



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
& ORDINATION  
*September 14, 2025*  
*3:00 p.m.*



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

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

*Choral Partita on "Praise to the Lord"*  
Joseph Ahrens

WELCOME

INTROIT

*Come, Ye that Love the Lord*  
arr. Alice Parker

Come, ye that love the Lord, and let your love be known; join in a song of sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne. Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; but favorites of the heav'nly King may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adrian Taylor

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**All: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

**All: Give thanks to him, bless his name.**

\*OPENING HYMN 1

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*  
NICAEA

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Austin McMullen

FIRST LESSON | Ezekiel 34:11-16 (page 722)

Ashland Arnold

<sup>11</sup> "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.

<sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gage Arnold

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. 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.*

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Holy Spirit Living Breath of God*  
Keith and Kristyn Getty Stuart Townend



1. Ho - ly Spir - it, liv - ing Breath of God, breathe new life in - to my will - ing soul.  
2. Ho - ly Spir - it, come a - bide with - in, may Your joy be seen in all I do.  
3. Ho - ly Spir - it, from cre - a - tion's birth, giv - ing life to all that God has made,



Let the pres - ence of the ris - en Lord come re - new my heart and make me whole.  
Love e - nough to cov - er ev - 'ry sin, in each thought and deed and at - ti - tude.  
show Your pow - er once a - gain on earth, cause Your church to hun - ger for Your ways.



Cause Your word to come a - live in me; Give me faith for what I can - not see,  
Kind - ness to the greatest and the least, gen - tle - ness that sows the path of peace.  
Let the fragrance of our pray'rs a - rise; Lead us on the road of sac - ri - fice,



give me passion for Your pu - ri - ty; Ho - ly Spir - it breathe new life in me.  
Turn my strivings in - to works of grace; Breath of God show Christ in all I do.  
that in u - ni - ty the face of Christ may be clear for all the world to see.

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## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READING | John 21:15–19 (page 907)

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” <sup>19</sup> (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

#### **Following The Shepherd**

Dr. Ryan Moore

*“Feed my lambs” —John 21:15*

### ANTHEM

*O Love*

Elaine Hagenberg

O love, that will not let me go, O love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O joy, that seeks me through the pain, O joy, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

### 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.**

### SERVICE OF ORDINATION

#### STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

#### CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE

Rev. Jane Herring

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 ministry 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?

Will you be a faithful minister of the Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

## ORDINATION PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

### DECLARATION OF ORDINATION

### CHARGE TO THE PASTOR

Rev. Sara Hill

### \*CLOSING HYMN

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



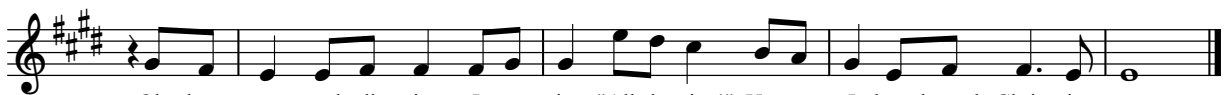
1. What gift of grace is Je - sus my re - deem - er; there is no more for hea - ven now to give.  
2. The night is dark but I am not for - sak - en, for by my side, the Sav - ior, he will stay.  
3. No fate I dread, I know I am for - giv - en. The fu - ture sure, the price it has been paid,  
4. With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

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Mallory Hammond

### CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
Peter Lutkin

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\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Trumpet Tune in D*  
David N. Johnson

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*  
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*  
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families*  
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate*  
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*  
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*  
Joseph Fala, MM – *Organist & Assistant Director of Music*  
Stephen King – *Guitar, Vocals*

*Ordination Commission of the Middle TN Presbytery:*

Rev. Jane Herring, Presbytery Moderator, Teaching Elder, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church,  
Dr. Ryan Moore, Teaching Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
Austin McMullen, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
Mary Catherine Sevier, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Murfreesboro  
Rev. Evelyn Graham, Teaching Elder, Member at Large, Middle TN Presbytery

*Guests of the Commission:*

Rev. Sara Hill, Parish Associate, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
Laura Coyle, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
Mickey Fitts, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
Judy Tygard, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville

## 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](https://youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville).

### 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 FPC's weekly Parish News email.  
To subscribe, email [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org).*

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**COVER IMAGE:** Jacques Callot, *Christ Washing the Apostles' Feet* (detail), c. 1618. Etching and engraving. National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., R.L. Baumfeld Collection, 1969.15.48. Public domain.—This detail shows Christ humbly washing the feet of Peter, reminding us that true greatness is found in service. From Jacques Callot's early seventeenth-century engraving, it reflects a time when devotional prints made biblical stories more immediate and personal. By focusing only on Christ and the haloed disciple, the scene highlights the reversal of roles: the Lord and Teacher kneels as a servant, modeling humility and love for all who follow him.

