a Savior!**

**Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was He.
Full atonement! Can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!**

**Lifted up was He to die; “It is finished!” was His cry.
Now in heav’n exalted high; Hallelujah! What a Savior!**

**When He comes, our glorious King, all His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we’ll sing: “Hallelujah! What a Savior!”**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 29

Pastor: Why is the Son of God called “Jesus,” meaning “Savior”?

People: Because He saves us from our sins,
and because salvation should not be sought
and cannot be found in anyone else.

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Merciful God,
You made us in Your image,
with a mind to know You,
a heart to love You,
and a will to serve You.
But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconstant,
our obedience incomplete.
Forgive our slowness in growing into Your likeness.
Lavish upon us Your tender mercies
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 8:33-34 NIV

Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen?

It is God Who justifies.

Who then is the one who condemns?

No one.

Christ Jesus Who died—more than that, Who was raised to life—
is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

No. 305 (vv. 1,3,4)

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Arise, my soul, arise; shake off your guilty fears;

The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears.

Before the throne my Surety stands; before the throne my Surety stands.

My name is written on His hands.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;

They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.

“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry; “Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,

“Nor let that ransomed sinner die!”

My God is reconciled; His pard’ning voice I hear.

He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear.

With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,

And “Father, Abba, Father!” cry.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

James Lanier Taylor
son of Ben & Charis Taylor

Mills Elaine Eischeid
daughter of Thomas & Kate Eischeid

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

*“O Word of God” arr. Craig Courney
Please sing as directed; music available on p. 7*

O Word of God Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky,
We praise You for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.
O Word of God, O Word of God

The Church from You, our Savior, received the gift divine,
And still that light is lifted o’er all the earth to shine.
It is the sacred vessel where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heav’n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.
O Word of God

**O make Your Church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
To bear before the nations Your true light as of old.
O teach Your wand’ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see You face to face.
Amen, amen, amen, amen.**

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

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

SERMON

**“Mark: Man, Myth, or Legend?”
Mark 1:1 (p. 836)
“Walking with the Master: Studies in the Gospel of Mark”
Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer**

SERMON OUTLINE

1. The Man Behind the Gospel
2. The Gospel Behind the Man

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

No. 521 (vv. 1,3,4)

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.**

*Chorus: On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.
All other ground is sinking sand.*

**His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.** *Chorus*

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.** *Chorus*

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

Romans 15:13 ESV

May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Ann Shaw, organ

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” by John Goss

Worship Leader

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*

Presiding Minister

Randy Nabors, *Pastor of Missions*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhner, *Senior Pastor*

O Word of God

William W. How

MUNICH
Gesangbuch, Meiningen
Arranged by CRAIG COURTNEY
(ASCAP)

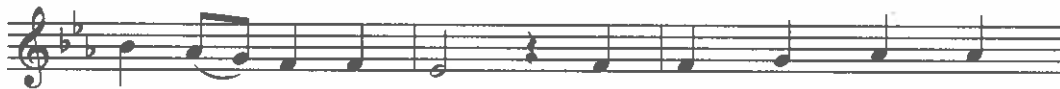
Sing when directed



O — make Your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of — pur - est



gold, to — bear be - fore the na - tions Your



true light — as of old. O teach Your wan - d'ring



pil - grims by this their path to trace, till,



clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see You face to face.

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Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Scotty Probasco by his loving wife and children.

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, February 3.

RESOURCES

Connect with Us

New to 1st Pres? Scan the QR code 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 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 under the “Resources” tab.



Giving Update

as of 1/26

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	\$2,861,154	\$744,231
Raised	\$2,908,002	\$746,905



To make a secure contribution, scan the QR code or go to [1st Presbyterian.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 Members

Please welcome the newest members of our church family, as of last Sunday, January 26: Jan Blazejewski and Russ & Rachel Harwood! If you're interested in joining, our next Inquirer's Class is on February 22, from 8:30am - 12:00pm; register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Gospel Fest – Today

Celebrate Black history month with First Pres, Thorns2Cowns Ministry, New City Fellowship, New City East Lake, and Church of the First Born **today** at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary as we worship the Lord together through songs and spirituals!

