

*Third Sunday of Easter* • May 4, 2025  
High School Graduation and Stewardship  
*Glorify God, Make Disciples of Jesus Christ, and Meet Human Needs*

**GATHERING**

*Gracious God, you are the God who is and was and is to be. Thank you the freedom that Christ brings us, allowing us to serve you and your world. Give me a deeper sense, as I move through this day, of what it looks like to respond to your grace. In Jesus name. Amen.*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

Meditation  
*Cordelia Pfund, violin*

J. Massenet

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory?

**Take courage and work, for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts.**

I have not forgotten the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt.

**My spirit abides among you; do not fear.**

\* **HYMN 307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Lord God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\* **ACT OF PRAISE**

Gloria Patri

Hymn 581

*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.*

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 206

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

O Light of Life!  
Delaney Geiser, soprano

M. Wilberg

*O Light of Life! O pure Light Divine! Thou art in us; our ember is Thine. Kindle our faith, give hope when we fear, deepen our love - Thy Fire appear! Light of our souls, Thou spark at our birth - grow bright in us, shine in all the earth! O Light of Life! O true Light of Peace! Storms will arise, let Thy light increase. Pierce through dark clouds, give pause to the proud; let Thy shafts fall, lift humble heads bowed. Answer our pleas, melt hearts in Thy flame. Make us as one - as one in Thy name. O Light of Life! O sweet Life of Grace! Thou bidst us come, we follow apace. On through the night, walk with us we pray. Lead us to dawn, Thy merciful way. O Light of Life! O dear Light of Love! Come, wash us clean, send forth Thy white Dove. Fill us with Fire, enlighten our eyes; help us to love - 'tis price of the prize. Then let us come, enrobe us in white. Cleaving to Thee, light unto Thy Light. O Light of Life! Amen.*

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Scott Stuart

*(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God.)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Haggai 2:1-9 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 878

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Shattered Expectations

Rev. Mark Hults

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### RESPONDING

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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; on 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.**

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Fleetwood Fleming

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Fill My Cup

I. Jones, Jr.

*Alison Barat, conductor*

*Fill my cup; let it overflow; let it overflow with love. Lord, let me be your instrument, spreading sunshine in the land; let people see your works in me; help me live the best I can. It's my desire to live for you and to always walk upright; give me strength to face each day; stay with me through each dark night.*

\* DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\* 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.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (8:30 A.M.)

(Gluten-Free Bread)

## SENDING

- \* **HYMN 708** We Give Thee but Thine Own SCHUMANN
- \* **BENEDICTION**
- \* **POSTLUDE** Allegro from Horn Concerto No. 1 in D, K412 W.A. Mozart  
*Emerson Barat, horn*

## TODAY IN WORSHIP

**WORSHIP LEADERS:** Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Scott Stuart

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Elisa Neale-Tobener

**ACOLYTE:** Parker Mears

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST:** Mitch Rorick

**COLLABORATIVE PIANIST:** Anait Piloyan

**SUMMER CHOIR**

**CHAPEL USHER:** Rose Anna Rutledge; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Young Adult & Family Ministries

**A/V TEAM:** Dania Moreno, John Rayl, Geoff Spiegel, Elijah West

**GRADUATION SUNDAY:** Today, we celebrate our high school class of 2025 during our worship service. Congratulations! We are holding you in prayer and looking forward to what the Lord has in store for you. The prelude, anthem, and postlude, this morning are either played or sung by high school seniors. *O Light of Life!* (Anthem) and *Fill My Cup* (Offertory) speak to filling up our graduates with Christ's love, strength, and faith, while also sending them into the world.

*Fill My Cup*, as well as the sending hymn, *We Give Thee but Thine Own*, are from the Dedication and Stewardship section of our *Glory to God* Hymnal. During this Stewardship Season at the church, these hymns point to that theme. *We Give Thee but Thine Own* (Haggai 2:8) and *God of Grace and God of Glory* (Haggai 2:1-9) were also chosen for how they point to themes in Haggai 2:1-9, the focus of our sermon for today.

**THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP** are given to the glory of God and in the memory of Helen by Mort Wolfson.

**THE FLOWERS NEXT TO THE PULPIT** are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the life of Edwin A. Rinonos, given by his wife, Zenaida Zapanta-Rinonos, and by his daughter, Dr. Serendipity Zapanta Rinonos. A memorial service for Edwin Rinonos will be held on Monday, May 5 at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** supports three programs - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Committee on the Self-Development of People - which all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Use the special envelopes in the pews or mail a check to the church with "One Great Hour" in the memo line.

