



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH *of*
CHATTANOOGA

The Lord's Day

SUNDAY, MARCH 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 REFLECTION

In our sermon text today, Jesus, despite being sinless, fully identifies with our need for forgiveness when asking to be baptized by John.

“Here, the entire Godhead is revealed.
The Son is baptized,
the Spirit descends upon Him like a dove,
and the Father’s voice proclaims His pleasure in the Son.
The whole Trinity is involved in the work of redemption.”
– *John Calvin*

“In the voice of the Father from heaven,
we hear God’s affirmation of Jesus’ identity
and the start of His public ministry.
This is the moment where Jesus’ identity
as the Son of God is publicly confirmed.”
– *Herman Ridderbos*

“Jesus’ baptism is a symbol of the new covenant
He will establish, one that provides cleansing and forgiveness
through His sacrifice.
This act serves as a foreshadowing of the true baptism,
which is found in His death and resurrection.”
– *J.C. Ryle*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Father in heaven,
at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan
You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son
and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit.
Grant that all who are baptized into His Name
may keep the covenant they have made,
and boldly confess Him as Lord and Savior,
Who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

PRELUDE

Mickey Hansen, oboe & Sigrid Luther, piano
“Nearer, My God, to Thee” arr. Ricky & Julie Valadez

Welcome!

Please take a moment to reflect before the service begins. At First Presbyterian, our worship seeks to be God-centered, dialogical, and covenantal. This simply means you will notice a pattern of God speaking to us in His grace and our response to Him in adoration, praise, listening, and praying.*

During the service we invite you to participate by reading and singing the words printed in bold.

*Parts of these explanations are derived from Covenant PCA, Nashville, TN and Covenant PCA, Chattanooga, TN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
More news & resources on pp. 11 - 13

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir

*"Sing to the Lord! Alleluia!" by Joan Pinkston
(based on Psalm 96)*

Sing to the Lord! Alleluia! Sing to the Lord, bless His holy name.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Sing to the Lord!

† **Please stand
as you are able.**

Call to Worship

Only God Himself can call us into worship. He sets the terms for worship because, through His Son, He makes worship possible.

Invocation

This prayer addresses God in three persons, asking Him to be present with us in worship to help us worship Him according to His will.

**The Lord's
Prayer**

Jesus taught His disciples this prayer as a model (Matt. 6:6-13, Luke 11:2-4), so Christians have recited it through the ages in worship, both as pattern for prayer and as a common prayer for God's people.

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 96:1-4 ESV

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Sing to the LORD, bless His name;
tell of His salvation from day to day.

People: **Declare His glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
He is to be feared above all gods.**

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.**

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

Christ is made the sure Foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one,
Holy Zion’s help forever and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.

To this temple, where we call Thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, today.
With Thy wonted loving-kindness, hear Thy people as they pray,
And Thy fullest benediction shed within its walls always.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory while unending ages run.

“Join All the Glorious Names”

Join all the glorious names of wisdom, love, and pow’r
That ever mortals knew, that angels ever bore;
All are too poor to speak His worth, too poor to set my Savior forth.

Great Prophet of my God, my tongue would bless Thy name;
By Thee the joyful news of our salvation came,
The joyful news of sins forgiv’n,
Of hell subdued and peace with heav’n.

Jesus, my great High Priest, offered His blood and died;
My guilty conscience seeks no sacrifice beside.
His pow’rful blood did once atone,
And now it pleads before the throne.

My Savior and my Lord, my Conqu’ror and my King,
Thy scepter and Thy sword, Thy reigning grace, I sing.
Thine is the pow’r; behold I sit in willing bonds beneath Thy feet.
Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Since the time of ancient Israel, believers have confessed their faith publicly (Deut. 6:4). Following this practice, we confess our faith each week, using the historic creeds and symbols of the church for the past two thousand years.

Confession of Sin

Within the context of our relationship with God, we are invited in safety, not in shame, to confess our sins. We rehearse this truth each week by confessing our sins corporately, then silently. As we do, we learn that God is always ready to forgive us.

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture assures us, sinners saved by grace, that we are united to Jesus in His death and Resurrection.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor: Christian, what do you believe concerning the name of Jesus?

People: **There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved** (*Acts 4:12*). **Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father** (*Philippians 2:9-11*) **Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full** (*John 16:24*).