Celebrate Recovery at First Pres!

First Pres is launching a chapter of Celebrate Recovery and we need volunteers to get it off the ground! Celebrate Recovery is a biblically-based approach to help us achieve long-lasting recovery by healing our hurts, habits, and hangups, guiding us toward new healthy truths, and developing life-giving habits. If you're interested in volunteering, we'll have an information table available in the Connector between and after worship services today, or you can contact our Director of Community Outreach Shad Guinn at Shad@1stPresbyterian.com.

First Cup Monthly Men's Breakfast – February 4

Join us for our Men's Breakfast in the Nell Davis on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00am as we continue our study "The Marks of an Emotionally Healthy Disciple of Jesus." Come enjoy delicious egg & cheese biscuits from Bluegrass Grill (\$5), fellowship, and lots of coffee!

Woman at the Well – February 6

Women are invited Thursday, February 6, from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the Fellowship Hall for an evening of connection, delicious cookies and hot drinks, and a testimony from Sam Griffin! Childcare is available upon request; please email KidsMinistry@1stPresbyterian.com **by the end of the day today**.

It's a Wonderful Life! Senior Fellowship & Program – February 13

Join us this month for a redux of "The Not So Newlywed Game"! Three couples will engage in a friendly competition to determine whether they know each other as well as they think they do. Find out whether senior married couples can still surprise each other! 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 or Rwrenn@Epbf.com.

Kids Playgroup – February 14

Families are invited every second Friday of the month from 9:00am - 11:00am to the Student Center for fellowship and connection with other parents while your kids (ages 0-5) play in a safe and fun environment!

Hearts & Hammers – February 15

Spread the love of Christ to our community and church family by participating in our monthly service project, Hearts & Hammers! If you're interested in joining this month, please contact our Director of Community Outreach Shad Guinn at [Shad@1stPresbyterian.com](http://1stPresbyterian.com).

Middle School Night of Epicness – February 21

What starts on a trampoline and ends with dinner and a movie? Our annual Night of Epicness! Middle Schoolers are invited for an evening of fun beginning at 6:00pm at Urban Air Adventure Park and ending at 10:00pm with dinner, a movie, and games in the Student Center. Register now at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Midweek – continues this Wednesday

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! Learn more about dinner prices, menus, and elective options at 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

Children's Ministry – Worship Bag Packing

If you're looking for a way to help out in Children's Ministry, but can't volunteer on Sundays, we could use your help during the week putting worship bags together! Kids use these during the worship services, and it's a quick and easy way to help out; you could do it on your way to or from a Bible study or small group meeting at the church! If you're interested, please email the Children's Ministry Team at KidsMinistry@1stPresbyterian.com.

Golf Cart Ministry – Drivers Needed!

We're looking for volunteers for 2025 to provide golf cart transportation for people parking in the Douglas Street parking lot. Each volunteer commits to driving 2-3 Sunday mornings between March and November from 9:45am - 11:05am. Our drivers are often the first person members and visitors meet; it's a great opportunity to express Christian hospitality and greet those wanting any level of assistance! To volunteer, or for more information, contact Rick Collins at ReCollins@Epbfi.com.

Kids Hope USA – Be a Blessing to an Elementary School Child!

Mentoring a child at Orchard Knob Elementary School is a beautiful way to demonstrate Christ's love for our inner city neighbors. The goal of a Kids Hope mentor is to augment the social and emotional development of a child by building a supportive and encouraging friendship. To volunteer, you must be a member of First Pres and willing to commit 1 hour each week during the school day to reading and doing fun activities with a child. (Many employers will allow time off for community service!) Training is provided. If you're interested, contact our Kids Hope USA Program Director Cheri Partain at KidsHope@1stPresbyterian.com.

World Missions Internships

Applications are now open for our summer World Missions internships! This is a paid internship that supports the World Missions department by providing assistance with event planning, clerical work, and spreading the gospel through various outreach opportunities. Learn more and submit your application online at 1stPresbyterian.com/Jobs.

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