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**Thank you for joining us in worship today.** We pray that you experience Christ's presence in our midst and that His presence will sustain you in the week ahead. Visitors are welcome to participate in the worship and the work of First Presbyterian Church. You can find a "Three Steps to Membership" card with information about how to join the church in the pew racks. If you feel a call to commit your life to Jesus Christ and His Church, please speak to the pastor or an elder after worship.

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Hults - [pastor@1stpc.org](mailto:pastor@1stpc.org)

### Director of Music and Organist

Mitch Rorick - [music@1stpc.org](mailto:music@1stpc.org)

### Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

Fred Lundy - [youngadult@1stpc.org](mailto:youngadult@1stpc.org)

### Parish Associate, Director of College Ministry

Rev. Scott Stuart - [college@1stpc.org](mailto:college@1stpc.org)

### Preschool Director

Lisa Hershkowitz - [preschool@1stpc.org](mailto:preschool@1stpc.org)

### Business Manager

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### Event Sexton and Music Clerk

Andrew Netardus - [events@1stpc.org](mailto:events@1stpc.org)


### Head Sexton - Tony Cogdill

Sexton - Margaret Hill

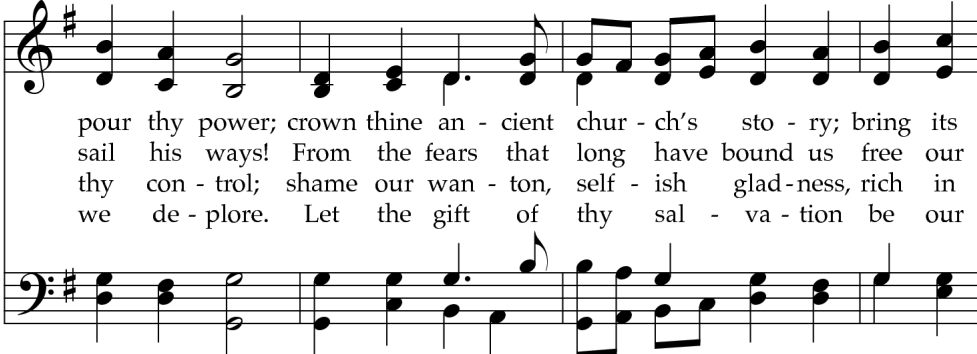
### Property Coordinator

John Rayl - [png.1stpc@gmail.com](mailto:png.1stpc@gmail.com)

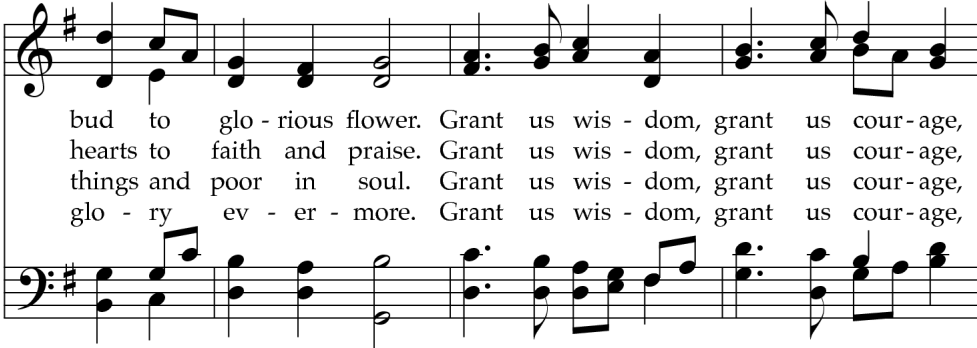
## 307 God of Grace and God of Glory



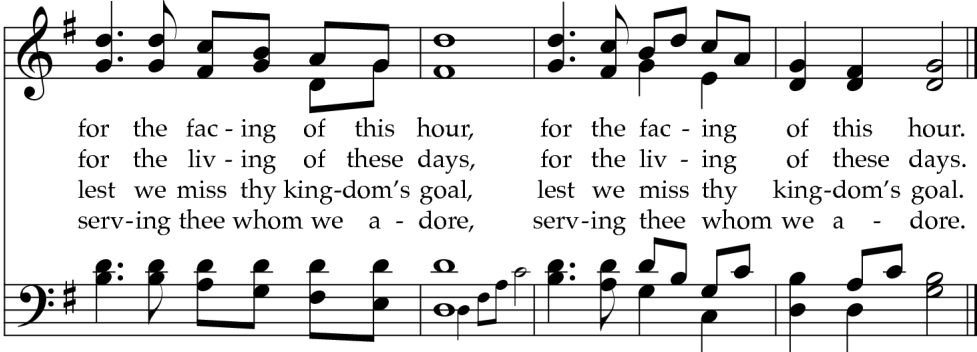
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple  
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -  
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our  
thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in  
we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our



bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters,<sup>2</sup> not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. <sup>4</sup> He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. <sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

