



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

February 8, 2026
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

Religion is needed where there is a wall of separation between God and man. But Christ who is both God and man has broken down the wall between man and God. He has inaugurated a new life, not a new religion.

— Alexander Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 662
J.S. Bach

WELCOME

INTROIT

O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips
Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Darren Kennedy

Leader: O Lord, open our lips.

All: And our mouths shall show forth thy praise.

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Leader: Praise the Lord.

All: The Lord's name be praised!

*OPENING HYMN 826

Lift High the Cross
CRUCIFER

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. John Musgrave (8:30)
Rev. Mallory Hammond (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Psalm 32:1-6 (page 462)

Lynn Lassiter Kendrick

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. ² Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. ³ For when I kept silent my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. ⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE 581

Glory Be to the Father
GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

‡Following the Blessing of the Young Disciples, children ages 4–6 are invited to join us downstairs in Grundy Hall for Young Children & Worship.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (8:30)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Janie and Robert Rolfe are presenting their son, Robert Oliver Rolfe III, for baptism.
Assisting Elder: Bobby Rolfe

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

HYMN OF PREPARATION 688

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart
MORECAMBE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Matthew 6:1-8; 16-18 (page 811)

¹ “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ² Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵ And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

¹⁶ “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

How Not to Be Religious

Dr. Ryan Moore

“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” —Matthew 6:4

OFFERTORY

Jesus, Lover of My Soul
Philip Stopford

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high; hide me, O my Saviour hide, till the storm of life be past; safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last! Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring; cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find. Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind. Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness. False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace. Plenteous grace on thee is found, grace to cover all my sin. Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee. Spring thou up within my heart. Rise to all eternity. Amen.

As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at fpcnashville.org.

INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION OF OFFICERS (11:00)

NATURE OF THE OFFICES

PRESENTATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO OFFICERS (*See back of bulletin*)

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION TO CONGREGATION

Leader: Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these persons as Elder and Deacon, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitles them?

All: **We do, God being our guide and strength.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

ORDINATION PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Sandra Randleman

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.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

You are now Elders and Deacons of the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word and deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN 450

Be Thou My Vision
SLANE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Tom Stumb, Ben Elrod, Charlie Bryan Jr.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

I Will Lift Mine Eyes
Jake Runestad

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this day forth for evermore.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Intermezzo VI
Hermann Schroeder

** Those who are able, please stand.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*

Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*

Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*

Darren Kennedy, PhD – *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*

John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*

Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Missions*

Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*

Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*

Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*

Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

Acolytes – David Pitman, Ryan Pitman, Sam Byram, Ward Byram

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God and in honor of our precious grandchildren: Finley June, Wilder Jane, Shepherd, Violet, Lealand, Griffin, Colette and Charlie Smith by Jane and Tom Smith.

SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, donating online at fpcnashville.org, or scan the QR code.



WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

Hearing Assistance App Directions

Join FPC guest WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select "First Pres Sanctuary." Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

To **livestream** worship or to view past services, visit youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville.

Sunday Morning for Families

On Sunday mornings, children are welcome in worship alongside their families. **Nursery** care is available for ages 0–3 in the Nursery Wing from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m., with a Mother and Infant Quiet Room nearby.

Children ages 4–6 are invited, following the Blessing of the Young Disciples, to Young Children & Worship (Pickup in Room CW 110 after the service). **Older children** remain in worship, where activity bags are available at each Sanctuary entrance. At 9:45 a.m., children of all ages are invited to the Education Hour. Nursery through 3rd grade gather in the Children's Ministry lobby for check-in and pickup. Preteens (4th–5th grade) check in outside Room CC 131, while 6th graders in Confirmation gather outside Room E201 in the Oak Hill C-Wing.

