



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER
April 12, 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

Sometimes resurrection can surprise us in its ordinariness.
—Sarah Bessey

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Prelude, Fugue and Verses on "Faithfulness"
Dale Nickell

WELCOME

Rev. Mallory Hammond

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 Sandra Randleman (8:30)
Dr. Darren Kennedy (11:00)

Leader: Followers of Jesus, by his cross we are redeemed from the futility of sin.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: By his rising we are free from the fear of death.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: By his love we are made new in the living and enduring Word of God.

All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

*OPENING HYMN 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing
MADRID

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Gage Arnold

FIRST LESSON | Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (page 510)

Susan Brownie (8:30)
Everett Hill (11:00)

¹ I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. ² Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. ³ The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. ⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"

¹² What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? ¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, ¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. ¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. ¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds. ¹⁷ I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. ¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, ¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, our world is filled with corruption: power disguises itself as truth; convenience masquerades as goodness; selfish pleasure imitates love. We confess to you, O God, that we have been caught in the web of the world's sin. By the power of the Holy Spirit, save us from these deceptions and free us for glad obedience, that we may see the joy of Jesus' resurrection and receive the promise of everlasting life. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, so that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
AZMON

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace!**

**To God all glory, praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.**

*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.

‡BIBLE MILESTONE | Four-Year-Olds (8:30) | Third Graders (11:00)

‡Following the Bible Milestone, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4-6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.

**How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory**

**Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon his shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished**

**I will not boast in anything
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from his reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 24:13-35 (page 885)

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹ And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵ And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. ²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they

recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?”³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,³⁴ saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Practicing Resurrection

Rev. Sara Hill

And their eyes were opened, and they recognized [Jesus]... —Luke 24:31

OFFERTORY

The Lord Is Risen Indeed
William Billings

The Lord is risen indeed, Hallelujah! Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first-fruits of them that slept. Hallelujah! And did he rise? Hear, O ye nations, hear it, O ye dead. He rose, he rose! He burst the bars of death and triumphed o’er the grave! Then I rose! Then first humanity triumphant passed the crystal ports of light and seized eternal youth. Man all immortal, hail, heaven, all lavish of strange gifts to man, thine all the glory, man’s the boundless bliss!

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

*CLOSING HYMN 268

Crown Him with Many Crowns
DIADEMATA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior
ST. LEONARDS

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day. By his love and pow’r controlling all I do and say. May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour, so that all may see I triumph only through his pow’r. May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything, that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing. May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win; and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Gloria in excelsis, Op. 59 No. 8
Max Reger

** Those who are able, please stand.*

SYMPATHIES

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of
John Ashton Roberts, who died April 8.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*
Darren Kennedy, PhD – *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Dale Nickell – *Guest Organist*
Acolytes – Corinne Kaufman, Thomas Kaufman, Adah McInteer, Elizabeth Grace McInteer

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Danny Hays and Beverly Hays by Doug and Rhonda Brandon.

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.

Intergenerational Esther Women's Study Begins | Mondays, Apr. 13 – May 18 | 9:30–11:00 a.m. — We are so excited to invite you to an intergenerational study of the book of Esther. Each week we'll gather as a large group and then break into smaller discussion groups as we explore how the story of Esther points to a God who fulfills his promises to his people and creates redemptive patterns in human events. Cost is \$10 and includes a study guide. Those who participated in the Ruth Study may use their existing book at no cost. Registration is required (fpcnashville.org/esther), and childcare is provided. Led by Rev. Mallory Hammond and Ellie Richmond. Questions? Contact Ellie Richmond at erichmond@fpcnashville.org.

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering | Tuesday, May 12 | 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. | Stanford Chapel — A time for fellowship and reflection on the past year. Join us in the Cheek House as we enjoy lunch, thank our outgoing leadership and discuss the focus for Presbyterian Women heading into the next year. Join us for worship in Stanford Chapel at 10:30 a.m. followed by a luncheon and fellowship in the Cheek House. Registration ends at 5:00 p.m. on May 5. Register at fpcnashville.org/pw.

