



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

October 5, 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

O God, I don't pray for enough faith to move mountains. I can get enough dynamite to do that. O God, I ask for enough faith to move me to forgive, to love, to serve.

—Anonymous

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Hills in the Springtime from *Taiwanese Suite*
Chelsea Chen

WELCOME

INTROIT

Tell Out My Soul
WOODLANDS

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord: unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adrian Taylor (8:30)
Gage Arnold (11:00)

Leader: In Christ there is no east nor west, in him no south or north.

All: But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

Leader: For the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end.

All: Therefore, let us join our voices with those worldwide and praise the Lord!

Leader: Let us share the bread of life and lift up the cup of salvation with those throughout the world.

*OPENING HYMN 327

From All That Dwell Below the Skies
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Austin Hill

FIRST LESSON | Lamentations 3:19-26 (page 688)

Tom Noland (8:30)
Bob Carpenter (11:00)

¹⁹ Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! ²⁰ My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me. ²¹ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Sara Hill

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, we come before you, recognizing our struggles with faith. Like the apostles, we often cry out, “Increase our faith!” Help us to trust in your goodness and control over our lives. We confess that we sometimes doubt your presence and power. We have allowed fear and uncertainty to overshadow our belief. Forgive us for the times we have not acted in faith. Gracious God, we acknowledge our failures to forgive others as you have commanded. Help us to let go of grudges and to extend grace, even when it is difficult. Teach us to embody your love in our actions. Strengthen our hearts and minds. May we find courage in our weakness and hope in our despair. Guide us to nurture our faith through prayer, worship, and community. In Jesus’ name, we pray for a deeper faith that reflects your love and mercy.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE 634

To God Be the Glory
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

HYMN OF PREPARATION 829

My Faith Looks Up to Thee
OLIVET

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 17:1-10 (page 876)

¹ And he said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come!” ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.” ⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. ⁷ “Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table?’ ⁸ Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink?’ ⁹ Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Lord, Make It Easy!

Dr. John Musgrave

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” —Luke 17:5

OFFERTORY

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, my God and King. The heav'ns are not too high, his praise may thither fly: The earth is not too low, his praises there may grow. Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, my God and King. The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out: But above all, the heart must bear the longest part. Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, my God and King.

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.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

SANCTUS

from *St. Anne's Mass*
James MacMillan

7 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and
14 might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
21 in the high - est. Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who
27 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

All: **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and forevermore. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion at First Presbyterian Church is offered to all baptized Christians and will be served today by intinction. When your row is called, come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and receive both elements together. The cup is juice and the bread is gluten-free.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

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!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Mallory Hammond

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 853

We Are Marching in the Light of God
SIYAHAMBA

The choir will sing once through in Zulu; the congregation will join in singing the English verses.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter Lutkin

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Jamaican Celebration Song

** Those who are able, please stand.*

SYMPATHIES

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of
Raymond Trask “Chip” Throckmorton III, who died October 1.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*
Austin Hill, Dmin – *Member at Large Middle Tennessee Presbytery*
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate*
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Brian Meuller and the MTSU Percussion Ensemble
Chris Simonsen – *Baritone*
Acolytes – Kate Richardson and Corinne Thomas, Heuer Ross and Richmond Ross

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lillian and Harold Harris and Polly and James Rees Pickel, beloved parents of Haden and Jimmy Pickel.

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.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Today is World Communion Sunday. As we do each year, FPC is celebrating the occasion along with countless churches around the country and around the world. Today we celebrate the sacred sacrament of Communion, giving thanks for the grace and love of Jesus Christ. As we receive the bread and cup—symbols of Christ’s body and blood—we remember his sacrifice and the grace it offers us. Ours is an open table, and all who claim Jesus Christ as their savior are welcome to receive Communion with us.

Security Changes for Sunday Mornings—Beginning today, the Hospitality Center doors (located to the left of the Sanctuary, near the accessible parking and elevators) will remain locked on Sunday mornings. A greeter will be stationed there from 8:00–11:00 a.m. to welcome you and provide entry. Our main entrances on Sunday mornings remain the Children’s Entrance and the Sanctuary Entrance, both of which continue to be staffed with greeters and security personnel.

Midweek Study with Ryan Moore | Wednesdays | 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Session Room—All are welcome to a weekly lunch and study with Dr. Ryan Moore. This fall, the class will be studying the book of Ecclesiastes. Ecclesiastes is for people who have their doubts about God but can’t stop thinking about him. The author of Ecclesiastes has his doubts also, and these allow him to speak to skeptics and believers down through the ages. A light lunch will be served, payment for which is donation-based.

Mahjong Interest—Mahjong is a tile-based game enjoyed around the world for more than a century. Whether you’re an experienced player or a beginner, young adult or senior, all adults are welcome for fun, fellowship, and friendly competition! Sally Ostheimer and Julia Wilk are organizing introductory classes later this fall and hope to establish regular play times at the church. To express your interest, please contact Sally Ostheimer at sostheimer@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9551. Please note: the time and location has not yet been determined and was incorrectly published in Thursday’s *Parish News*.

Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat Volunteers Needed | Saturday, Oct. 26 | 3:30–5:00 p.m.—Our Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat is one of the biggest outreach events of the year—welcoming children and families from church, soccer, Early Preschool, and the wider community. To make it a success, we need your help! Some roles happen the day of—like hosting a trunk, leading games, or greeting guests—but there are also ways to serve in advance, such as donating pumpkins or candy. However you help, your support makes this joyful day possible. Sign up at fpcnashville.org/fallfest.

Thanksgiving Week at FPC | Monday, Nov. 24 | Beginning at 3:30 p.m.—Mark your calendar for a special evening of fellowship, service, and worship! We’ll start with a Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event (3:30 p.m.), share a family-friendly “crockpotluck” dinner together (5:30 p.m.), and then gather for a Vesper Service of Thanksgiving in the Chapel (6:30 p.m.). Registration and more details at fpcnashville.org/events.

The Manna Freezer Is Open | Courtenay Hall-Choir Room Stairwell—The Manna Freezer is stocked with soups, cookies, and homemade bread. Church members are invited to pick up items to deliver to those who are ill, recovering from surgery, grieving a loss, or experiencing financial stress. Share the bounty! To contribute or learn more, contact Denise Bellardo (balletdenise@icloud.com).

New Beginnings Luncheon for Widows | Thursday, Oct. 9 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Jones Session Room—Many of you have been part of our New Beginnings group over the past year, and some may be joining us for the first time. We warmly invite you to our Fall Luncheon on Thursday, October 9, from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. in the Jones Session Room. Enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Kim Rogers (donation-based) and spend time in fellowship with other caring and supportive ladies. We’ll hear an uplifting message from Gage Arnold, Director of Youth Programming and soon-to-be ordained minister, followed by time for sharing and connection. Please register at fpcnashville.org/events or contact Sally Ostheimer at 615-298-9551

All Saints Vespers Service | Wednesday, Oct. 29 | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary—Each year, we gather on All Saints’ Day to give thanks for the lives of the Christian saints who have gone before us. During this worship service, we give glory to God for the faithful lives of believers in this and every age and give special mention of church members we have lost since October 2024. Prior to the service, we will gather at 5:30 p.m. in Courtenay Hall for dinner. Register for dinner at fpcnashville.org/all-saints-supper.

GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY

YTD AT AUG. 31, 2025

Actual \$2,889,990

Budget \$3,248,000

Variance (\$358,010)

While giving to date is below our projections, expenses have also been lower than expected, so our financial position remains stable. Many households choose to make their full pledge later in the year, and we have \$1.8 million in pledges yet to be received. We invite everyone to prayerfully consider the timing of your 2025 pledge and how you might participate in supporting our shared mission.

Service Opportunities with our Mission Partners

Register to serve any events at fpcnashville.org/missions.

Kingdom Partners

Matthew 25 Meal Service Project | Sunday, Oct. 12 | 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.—You are invited to participate in a mission opportunity to help provide a Sunday night dinner for ~50 men on October 12 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (Kim will be cooking the meal, and volunteers will help bring the food and serve it.) Matthew 25 is one of our church's Kingdom Partners who assist men who are addressing poverty, recovery, and homelessness.

Nueva Vida Service Project | Oct. 14 | 4:30–7:30 p.m.—Help pack and distribute food to our neighbors in need through the Nueva Vida Food Project. Tasks include sorting, stocking shelves, and offering a friendly smile. We are looking for up to 5 volunteers for each date: Oct. 14, Nov. 18, Dec. 9.

Project Partners

Room In The Inn | Nov. 5—Every Wednesday, November through March, First Presbyterian Church houses homeless men through Room In The Inn. There are a number of volunteer opportunities available: overnight hosts, van drivers, breakfast donors, lunch donors, and laundry volunteers.

Blood Drive | Wednesday, Nov. 12 | 11:00 a.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 or in person in Courtenay Hall in between services.

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing | Monday, Nov. 24 | 3:30–5:30 p.m. | Enrichment Center—Join us as we package 20,000 meals in just two hours! This fast-paced, family-friendly event assembles rice, soy, vegetables, and a vitamin mix into meals sent worldwide to support school feeding programs and crisis relief. Sign up for a two-hour shift, or help with set-up and clean-up. Stay afterwards for the Thanksgiving Crockpotluck dinner and worship service.

WELCOME TO FPC

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.

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.

MUSIC NOTES: *Taiwanese Suite: I. Hills in the Springtime* - organ arrangement by Chelsea Chen Music - © 2010 The Leupold Foundation All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *Tell out my soul* by Timothy Dudley-Smith, Walter Greatorex Tune: WOODLANDS by Walter Greatorex (1877-1949). Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Text: 'Tell out, my soul' by Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926). © Timothy Dudley-Smith in Europe and Africa. © Hope Publishing Company in the United States of America and the rest of the world. Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *The Call* Words by George Herbert, Music by Erik Routley © 1976 Hinshaw Music (administered worldwide by the Fred Bock Publishing Group) All rights reserved. Used by Permission. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin © 1959 Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

COVER IMAGE: Jan Luyken, *Parable of the Mustard Seed*, etching from the Bowyer Bible. Bolton Museum, UK. Public domain.—Luyken's etching lingers on the mystery of growth that begins in the smallest and most fragile of ways. The tender seed evokes the heart's quiet plea for deeper faith, reminding us that even a humble trust, offered and nurtured by God, can expand beyond measure, sustaining and sheltering others in its reach.