New Officer Ordination and Installation

Elected to serve in the Office of Elder Class of 2028 are Bill Akin, Sam Cook, Nell Ann Crowe, Ben Elrod, Rick Gernert, Carrie Hininger, Warner McNeilly III, Dorothy Pace, Bob Rolfe Sr., Hal Sauer, Jane Smith, Scott Standard. Elected to serve in the Office of Deacon Class of 2028 are Will Akin, John Atchley, Charles Barrett, Jean Campbell, Amy Colton, Gretchen Ekiss, Mary Julia Hannon, Patricia Heim, Laura Hollins, Mary Frances Kerr, Blewett McInteer, Laura Morgan, Suzanne Morrison, William Overton, Katie Pickel, James Pitman, Jack Richmond, Jackson Ross, Lamar Stanley.

Appreciation

First Presbyterian Church would like to express its heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to the following outgoing officers who have served faithfully in the Class of 2025: Bill Akin, Wilson Brim, Charlie Bryan Jr., Becky Campbell, Wally Conyers, Nell Ann Crowe, Mary Earthman, Mickey Fitts, Rick Gernert, Carrie Hininger, Chuck Lassing, Hal Sauer, John Atchley, Frank Bass, Amy Colton, Gretchen Ekiss, Brad Gilmore, Leah Hawkins, Carolyn Hill, Laura Hollins, Mary Lindley Hubbard, Blewett McInteer, Jake Peters, Katie Pickel, James Pitman, Mary Loch Smith, Lamar Stanley, Brannon Taylor, Brandon Van Pernis, Jacquie Watlington, Steele Yancey, Joel Zehr.

Congregational Meeting | Today | Following Both Worship Services — The Session has called a Congregational Meeting to be held today, following both worship services. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a change in the pastoral relationship between Dr. Sandra Randleman and FPC, reflecting her request to serve in the role of Parish Associate. Second, the congregation will hear the report of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and vote on its recommendation of a candidate for Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families.

Souper Bowl Sunday | Today — Help us collect for our mission partner this year: Nueva Vida Food Project, a Matthew 25 Ministry of the PC(USA). Today, our elementary students will be taking up money after each service.

An Interview with Rev. Dr. Darren Kennedy | Today | 10:00 a.m. | Stanford Chapel — Please join us as Rev. Sara Hill sits down with Rev. Dr. Darren Kennedy for a thoughtful and engaging interview. Through a mix of lighthearted conversation and deeper reflections on faith, Darren will share more about his story, his family, and his call to ministry. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know our new Associate Pastor better.

Mahjong Open Play begins Feb. 11 — We're excited to offer Mahjong as a fun way to build intergenerational community at our church. This is not a competitive league, but a welcoming space to connect through a game many already enjoy and others are eager to learn. Daytime open play sessions for all levels will be held 12:30–2:30 p.m. on Feb. 11, 25, Mar. 11, 25, Apr. 8 and 22 in the Cheek House. Registration is requested to ensure enough tables and coaches are available. Sign up at fpcnashville.org/mahjong.

Celebration of Faith | Sunday, Feb. 15 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. — Join us for a special morning of worship at our Celebration of Faith Sunday. Worship will feature preaching and teaching from Dr. Greg Jones, President of Belmont University. Guest violinist Dr. Ryan Joseph and the Belmont Bluegrass Ensemble will join alongside us as we worship together.

Ash Wednesday Dinner and Service | Wednesday, Feb. 18 | 5:30 p.m. Dinner; 6:30 p.m. Service — Ash Wednesday provides a reflective beginning to the holy season of Lent. At the imposition of ashes during this worship service, we are reminded that we are mortal, and that we are not our own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to our faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. Join us for dinner together in Courtenay Hall, followed by the Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. Please register online so we can plan accordingly and prepare enough meals. All are welcome.

Annual Meeting Rescheduled | Sunday, Feb. 22 | 9:45 a.m. | Courtenay Hall — Due to the recent ice storm, our Annual Congregational Meeting has been rescheduled and will now take place on Sunday, Feb. 22 during the education hour. Join us for breakfast as we share important updates, conduct church business, and give thanks for God's faithfulness in 2025, while also looking ahead to what's next in the life of our church. All members are encouraged to attend and be part of this growing rhythm in our congregational life. Last year's return to a shared breakfast alongside the meeting was a meaningful time of connection, and we look forward to gathering at this new date.