Ascension Day Worship (11:00 a.m.) and Lunch (12:00 p.m.) | Thursday, May 14 — Join us as we celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection and ascension into heaven on Ascension Day, traditionally celebrated 40 days after Easter. This intimate service will remind us that Christ's promise is good news for today, tomorrow, and eternity. We will worship together at 11:00 a.m. in Columbarium, weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, worship will be in the Stanford Chapel. We will gather for a light lunch following the service in the Cheek House. Please register for lunch at fpcnashville.org/events.

Soccer Saints Volunteer Sign-Up | Saturdays through May 23 | One-hour shifts from 7:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. — Thousands of guests attend our campus for spring and fall soccer each year. We want to welcome and love these families as they play, cheer, and coach on the FPC campus. Would you help us create a warm and welcoming atmosphere by volunteering as a Soccer Saint at one of our welcome tents on Saturday mornings? Whether you are young, old, or in between, it's a great way to serve God's people and spread joy. Your ministry of presence will be a blessing to our community. To sign up, visit fpcnashville.org/ministry/soccer.

Officer Nominations for Class of 2029 | Recommendations due by May 22 — The Officer Nominating Committee is soliciting recommendations from the members of First Presbyterian Church for persons to be considered to serve in the Offices of Elder and Deacon for the Class of 2029. Please prayerfully consider submitting a recommendation for this important and vital service for your church. To submit a recommendation, please complete an Officer Nomination form found in the church literature areas or on the church website by May 22.

MISSIONS

Blood Drive | Wednesday, Apr. 15 | 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall — Someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds due to an accident, disaster, or illness. Roll up your sleeves to help save lives in your community by giving the gift of life by donating blood at our next blood drive. Sign up on our website (fpcnashville.org/blooddrive), or in person in Courtenay Hall between services on Apr. 12.

Matthew 25 Meal Service Project | Sunday, Apr. 19 | 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. — Serve alongside your church family as we provide meals at Matthew 25, a Christ-centered residential facility for men recovering from poverty, addiction, and homelessness. Come spend this Sunday evening in service and fellowship – older children welcome if accompanied by a parent! Sign up at fpcnashville.org/matthew-25.

Legacy Mission Village Senior Celebration | Thursday, Apr. 23 | 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall — You are invited to join Legacy Mission Village in celebrating their graduating students on Thursday, April 23, from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Come hear about the great work happening at LMV, and see it in action as their students share their talents with guests. Dinner will be served; a small donation of \$5 per person is requested to cover the cost of dinner.

Intergenerational Mission Trip | July 18–25 | Lynn, MA — Join FPC for an intergenerational trip to Lynn, Massachusetts, July 18-25, 2026. We will serve a diverse community by offering VBS, as well as participating in other mission activities. The cost is \$650 per person, which includes everything except travel to Boston (accommodation, ground transportation, and food). Families are responsible for arranging their own transportation to Boston Logan International Airport by 2:00 p.m. on July 18. The minimum age to participate is 6; all minors must be accompanied by at least one parent. Contact Adrian Taylor at ataylor@fpcnashville.org for more details.

FIRST FRIENDS

Luncheon and Speaker Series: Dr. Darren Kennedy | Apr. 16 | 12:00–1:30 p.m. — New Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Dr. Darren Kennedy, will join us for our April luncheon. Darren brings nearly three decades of ministry experience, including 26 years as a PC(USA) missionary in Cairo. We can look forward to learning more about his life in Egypt. Enjoy a delicious meal prepared by our own Chef Kim Rogers for just \$10 per person. To ensure proper planning, please register in advance. Online registration and payment are preferred. Please note that credit cards can now be used for payment at the luncheons.

First Friends and OHS Kindergarten Game Day | Thursday, Apr. 23 | 12:00–1:30 p.m. — Join us for an afternoon with our First Friends and the kindergarteners of Oak Hill School. We'll gather in the Gathering Place for simple games, shared stories, and time to build intergenerational connections. This is a structured but relaxed time designed to encourage interaction and community between participants of all ages. Light snacks will be provided.

