



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

TENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

August 17, 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

Is there anything more amazing in the world than just Christ's dogged, stubborn hope for men, as you see it in the Gospels, his refusal to acquiesce in their deadness and worldliness and lostness...his reckless and defiant confidence, 'Something can be made of these if God wills – even yet'?

—James S. Stewart

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Adagio from Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C major, BWV 564
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 | Psalm 91

Adrian Taylor (8:30)
Mallory Hammond (11:00)

Leader: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

All: I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Leader: For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

All: He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and a buckler.

Leader: You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day.

All: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
EIN' FESTE BURG

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. John Musgrave (8:30)
Gage Arnold (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Romans 8:6-11 (page 944)

Laura May (8:30)
Katy Spence Phillips (11:00)

⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty Father, you are the source of every good and perfect gift. We praise your name for the greatest and most perfect gift: Your son, our Lord Jesus Christ. But in lifting him up, we humble ourselves before you. We confess to you, not only our sins of omission in failing to do what we know is right, but also our sins of commission in doing what you forbid. O Lord, we are weak and feeble, slow to confess our sins and prone to wander from the path of righteousness. Do not deal with us as our sins deserve but wash us clean in the blood of the Lamb and empower us by your Spirit to live to honor and serve our Savior King. We praise you that Christ was born like us that we might become like him. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

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

*‡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 (8:30)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Terralyn and Christopher Thomas are presenting their sons, Easton Pierce Thomas and Parker Brooks Thomas, for baptism.
Assisting Elder: Tricia Scott

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me
Johnny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren



1. What gift of grace is Je-sus my re-deem-er; there is no more for hea-ven now to give.
2. The night is dark but I am not for-sak-en, for by my side, the Sav-ior, he will stay.
3. No fate I dread, I know I am for-giv-en. The fu-ture sure, the price it has been paid,
4. With ev-ery breath I long to fol-low Je-sus, for he has said that he will bring me home,



He is my joy, my righ-teous-ness, and free-dom; my stead-fast love, my deep and bound-less peace.
I la-bor on in weak-ness and re-joic-ing, for in my need, his pow-er is dis-played.
for Je-sus bled and suf-fered for my par-don, and he was raised to ov-er-throw the grave.
and day by day I know he will re-new me un-till I stand with joy be-fore the throne.



To this I hold, my hope is on-ly Je-sus; for my life is whol-ly bound to his.
To this I hold, my Shep-herd will de-fend me, through the deep-est val-ley he will lead.
To this I hold, my sin has been de-fea-ted; Je-sus now and ev-er is my plea.
To this I hold, my hope is on-ly Je-sus; All the glo-ry ev-er-more to him.



Oh how strange and di-vine, I can sing: "All is mine!" Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall ov-er-come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Oh the chains are re-leased, I can sing: "I am free!" Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
When the race is com-plete, still my lips shall re-peat: "Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Ezekiel 37:1-11 (page 724)

¹ The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O LORD GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the LORD GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'"

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Valley of Vision

Dr. Ryan Moore

...can these bones live? —Ezekiel 37:3

OFFERTORY

Laudate Dominum (Psalm 117)

W. A. Mozart

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes, laudate eum, omnes populi. Quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia eius, et veritas Domini manet in aeternum. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, all nations; praise him, all people for he has bestowed his mercy upon us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. 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.

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 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

*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 power 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 thro' 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

Fugue from Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C major, BWV 564

J. S. Bach

** Those who are able, please stand.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*
Stephen King – *Guitar and Tenor*
Claire Paschal – *Soprano*
Ali Hoffman – *Violin*
Acolytes – Kate Richardson and Luke Richardson, Jackson Harr and Gabe Shapiro

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Rachel Ann Marshall and Gavin Whitney Marshall by their grandmother, Debbye Oliver.

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 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 and special events or view past services, visit youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville.

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.

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

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.

MUSIC NOTES: *Preces and Suffrages in the Mixolydian Mode*, © Richard Webster, published by Advent Press, Used by permission. | *Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me*, Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson © 2018 CityAlight Music; Farren Love And War Publishing; Integrity’s Alleluia! Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #1121456 & Streaming License 20064814

COVER IMAGE: Paul Klee, *WI (In Memoriam)*, 1938. Watercolor, gouache, and plaster on burlap (52 × 45.5 cm).—In muted tones and spare lines, Klee gives only the suggestion of a figure—present, yet not fully formed. Its contours seem to emerge from the background, as if drawn forward from silence into being. Paired with Ezekiel’s vision of the valley of dry bones, the work becomes a meditation on God’s promise to breathe life where there was none. It invites us to trust that the same Lord who called Israel from exile and death is still gathering his people, shaping them by his Word, and restoring hope in places that seemed beyond renewal.

Kickoff Sunday | Sunday, September 7 | 9:30 a.m. | Front Porch—Join the entire church family at our all-church kickoff as we reconnect after a busy summer! Our Kickoff Sunday is a time to gather as a church family for fellowship and learn ways to connect at FPC this fall. Our football-themed celebration kicks off outside the Sanctuary between morning worship services with fun for all ages.

