



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

July 27, 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

To abide in Christ means to keep up a habit of constant close communion with him, to be always leaning on him, resting on him, pouring out our hearts to him, and using him as our fountain of life and strength, as our chief companion and best friend. To have his words abiding in us, is to keep his sayings and precepts continually before our memories and minds, and to make them the guide of our actions, and the rule of our daily conduct and behavior.

—J. C. Ryle

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

“I Will Bow Down Towards Your Holy Temple” (Psalm 138:2)
Margaret Vardell Sandresky

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. John Musgrave (8:30)
Rev. Sara Hill (11:00)

Pastor Let the peoples renew their strength; let them approach, let us together draw near.

All: Restore us to yourself, O LORD that we may be restored!

Pastor The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

**All: Therefore let us ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
let us worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

*OPENING HYMN 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing
MADRID

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

FIRST LESSON | Psalm 80:7-19 (page 491)

Overton Colton (8:30)
Jean Campbell (11:00)

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved! ⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. ⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land. ¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches. ¹¹ It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River. ¹² Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? ¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it. ¹⁴ Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, ¹⁵ the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself. ¹⁶ They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face! ¹⁷ But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself! ¹⁸ Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name! ¹⁹ Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gage Arnold

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

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

‡During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

(8:30) Hannah and Nicholas South are presenting their daughter, Nella Grace South, for baptism.

Assisting Elder: Ron Pasquale

(11:00) Emily and Andrew Harton are presenting their daughter, Hunter Emma Harton, for baptism.

Assisting Elder: Wally Conyers

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

HYMN OF PREPARATION 465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

SCRIPTURE READING | John 15:1-11 (page 901)

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

The Great I Am: I am the Vine.

Dr. Ryan Moore

Abide in me, and I in you —John 15:4

OFFERTORY

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

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 269

Lead On, O King Eternal!
LANCASHIRE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter C. Lutkin

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune
Frederick Swann

** Those who are able, please stand.*

SYMPATHIES

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of

Evelyn 'Carney' Overall Farris, who died July 18.
Visitation: August 23 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall
Service: August 23 | 3:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

David Lynn McFadden, who died July 20.
Visitation: August 2 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Cheek House
Service: August 2 | 10:30 a.m. | Stanford Chapel

MUSIC NOTES: *I Will Bow Down Towards Your Holy Temple* – Psalm 138:2 - Margaret Vardell Sandresky © 2000 Wayne Leupold Editions All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *Trumpet Tune* - Frederick Swann © 1991 Tarzana Music Company, Fred Bock Music Company All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *Preces and Suffrages in the Mixolydian Mode*, © Richard Webster, published by Advent Press, Used by permission. | *MADRID* (harmonization) by David Evans © 1927 Oxford University Press. 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: Moskos, Leos. *Christ the Vine*. ca. 1650–1690. Tempera and gold leaf on wood panel. Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens.—Leos Moskos's *Christ the Vine* offers a richly symbolic and theologically resonant depiction of John 15. Christ is enthroned at the heart of a golden vine, his arms outstretched as the apostles grow from his form like branches—visually embodying his words, “I am the vine; you are the branches” (John 15:5). Rooted in the 17th-century Cretan School, the icon draws on Byzantine tradition to convey the sustaining life of Christ and the organic unity of the Church. With its liturgical stillness, symmetrical composition, and luminous gold ground, the work invites quiet reflection on the abiding, fruitful relationship between Christ and his followers.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate*
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music & Organist*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Greg Thomas – *Tenor*
Claire Paschal – *Soprano*
Acolytes – Kennedy Swafford and Graham Swafford IV, Powell Byram and Ward Byram

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Dr. David and Roxanne Hill by their children and grandchildren.

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.

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. Paving of the Cannon Center parking lot will be occurring in phases until August 2. Pool Fellowship previously scheduled for today has been canceled due to paving. 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.

Update on Pastor Sandra Randleman—As many of you know, Pastor Sandra Randleman has remained in critical care for several weeks. While her condition had been grave, we witnessed a miraculous and medically unexplainable turnaround last Saturday. Since then, she has continued to gain strength and has been in good spirits. We give thanks to God for this mercy and for the gift of more time with her. However, Sandra's healing has been complicated by a serious issue in one of her legs. Despite multiple interventions, her doctors and family all agreed her best chance for recovery was to remove her leg. The surgery was successfully completed late Monday night. In true Sandra fashion, she met this decision with calm acceptance. She has come to terms with this new chapter with grace and clarity and says, "This is God's next plan for me." Now that the source of complication has been removed, her doctors are optimistic about her path to recovery. Please keep Sandra and her family in your prayers. She remains confident in the Lord's provision and plan for her life.

Room for a Fellow—Our 2025 Nashville Fellows arrive in just a few short weeks, and we are still in need of four host families. If you're discerning a call to open your home for the year, please reach out to Gage Arnold at garnold@fpcnashville.org. Learn more about the Fellows at fpcnashville.org/fellows.

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." For more information, contact Sally Ostheimer at sostheimer@fpcnashville.org.

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 percent 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.

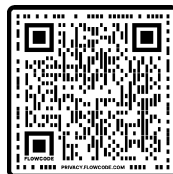
Congregational Care in Sandra's Absence—If you have a congregational care need—such as a hospitalization, surgery, or personal crisis—please contact Charlotte Schierbaum, Congregational Care Ministry Assistant at cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9527. Charlotte is coordinating all care concerns 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.

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.

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 week.

One-Day Inquirers Class | Saturday, August 16 | 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.—If you have a friend or family member interested in joining this outpost of Christ's kingdom, invite them to our next Inquirers Class. Led by Dr. Ryan Moore, it's also a good opportunity to meet newcomers at the church, pastors, and staff. To register or learn more, visit fpcnashville.org/inquirers or contact Julia Wilk (jwilk@fpcnashville.org or 615-473-8742).



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

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.



Back to School

WORSHIP AND COOKOUT

Back to School Worship & Cookout

Monday, August 11 | 5:30 p.m.
Stanford Chapel and Cheek House

As a new school year begins, let's gather to center our hearts on Christ. This special worship service and cookout is a time to pray over students, teachers, and families—asking God to pour out grace, wisdom, and courage through Jesus Christ. Come join us in the Stanford Chapel for worship, stay for food and fellowship, and step into the school year rooted in God's love and strength.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay informed about FPC 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 2-3 | NaCoMe All-Church Retreat
August 4 | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | PW Handiwork Drop-In
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
Sept. 9 | 11:00 a.m. | PW Fall Gathering
Sept. 14 | Children & Youth return to grade-level SS format

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

Aug 12, Sept. 9 | 4:30–7:30 p.m. | Service Project with Nueva Vida
Aug. 13–21 | Rwanda Mission Trip
Sept 3 | 12:00–5:00 p.m. | Blood Drive
Sept. 13–14, 20–21, 27–28, & Oct. 4–5 | Habitat for Humanity Build

RECREATION

Aug. 9 | Fall Soccer Game Days & Soccer Saints Begin
Wednesdays (Except August 6) | 5:30–8:00 p.m. | Pickleball

YOUTH

July 27 | 9:45 a.m. | Youth Intern Sendoff
July 30 | 6:00–7:30 p.m. | Festivus
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