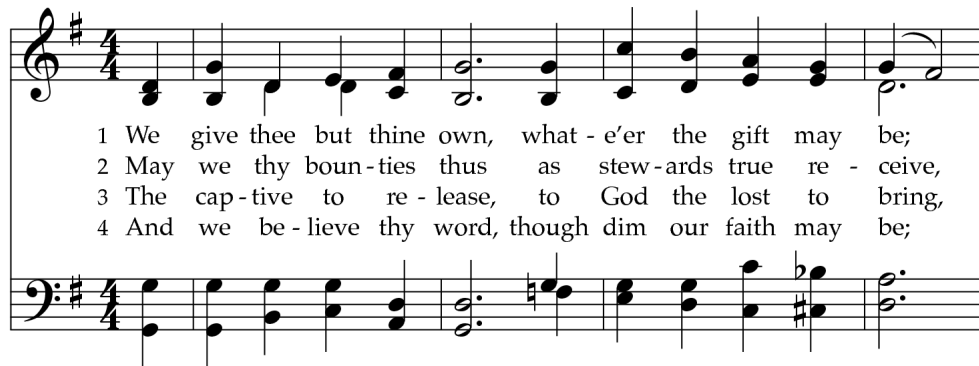
Haggai 2:1-9 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: <sup>2</sup> Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, <sup>3</sup> Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? <sup>4</sup> Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, <sup>5</sup> according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. <sup>6</sup> For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; <sup>7</sup> and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>8</sup> The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>9</sup> The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

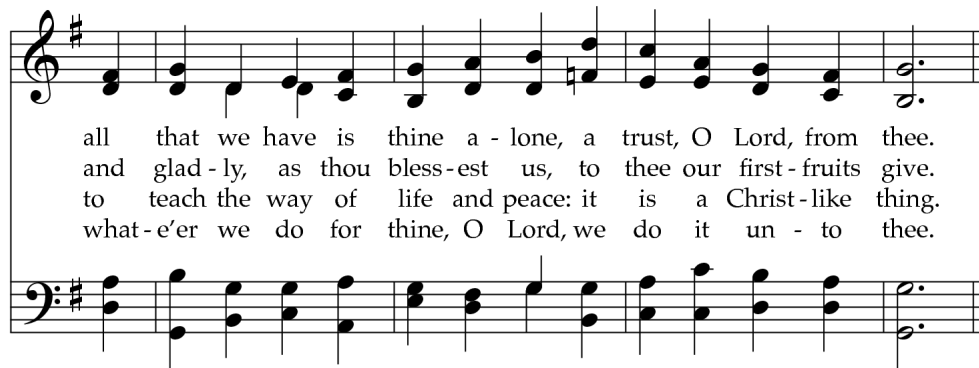
This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## We Give Thee but Thine Own 708



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
 2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re - ceive,  
 3 The cap-tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be;



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
 to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ - like thing.  
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Each successive stanza here expands the implications of the familiar affirmation of the first one. Much more than a concern with money, stewardship shapes our relationship with God and with other people. Despite this tune's name, no source has been found in Schumann's works.



## *Class of 2025*

### High School Graduates

Emerson Barat  
Phillip Peddie

Marin Best  
Cordelia Pfund

Oliver Dowling  
Morgan Witt

**Emerson Barat** is the daughter of Alison & Shawn Barat and will graduate from Gainesville High School on May 31. She has been involved in Senior Choir, Joyful Ringers, LOGOS, Youth Connection, has attended Montreat, and has often shared her musical talent on French horn in worship. She is a member of the GHS Marching and Symphonic bands, is the French horn section leader, has participated in All-County and All-State ensembles, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Emerson will be attending Appalachian State University in Boone, NC in the fall, where she will major in Music Performance.