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty and gracious Father, You call us to magnify the name of Jesus, yet we are frequently preoccupied with our own names. We chase selfish desires over Your will, speak words that lack grace, and live in ways that fail to reflect Your holiness. Forgive us, Lord. We lament that our faith is weak, our obedience incomplete, and our love imperfect. For pride, selfishness, and complacency dim the light of Christ in us. By Your Holy Spirit, cleanse us, empower us, and lead us to shine the beauty of Christ in a lost world. We pray in the matchless name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Matthew 1:21 ESV

She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

**How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer’s ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.**

**It makes the wounded spirit whole
And calms the troubled breast.
'Tis manna to the hungry soul and to the weary rest.**

**Dear Name! The rock on which I build
My shield and hiding place, my never-failing treas’ry filled
With boundless stores of grace**

**Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,
Accept the praise I bring**

Intercession

This prayer addresses God on behalf of others; our church family, our local community, and beyond.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

The Bible tells us to set aside a portion of our income and additional offerings of our resources for the work of God, for His glory. These acts of giving display of our joyful dependence upon God rather than ourselves.

OFFERTORY

Sanctuary Choir

*“Sing to the Lord! Alleluia!” by Joan Pinkston
based on Psalm 96 & 40:2-3*

Chorus: Sing to the Lord! Alleluia!
Sing to the Lord, bless His holy name.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Sing to the Lord!

Great is His compassion, ever boundless, ever sure.
Faithful is His promise for His Word shall ever endure. *Chorus*

He brought me out of a horrible pit and up from the miry clay.
He set my feet on the solid Rock
and gave me grace to walk the narrow way.

He put a new song in my mouth,
A song of praise and thanks to God.
Many shall see it and fear and put their trust in the Lord. *Chorus*

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

A doxology is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory.

† 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

The Bible teaches that faith comes through hearing God's word (Romans 10:17). The sermon is an exposition and application of the Biblical text which aims to present Christ, in all His glory, as the all-sufficient Savior.

SERMON

“He Gets Us”

Mark 1:9-11 (p. 836)

“Walking with the Master: Studies in the Gospel of Mark”

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

SERMON OUTLINE

More space for notes on p. 10

1. Jesus Identifies with His People (v. 9)
2. Jesus Inaugurates New Creation (v. 10)
3. Jesus Is the Beloved Son (v. 11)

“Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

**Come, Holy Spirit, heav’nly Dove,
With all Your quick’ning pow’rs;
Kindle a flame of sacred love in these cold hearts of ours.**

**In vain we tune our formal songs; in vain we strive to rise.
Hosannas languish on our tongues, and our devotion dies.**

**And shall we then forever live at this poor dying rate?
Our love, so faint, so cold to You, and Yours to us so great!**

**Come, Holy Spirit, heav’nly Dove,
With all Your quick’ning pow’rs;
Come, shed abroad a Savior’s love, and that shall kindle ours.**

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14 ESV

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. Amen.

POSTLUDE

*Josh Park, organ**“Entrée du Ballet” by Michael Praetorius***Worship Leader**Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship***Presiding Minister**Richard G. Cain, *Senior Assistant Pastor***Minister of the Word**Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor***Benediction**

The Bible tells us that God gets the first word and the last word in worship. A benediction is from the Latin terms for “good word.” At the end of each service, God sends us into the world with His blessing as we seek to love our community in the power of the Holy Spirit!

We encourage you to take this bulletin home and use it for personal worship and devotions this week.

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

John Newton

Alexander Reinagle
 Arranged by Bill Moore
 Instrumental Parts by S. Whitacre

♩ = 100

♩ = 100

1. How sweet
 (2. It makes)
 (3. Dear Name!)
 (4. Je - sus,)

5 D D/C# D/B D/A Em D/F# G

the name of Je - sus sounds in a be-liev er's ear!_
 the wound-ed spir - it whole, and calms the trou - bled breast;
 the rock on which I build, my shield and hid - ing place,
 my Shep - herd, Broth - er, Friend, my Proph - et, Priest, and King,

8 A(sus4) A G A F#m Bm Bm/A

— It soothes his sor - rows, heals his wounds, and
 — 'tis man - na to the hun - gry soul, and
 — my nev - er - fail - ing trea - s'ry filled with
 — my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, ac -

11 G A D *Last time only*

drives a-way his fear. 2.It makes
to the wea-ry rest. 3.Dear Name!
bound-less stores of grace; 4.Je-sus,
cept the praise I bring.

14

5. Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see Thee as Thou art,
I'll praise Thee as I ought.