Columbarium Rededication | Sunday, September 7 | 6:30 p.m. | Sullivan Gardens—Join us for a special evening as we rededicate the Sullivan Gardens and Columbarium following its complete landscaping restoration. Light Refreshments will be served. The renewed space offers a beautiful and peaceful setting for remembrance and prayer. The service will include music and moments of reflection as we give thanks for this cherished space where we remember the saints who have gone before us in faith.

Ordination of Mallory Hammond | Sunday, September 14 | 3:00 p.m. | Sanctuary—We are delighted to share that Mallory Hammond will soon be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). After her ordination, Mallory will continue as our Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families as a Parish Associate. Her ordination is the culmination of years of theological study, preparation, and discernment, and we give thanks to God for guiding her to this calling. Please join us for Mallory's ordination service on Sunday, September 14, at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, and in praying for her and our church as she begins this next chapter of ministry among us.

PW Fall Gathering | Tuesday, September 9 | 11:00 a.m. Courtenay Hall—All FPC women are invited to the PW Fall Gathering. Register online or in person in Courtenay Hall on Sunday, August 24, or Sunday, August 31, during the Education Hour. Registration closes September 4. Register online at fpcnashville.org/pw

Men's Bible Study | Tuesdays | 7:00–8:00 a.m. | Vance Hall—Our Tuesday men's Bible study has been a cherished tradition for decades—a place where friendships grow, faith deepens, and meaningful conversation happens over a good cup of coffee. This fall, we will finish our study of Acts, led by a variety of group members and church staff. Whether you've been with us for years or are just curious to see what it's all about, you're invited to join anytime. Coffee is ready at 7:00 a.m. No registration needed. Questions? Contact Ron Pasquale at ronpasquale@comcast.net or 615-812-6215.

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.

September Women's Chorale—Women's Chorale will rehearse September 14, 21, and 28 from 9:45–10:00 a.m. and will sing more advanced music on September 28 in worship. With only two rehearsals, it's best for confident singers. Led by Dr. Raphael Bundage. To sign up, contact Daphne Garey at dgarey@fpcnashville.org.

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

Soccer Saints | Saturdays, August 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 questions. 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.

Crud Day | Sunday, August 24 | 4:00 p.m. | South Field—Join us in one of FPC's most storied youth ministry traditions. Adults and youth get muddy together, and we are all reminded that God lifts us out of the muddy pit. Mud volleyball, color wars, the infamous obstacle course, and the newly added gauntlet challenge will be highlights of the afternoon. We can't wait to see who brings home the Crud Cup in 2025!

MISSIONS

Blood Drive | Wednesday, September 3 | 11:00 a.m. | Hospitality Center—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 or in person in Courtenay Hall in between services. Contact Adrian Taylor for more information at ataylor@fpcnashville.org

GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY

YTD AT JULY 31, 2025

Actual \$2,597,940

Budget \$2,786,500

Variance (\$188,560)

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.



HABITAT25
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NASHVILLE

Join us in our Fall Habitat for Humanity Build!

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.

Register at
FPCNASHVILLE.ORG/HABITAT



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. 24 | FPC Welcomes Nashville Fellows
Sept. 1 | Office Closed for Labor Day
Sept. 3 | 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. | Blood Drive
Sept. 3, 10 | 4:00–5:45 p.m. | Choral Scholar Auditions
Sept. 7 | 9:30 a.m. | Kickoff Sunday
Sept. 7 | 6:30 p.m. | Sullivan Garden Rededication
Sept. 14 | 9:45 a.m. | New Members Joining Day
Sept. 14 | Children & Youth return to grade-level SS format
Sept. 14, 21, 28 | 9:45–10:00 a.m. | Women's Chorale Rehearsals
Sept. 14 | 3:00 p.m. | Ordination Service for Mallory Hammond
Sept. 25 | Dinner (5:30) and Choral Vesper Service (6:30)
Sept. 28 | 11:00 a.m. | Women's Chorale Sings

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Aug. 17 | 3:00 p.m. | Rising 6th Grade Confirmation Ice Cream Social
Sept. 21 | 9:45–10:45 a.m. | Singing the Faith Milestone (Age 2–3)
Sept. 27 | 5:00–8:00 p.m. | Parents Night Out
Sept. 28 | 9:45 a.m. | Missions Milestone (4th–5th Grade)

YOUTH

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

FIRST FRIENDS

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
Sept. 22 | 9:30 a.m. | FF Woodworking Workshop with Julia Wilk –
Making Charcuterie Boards

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Sept. 9 | 11:00 a.m. | PW Fall Gathering
Sept. 24 | 6:00–8:00 p.m. | PW Spiritual Gifts Class

MISSIONS

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

Wednesdays | 5:30–8:00 p.m. | Pickleball