**Marin Best** is the daughter of Todd & Holli Best and will graduate from P.K. Yonge on May 23. At P.K. Yonge she has been involved in varsity swimming and soccer, as well as National Honors Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Feminist Club; and at First Pres, she has participated in various choirs, handbells, LOGOS, and youth group throughout her time. Marin plans to attend the University of Missouri and major in Natural Resource Management and Journalism.

**Oliver Dowling** is the son of Greg & Margaret Dowling and will graduate from F.W. Buchholz High School on May 30, 2025. He has been involved in soccer, student government, and the Academy of Entrepreneurship at Buchholz and participated in LOGOS here at First Pres. Oliver plans to attend Florida State University in the fall, where he will major in civil engineering.

**Phillip Peddie** is the son of Brian & Susannah Peddie and will graduate from Oak Hall School on May 23, 2025. He has been involved in Youth in Government, cross country, and track. Phillip plans to attend New York University, where he will major in biomolecular science with a minor in finance.

**Cordelia Pfund** is the daughter of Christopher & Lynette Pfund and is graduating from Buchholz High School on May 30, 2025. She has been involved in several music activities at First Presbyterian this year, performing violin with her parents. Cordelia will be attending the UF School of Music in the fall, where she will be studying oboe and English. She is very excited to travel to Verona, Italy this summer with her parents during her father's three-week teaching job with the young artist program, *Opera Viva!*

**Morgan Witt** is the son of Jesse & Linda Williams and will graduate from Santa Fe High School on May 31, 2025. He has been involved in biotechnology and music. Morgan plans to attend Santa Fe College, where he will major in biotechnology and performance arts.



## Ministry Highlights

Visit our growing website  
for more about our church  
and ministries.



### Something New for Senior Adults

On Saturday, May 17 at 12 p.m., we will host a meeting for senior adults of the congregation in Gordon Hall, to present ideas for future meetings: organization, format, frequency, timing, etc. There will be time for discussion and suggestions as well as an opportunity to socialize and enjoy a light lunch. We hope you can attend. Please RSVP to Jeanne Davis so we can plan for food: (352) 226-6643 or [davis\\_jeanne@hotmail.com](mailto:davis_jeanne@hotmail.com).



### Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering Lunch

After worship on Sunday, May 18, Presbyterian Women will sponsor a Birthday Offering lunch in Gordon Memorial Hall. Everyone is invited and there is no charge for lunch, but reservations will let us know how much to prepare. Please RSVP to the church office.

### Noteworthy Sponsor

On June 14, children, youth, and adults from our church will travel to Montreat, NC for the 2025 Worship & Music Conference. Please consider becoming a Noteworthy Sponsor. Donations may be placed in the offering plate with the memo "Montreat Noteworthy Sponsor" or mailed to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.



### Summer Choir

This year, the Summer Choir will sing Sunday, May 4 & 18, and June 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. Join us! It is not necessary for members of the Summer Choir to attend every summer Sunday. For more information, please contact Mitch Rorick at [music@1stpc.org](mailto:music@1stpc.org).



### Parking Lot Gates

**\*\*The west gate is not functioning at this time.\*\*** When it is fixed, the gates in our main lot will be open on Sunday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. They are closed on Saturdays. If you are in the lot when the gates close, you can always get out. Please do not park in the reserved spots with yellow numbers 1-100 during business hours. If you have any trouble, please call John Rayl at (352) 577-2082.

*Children's worship guides are available at all entrances.*

## Stewardship Focus

### IF I GIVE

If I give so that I will be rewarded, God is a Santa Claus.

If I give to claim an exemption on my tax form, God is a CPA.

If I give to impress my friends, then my God is a public-relations agent.

If I give to avoid punishment, God is a bandit.

If I give to express my love, and so that others may hear the Gospel, God is God.

St. Paul would be happy, I think, if we remembered what he said,

*"Everyone according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, nor of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

-The Stewardship Committee

## Weekly Figures

In-Person Attendance 4/27	146
Weekly Budget Requirement	<b>\$38,129</b>
Received Week of 4/27/25	\$10,981
Weekly Offering	\$3,118
Designated Offerings	\$3,225
Other Revenue	\$4,608
Preschool	--
<b>FPC Fiscal Year: July 2024-June 2025</b>	
YTD Budget Requirements	<b>\$1,639,540</b>
YTD Received	\$1,406,747
YTD Expenses	\$1,492,606


## Online Contributions



Visit our website, [www.1stpc.org](http://www.1stpc.org), to make an online donation. Click the GIVE button at the top of the page. You can contribute to the General Budget or use the drop-down menu, change to Other, and specify the designated ministry in the memo section. Text contributions, bill pay through your bank, and electronic funds transfers are also options. Contact Trudy Bonerba.