Get Connected

First Presbyterian Church of Nashville exists as a community of believers—a faithful outpost where we worship, grow, and serve together in Christ. Your presence strengthens this community, and together we reflect God's love and faithfulness to one another and to the world around us. We invite you to stay connected and engaged, so that together we can be our fullest expression as God's family.

There are many ways to find your place at FPC—on Sundays, during the week, and in smaller communities designed for connection and growth. For information on any of the below offerings, contact Dr. Darren Kennedy at dkennedy@fpcnashville.org or Ellie Richmond erichmond@fpcnashville.org.

Sundays | 9:45 a.m.

Choose from ten Adult Sunday School classes, offering space to learn, build friendships, and grow in faith. Full list at fpcnashville.org/Sunday-school.

Mondays, Apr. 13–May 18 | 9:30–11:00 a.m.

Women's Intergenerational Esther Study, led by Rev. Mallory Hammond and Ellie Richmond.

Tuesdays | 7:00 a.m. | Vance Hall

Men's Bible Study, led by Dr. Sandra Randleman.

Wednesdays | 6:00 a.m. | Vance Hall

Men's Bible Study, led by Gage Arnold and Scott Dalton.

Wednesdays | 11:30 a.m. | Session Room

Bible study and lunch, led by Dr. Ryan Moore.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18 | 9:30–11:00 a.m. | Intergenerational Esther Women's COB

Apr. 22 | 12:30-2:30 p.m. | Daytime Mahjong Open Play

Apr. 15, 22, 29 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Evening Mahjong Lessons

May 3 | 11:00 a.m. | Ordination of Gage Arnold

May 4 | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | PW Handiwork Drop-in

May 9 | 10:00 a.m. | Roger Brown Painting and Faith

May 12 | 10:30 a.m. | Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering

May 13, 27 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Evening Mahjong Open Play

May 14 | 11:00 a.m. | Ascension Day Service

May 14 | 12:00 p.m. | Ascension Day Lunch

May 17 | Kirkin' Sunday

May 28 | 8:00 a.m. | College of Elders Breakfast

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Apr. 19 | 9:45 a.m. | Missions Milestone (4th-5th Grade)

Apr. 26 | 11:00 a.m. | Confirmation Sunday

June 23-25 | 5:00-7:45 p.m. | Amazing VBS!

FIRST FRIENDS

Apr. 16 | 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon

Apr. 21 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: *Connie: A Memoir*

Apr. 23 | 12:00 p.m. | First Friends and OHS Game Day

Apr. 28 | Day Trip: Home of Helen Keller

May 7 | 10:30 a.m. | Natchez Trace Picnic on the Parkway

May 19 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: *Sipsworth*

May 21 | 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon: Mission Presentation from Matthew 25

MISSIONS

Apr. 14 | 4:30–7:30 p.m. | Nueva Vida Service Project

Apr. 15 | 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. | Blood Drive

Apr. 19 | 4:30–6:30 p.m. | Matthew 25 Meal

July 18-25 | Intergenerational Mission Trip

Sept. 14-25 | Kenya Mission Trip

RECREATION

Apr. 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16 | 8:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. | Soccer Saints

Wednesdays | 5:30–8:00 p.m. | Pickleball (Except May 6)

YOUTH

Apr. 19 | 2:00–3:30 p.m. | Senior Blessing

Apr. 26 | 9:45 a.m. | Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

May 3 | 8:30 a.m. | Youth Sunday

Jun. 1-5 | Pilgrimage to Yosemite (Seniors)

MUSIC NOTES: *How Deep the Father's Love For Us* by Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music Ltd For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1121456 | *Prelude, Fugue and Verses on "Faithfulness"* by Dale Nickell. Used with permission.

COVER IMAGE: *The Resurrected Christ Appearing to Mary Magdalene in the Garden*. South Netherlandish, ca. 1500–1520. Tapestry, wool warp with wool, silk, and gilt wefts.