6. Till then I would Thy love proclaim,
with every fleeting breath;
and may the music of Thy name
refresh my soul in death.

Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the life of Priscilla George by her friends and family.

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

SERMON NOTES

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 2/16

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 YTD	\$3,060,769	\$796,154
Raised	\$2,951,373	\$755,750



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 & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES

“First Takes” – a podcast from First Pres

New episodes of First Takes have already begun airing! Check out the latest every Thursday afternoon on Apple, Spotify, and anywhere you get your podcasts!

Prayer Gathering – Every Sunday

We are offering a prayer gathering during the Sunday School hour in Room 114 (the Diaconate Office). Each week, an elder or deacon will lead us in a short devotional followed by prayer requests and a season of prayer. Feel free to come and go when you can!

First Cup Men’s Monthly Breakfast – March 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!

Celebrate Recovery Volunteer Training Kick-Off – March 5

Volunteer training begins this Wednesday at First Centenary United Methodist (419 McCallie Ave.) in Room 101. Anyone interested is welcome to join! For more information or directions, please contact Sarah Lipp at SjLipp1268@Gmail.com.

Town Hall Meeting – March 12

We will host a Town Hall meeting immediately following the Midweek meal in the Fellowship Hall. There will be NO adult electives or officer training that evening. Representatives from the Capital Campaign and Building Committees will be there to answer questions about the Master Plan, the Capital Campaign, and the upcoming renovations.

It’s a Wonderful Life! Senior Fellowship & Program – March 13

IAWL’s favorite history teacher, Linda Moss Mines, will be holding class in the Fellowship Hall on “The Medal of Honor and More.” Our homework assignment is to come with an appetite for history, for hero stories, and for whatever our IAWL chefs, the Butter Cups, have prepared for us! Fellowship begins at 10:30am, followed by the program at 11:00am and lunch (\$8) at 12:00pm. Reservations are required; please contact Janette Barnes at Janette.Barnes@Gmail.com or Rosa Wrenn at RWrenn@Epbfi.com.

Hearts & Hammers – March 22

We have the privilege of sending teams of volunteers out every third Saturday of the month (except July and December) to show the love of Christ to our church family and community. If you’re interested in joining us this month, or anytime in the future, please email Director of Community Outreach Shad Guinn at Shad@1stPresbyterian.com.

Senior Adult Luncheon – March 23

Adults 65+ are invited to our annual Senior Adult Luncheon on Sunday, March 23, immediately following the 11:00am worship service in the Fellowship Hall! Please call the church office at 423-267-1206 ext 101 by March 19 to register.

World Missions Retreat – March 29

Get inspired by missions! Join us for a fun day at Camp Vesper Point to learn more about our World Missions ministry and how you can get involved. Children are welcome, but will require supervision at all times. Register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events by March 20.

Inquirer's Class – May 10

Interested in learning more about 1st Pres and how to become a member? Come hear about our church's vision for the city, what we believe, and our discipleship and ministry opportunities at our next Inquirer's Class on Saturday, May 10, in the Nell Davis Room from 8:30am - 12:00pm! A light breakfast will be provided. Register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events by May 2.

Vacation Bible School – June 9 - 13

Save the dates for VBS this summer! More details and registration coming soon!

The Edge Conference – June 16 - 20

Middle School students are invited to spend a week at Covenant College at The Edge Conference! This is a great opportunity to learn more about who Jesus is and to enjoy fellowship and fun with friends. The trip is open to rising 6th graders through rising 9th graders, and the cost is \$330 per student with an \$80 deposit required at registration (partial scholarships available upon request). Space is limited! Register online at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events and learn more about the conference at EdgeConference.org.

RYM Conference – June 30 - July 4

High School students are invited to explore God as Emmanuel, "God with us," at the Reformed Youth Ministries Summer Conference at Laguna Beach Christian Resort. The trip is open to rising 9th graders through graduated 12th graders and the cost is \$500 per student with a \$150 non-refundable deposit required at registration (partial scholarships available upon request). Space is limited so register online 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! Learn more about dinner prices, menus, and elective options at 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

Nursery Administration Coordinator

We're looking for a part-time Nursery Administration Coordinator who will recruit, schedule, and train nursery staff. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in this position, a job description and more information are available at 1stPresbyterian.com/Jobs.

Bulletins

We encourage you to take this bulletin home and use it for your personal worship and devotions this week. Sunday bulletins are available on our website on Friday mornings and in the weekly newsletter (subscribe via our website or the QR code on page 11).

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