T-Coil installed in the sanctuary, and Hearing Assist devices available in the Narthex.

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 **now from 9-10 a.m.** for our televised broadcast  or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts

Current Worship video, audio, and archives at [1stpc.org](http://1stpc.org)



## Ministries

At **First Presbyterian Preschool**, children are fully prepared for school in a caring, Christian environment. Classes are offered 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Early Childhood Accredited.

Our **Children and Youth Ministries** provide a multi-generational approach of Christian example as the church family comes alongside parents to lead children to become fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Nursery Care** during worship for children 6 weeks through pre-kindergarten. Contact: Jenna Mueller - [jdmueller2009@gmail.com](mailto:jdmueller2009@gmail.com)

Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade children are released from worship for **Kids-4-God** to spend time growing their faith. After the service, families meet in Gordon Hall. Contact: Evelyn Lewis - [citytr122@gmail.com](mailto:citytr122@gmail.com)

**LOGOS** is a mid-week ministry with worship arts, Bible time, recreation, and family dinner for students age 3 through high school. Contact Bev Vloedman to RSVP for 6 p.m. dinner at [dvloedman@aol.com](mailto:dvloedman@aol.com).

**Youth Connection** meets for fellowship and food with Bible study and mentoring for students in grades 6-12.

Our **College Ministry** seeks to launch students into a life of pursuing Christ, trusting in Him, and growing with others. Join us for Sunday worship & lunch and Tuesday Bible study. Bring a friend!

**Young Adult & Family Ministry (YA&FM)** is for marrieds and singles, with or without kids, in grad school or in vocation. We gather for Bible Studies and to get to know each other better and would love the chance to do life with you.

With choirs for ages three and above, our **Music Ministry** welcomes everyone to sing or ring and to dedicate their music to God. Our concert season includes Concerts for a Cause, which support local and global mission partners.

## Staff

Senior Pastor

REV. MARK HULTS - [pastor@1stpc.org](mailto:pastor@1stpc.org)

Director of Music and Organist

MITCH RORICK - [music@1stpc.org](mailto:music@1stpc.org)

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

FRED LUNDY - [youngadult@1stpc.org](mailto:youngadult@1stpc.org)

Parish Associate, Director of College Ministry

REV. SCOTT STUART - [college@1stpc.org](mailto:college@1stpc.org)

Preschool Director

LISA HERSHKOWITZ - [preschool@1stpc.org](mailto:preschool@1stpc.org)

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Property Coordinator

JOHN RAYL - [png.1stpc@gmail.com](mailto:png.1stpc@gmail.com)

Head Sexton

TONY COGDILL

Sexton

MARGARET HILL

Glorify God  
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ  
Meet Human Needs



## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, May 4, 2025

8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel

9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Obadiah - Ross Teigen - Library

9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School - Room 201

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir - Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Rm 204

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Rm 217

### High School Graduation Sunday

### Monday, May 5, 2025

11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Edwin Rinonos - Sanctuary  
with Reception - Gordon Memorial Hall

### Tuesday, May 6, 2025

2:15 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor

6:30 p.m. Circle 5 Presbyterian Women (PW) Bible Study  
Questions? Contact Bev Vloedman - [dvloedman@aol.com](mailto:dvloedman@aol.com)

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor

### Wednesday, May 7, 2025

1:30 p.m. Chocolate Lovers PW Bible Study - Parlor

Questions? Contact Betsy Berry - [betsypwberry@gmail.com](mailto:betsypwberry@gmail.com)

### Thursday, May 8, 2025

### Friday, May 9, 2025

### Saturday, May 10, 2025

2:00 p.m. Gainesville Youth Chorus and Alachua County Youth  
Orchestra Concert - Sanctuary

### Sunday, May 11, 2025

### Mother's Day

8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel

9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Jonah - Tim Schubert - Library

9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School - Room 201

10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Rm 204

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Rm 217

## Share Your Ideas

Thank you for attending the congregational meeting last Sunday, April 27. A presentation was given by the chairs of the Budget & Finance committee and Trustees, Dick Rauber and Ken Mears, with a focus on the challenges and opportunities for our church as we approach a new fiscal year. At this meeting, congregants began sharing ideas. If you would like to share an idea for supporting and growing our church please either submit your idea at <https://www.1stpc.org/ideas> or in the suggestion box in Gordon Hall.