



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

SIXTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
July 20, 2025
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

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures.

—The Theological Declaration of Barmen

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Prelude and Allemande from "Suite in F"
Arcangelo Corelli | arr. T. Tertius Noble

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

Adrian Taylor

Leader: You are a chosen people, a holy nation, a royal priesthood.

All: We proclaim the mighty acts of God, who calls us from darkness to light.

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

All: Once we were no people; now we are the people of God.

Leader: Let us worship God with praise and song!

*OPENING HYMN 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation
WESTMINSTER ABBEY

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

FIRST LESSON | 1 Peter 2:2-10 (page 1014)

Lynn Lassiter Kendrick

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our light, our savior, our home: we humble ourselves before you, having refused many of your gifts. You invite us to taste that you are good; we cultivate tastes for lesser things. You show us yourself, that we might believe; we close our ears and eyes to you. You offer us refuge and salvation; we resort to violence as we seek our own security. You call us living stones, built into a spiritual house; we disobey your word and stumble upon the foundation you provide. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your face shine on us again, that we may grow into salvation and serve you with faithfulness and hope.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

To God Be the Glory
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give him the glory, great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (*Refrain*)**

*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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Mary Winston and Kevin Cramer are presenting their daughter, Margaret Ruth Cramer, for baptism.
Assisting Elder: Brian Reames

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION 624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
TOULON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | John 14:1-14 (page 901)

¹ “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON **The Great I Am: I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life** Dr. John Musgrave

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”.
—John 14:6

OFFERTORY

The Call
Alexander Brent Smith | arr. Erik Routley

Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife: such a life as killeth death! Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in length: such a strength as makes his guest. Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy as none can move; such a love as none can part: such a heart as joys in love!

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

Dr. Ryan Moore

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 463

How Firm a Foundation
FOUNDATION

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter Lutkin

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Praeludium in C, BuxWV137
Dietrich Buxtehude

** Those who are able, please stand.*

SYMPATHIES

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of

Hugh Catron Gracey Jr.
who died July 8, 2025

MUSIC NOTES: *Preludio and Allemande* from "Suite in F" Arcangelo Corelli /arr. by T. Tertius Noble © 1950 G. Schirmer All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. *Preces and Suffrages in the Mixolydian Mode*, © Richard Webster, published by Advent Press, Used by permission. *The Call* by Alexander Brent Smith, arr. by Erik Routley © 1976, Hinshaw Music, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter C. Lutkin © 1959, Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

COVER IMAGE: James Tissot, *Jesus Teaching by the Sea*, circa late 19th century. Watercolor on paper. Private collection.— James Tissot's delicate watercolor, *Jesus Teaching by the Sea*, presents Christ teaching his followers along a serene shoreline. The composition's soft palette and fluid brushwork evoke both calm and clarity, reflecting the peace and profundity of Jesus' declaration in John 14: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." The scene emphasizes Christ's sovereign guidance—not merely as an instructor but as the living Word who reveals divine truth and directs believers' paths. The open sea and expansive sky offer symbolism to the vastness of God's covenant faithfulness, and attentive figures on the shoreline remind us that true knowledge of Christ comes in relationship with the Father and in faithful discipleship.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Acolytes – *Corinne Kaufman and Thomas Kaufman; Elaine Morgan and Jack Morgan*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Margaret Kathryn Hardison and her father, Robert Eugene Hardison Jr. by their family.

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.

Children of all ages are invited to worship alongside their families, and worship activity bags are provided at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Children ages 4–6 are invited to join **Young Children & Worship** following the Blessing of the Young Disciples. Parents pick up their child after worship at Grundy Hall, located in the Children’s Ministry Wing. Following 8:30 a.m. worship, children of all ages are invited to stay for the Education Hour. Check-in and pickup for Nursery–Kindergarten is located in the Children’s Ministry lobby, while Elementary is located in Oak Hill C-Wing. **Nursery care** for children ages 0–3 is available from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. The **Mother and Infant Quiet Room** is located in the Nursery Wing. *For more information, visit fpcnashville.org/children or contact Mallory Hammond (mhammond@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9582).*

Youth Sunday School meets in the Gathering Place, where students enjoy fellowship, games, worship, and study Scripture together. For more information, contact Gage Arnold (garnold@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9586).