Youth and First Friends Bingo Night | Sunday, Feb. 22 | 6:00 p.m. | Gathering Place — Bingo, Singo, and all the fun in between! FPC Nashville Youth is teaming up with First Friends for a lively intergenerational Bingo Night. Get ready for a night of connection and fun you won't want to miss! Online RSVPs are encouraged to help us get a headcount for food purposes.

FIRST FRIENDS

Gatherings for adults, retired and not-so-retired! Register online or contact Sally Ostheimer (sostheimer@fpcnashville.org). For more information, visit fpcnashville.org/first-friends.

Book Club: *Theo of Golden* | Tuesday, Feb. 17 | 2:30 p.m. | Memorial Library — Join us as we review the book *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Invite others that may have read the book or want to read it. The book explores themes of art, kindness and human connection through the story of an elderly man named Theo who embarks on a mission of generosity in a small Southern town.

Luncheon: History of Belcourt Theatre | Thursday, Feb. 19 | 12:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall — Listen to Allison Inman from the Belcourt Theatre as she shares the Belcourt's rich history, its role as a Nashville cultural landmark, and a look ahead to what's coming to the theatre this year.



VISIT LINKTR.EE/FPCNASHVILLE TO REGISTER, DONATE, OR LEARN MORE

MUSIC NOTES: *Lift High the Cross* (c) Words and Music 1974 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *Intermezzo VI* by Hermann Schroeder Music - ©1960 Belwin Sacred All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

COVER IMAGE: NES crews utilizing our campus parking lots to set up staging as they worked on areas with significant damage. Over 70 trucks were able to use our campus as a home base for the large task of helping to clear damage and return service to the area.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO ELDERS AND DEACONS

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

(For Deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(For Elder) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Following a season of prayerful discernment, the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) is excited to present an in-house candidate for consideration. The committee believes this nomination reflects careful listening to the Spirit, thoughtful evaluation of gifts and experience, and attention to the needs of our congregation.

Gage Arnold joined FPC as Director of Youth Programming in 2022, bringing a deep love for the Lord and a clear sense of call to ordained ministry. Since that time, he has completed an extensive ordination process and received approval from the Presbytery, including an accelerated

timeline. Over the past three years, Gage has faithfully served our youth and their families, demonstrating both dedication and vision for ministry.

Since summer 2025, the APNC has conducted a comprehensive evaluation, gathering feedback from across the congregation and reviewing Gage's thoughtful responses. Based on this discernment, the committee recommends Gage Arnold for ordination and installation as Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families. The committee invites all members to continue in prayerful discernment as we seek God's guidance for the life and ministry of our church.

A NEW CHAPTER OF MINISTRY WITH DR. SANDRA RANDLEMAN

After many years of faithful service as Associate Pastor, Rev. Sandra Randleman is entering a new season of ministry at First Presbyterian Church—one that allows her to continue serving the congregation she loves in a part-time role.

Following prayerful discernment, Sandra requested on November 21, 2025, to transition from Associate Pastor to Parish Associate, effective January 1, 2026.

As a Parish Associate, Sandra will focus primarily on congregational care. She will continue pastoral visitation, support members through grief counseling and group leadership, assist with Stephen Ministry training, and participate in seasonal care ministries such as the flower

ministry. Sandra will also remain engaged in discipleship through coordinating the weekly men's Bible study and providing training for Presbyterian Women Bible study leaders. She will continue to lead in worship and assist with baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

The final step is a congregational vote to dissolve Sandra's installed pastoral relationship. Sandra is already serving faithfully in her Parish Associate role, and this vote will formally recognize what is already a lived reality in our life together.

We give thanks to God for Sandra's ministry and look forward with gratitude to her continued presence and care among us.