Adult Sunday School is offered between services during the Education Hour. Classes range in size, format, and content. *For more information, visit fpcnashville.org/sunday-school or contact Julia Wilk (jwilk@fpcnashville.org or 615-473-8742).*

Join us downstairs in Courtenay Hall between services for coffee and doughnuts.

To **livestream** worship and special events or view past services, visit fpcnashville.org/sermons.

Hearing Assistance App Directions: Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select “First Pres Sanctuary.” Plug in your personal headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE CONNECTED?

If you are new to our community, we would love to get to know you and welcome you personally into the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!

Stay informed about news and upcoming events by reading our weekly email, Parish News, or seasonal print newsletter, First News. To sign up, email communications@fpcnashville.org or update your subscriptions at fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions.

Congregational Meeting | Today | following both Worship Services—The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, July 20, following both worship services. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on a slate of nominees to serve on an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee for a Pastor for Youth and Their Families. The nominees are Charlie Bryan Jr., Mary Daniel Danieleley, Betsy Funk, Carrie Hininger, John Ridenour and Lauren Ross.

Sullivan Garden Nearing Completion—More than 1,000 new plants are being installed to refresh and renew our sacred spaces. Already, you may notice vibrant beds of perennials and shrubs—bringing texture, color, and fragrance to the Sullivan Garden. As part of the renovation, several key landscape changes are underway. The two large pine trees near the columbarium entrance—including our beloved Christmas tree—will be replaced later this month with tall, lush conical evergreens better suited for year-round beauty and future holiday decorating. The overgrown American Hollies in front of the Sanctuary will soon give way to majestic Dr. Merrill Magnolias. These transitions are being made quickly and thoughtfully to avoid visual gaps and preserve the sacred feel of these beloved spaces. The full project is expected to be complete by the end of July. Of the 1,176 total burial niches, more than 910 have been sold, with approximately 225 remaining. Church members interested in purchasing a niche may contact Charlotte Schierbaum at cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org.

Campus Paving Updates—As construction on the Oak Hill School athletic facility nears completion, the driveways and parking areas around campus that were impacted by the project will be repaired. Please be aware that sections of campus will be temporarily closed during this work. From July 16–23, the lane leading to Oak Valley Lane (south of the facility) will be paved. Paving of the Cannon Center parking lot will follow in phases from July 24–August 2. On Sunday, July 27, alternate parking lots should be used for Sunday morning worship and education, and the Pool Fellowship scheduled for that afternoon has been canceled due to paving. Finally, from August 4–8, the front entrance from Franklin Road will be restored to its original width and paved. During this time, the Franklin Pike entrance from the church will be closed.

First Friends Book Review | Thursdays, August 28–September 25 | 3:00 p.m. | Vance Hall—FPC will host a five-week book discussion on *Conscious Living, Conscious Aging* by Ron Pevny, exploring what it means to embrace retirement and later life with intentionality and purpose. Grounded in the encouragement of Galatians 6:9—“Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up”—this group will reflect on how the Christian life continues to bear fruit in every season. For more information, contact Sally Ostheimer at sostheimer@fpcnashville.org.

Congregational Care in Sandra’s Absence—If you have a congregational care need—such as a hospitalization, surgery, or personal crisis—please contact Charlotte Schierbaum, Congregational Care Ministry Assistant at cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9527. Charlotte is coordinating all care concerns and will confidentially share them with Senior Pastor Ryan Moore and Parish Associates Dr. John Musgrave and Rev. Sara Hill to ensure you are supported with prayer and presence.

Pool Fellowship and Open Swim | Sundays, through July 20 | 2:30–4:30 p.m. | Don Wade Memorial Pool—The FPC pool is open on Sunday afternoons! Pool Fellowship and Open Swim is a time for our church family to make memories together and cool off during these hot summer days. All are welcome to join us for swimming and fellowship; however, children will need adult supervision. Please note there will not be a lifeguard on duty.

Young Adult Summer Sunday School | Sundays through August 31 | 9:45 a.m. | Bookstore Room—If you’re a college student or in your 20s or 30s, early in your career, and in a season before kids, this class is for you. Join us in the old bookstore room for relaxed, fun, and real conversations about faith and life.

Soccer Saints | Saturdays, August 9, 16, 23; September 6, 13, 20, 27—Help us welcome soccer families as they play, cheer, and coach on the FPC campus on Saturday mornings. Volunteers serve at one of our three welcome tables, greeting families, handing out treats to players, and answering small questions. We know that your hospitality has lasting impact: 25% of the guest children at this year’s VBS came through FPC soccer referrals. Volunteer slots are open between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the following game days: August 9, 16, 23; September 6, 13, 20, and 27.

MISSIONS

Fall Habitat for Humanity Build | Sept. 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, and Oct. 4-5—This fall, our church is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to help build a home and build community. With over 170 volunteer spots for both construction and lunch crews, there’s a place for everyone to serve. Registration opens later this summer.

GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY

YTD AT JUNE 30, 2025

Actual \$2,310,595

Budget \$2,479,700

*Variance (\$169,105)**

As part of our commitment to transparency and to deepen our shared understanding of church finances, the Finance Committee is now providing monthly updates on giving. From January through June, year-to-date contributions were \$169,105 below our budgeted goal. While we planned for a seasonal dip in giving, contributions are currently tracking below even those adjusted summer expectations.



NaCoMe All-Church Retreat

Join us for the annual All-Church Retreat, a weekend of fellowship, fun, and growth in faith and community at NaCoMe Camp & Retreat Center. Enjoy outdoor activities like swimming, archery, and boating, plus a talent show, campfire s'mores, and a closing worship service on Sunday morning. Families stay in separate bunk rooms with private bathrooms. Cost varies based on age and length of stay, with options for the full weekend or Saturday only. Register by July 25 to be part of this cherished tradition!

WEEKEND COST

Adults & Youth 13+: \$80
Ages 3-12: \$25
Children under 3: No cost

SATURDAY ONLY COST

Adults & Youth 13+: \$25
Ages 3-12: \$15
Children under 3: No cost

Register at fpcnashville.org/nacome

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 21 | 6:00–7:30 p.m. | College Bible Study
Aug 2-3 | NaCoMe All-Church Retreat
Aug. 11 | 5:30 p.m. | Back to School Worship and Cookout
Aug. 16 | 9:00 a.m. | Inquirers Class
Aug. 24 | FPC Welcomes Nashville Fellows
Sept. 1 | Office Closed for Labor Day
Sept. 7 | 9:30 a.m. | Kickoff Sunday

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Aug. 17 | 3:00 p.m. | Rising 6th Grade Confirmation Ice Cream Social
Aug. 25 | Early Preschool First Day of School

FIRST FRIENDS

Aug. 2 | *Dolly: An Original Musical* (all tickets booked)
Aug. 28 | 3:00 p.m. | Book Review: *Conscious Living, Conscious Aging*
(Thursdays through September 25)
Sept. 18 | 12:00 p.m. | First Friends Lunch & Speaker Series

MISSIONS

July 22 | Nueva Vida Service Project
Aug. 13–21 | Rwanda Mission Trip
Sept. 13–14, 20–21, 27–28, & Oct. 4–5 | Habitat for Humanity Build

RECREATION

July 20, 27 | 2:30–4:30 p.m. | Open Swim
July 24, 31 | 5:30–8:00 p.m. | Pickleball
Aug. 9 | Fall Soccer Game Days Begin

YOUTH

July 23, 30 | 6:00–7:30 p.m. | Festus
July 25 | 5:00–7:00 p.m. | Skate & Sonic Dinner
July 27 | 9:45 a.m. | Youth Intern Sendoff
July 29 | 6:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. | Dollywood Day Trip
Aug. 10 | 9:45 a.m. | Youth Volunteer Training
Aug. 16 | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Youth Confirmation Class
Aug. 17 | 9:45 a.m. | Youth Parent Meeting
Aug. 24 | 9:45 a.m. | Youth Small Group Leader Training
Aug. 24 | 4:00–5:30 p.m. | Crud Day
Sept. 7 | 6:00 p.m. | Youth Small Group Kickoff
Sept. 14, 21, 28 | 9:45 a.m. | Follow Me Sunday School Series for 7th Graders & Parents

STAY CONNECTED

Stay informed about news and upcoming events by:
reading our weekly email, Parish News,
or seasonal print newsletter, First News.

To sign up, email communications@fpcnashville.org
or update your subscriptions at:
fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions.