

GATHERING

As I open my eyes, I want to feel your Word, living and active and guiding my way. I want to live knowing that what is impossible for me is possible for you. I want to live with the certitude that those who are first will be last, and the last will be first. Give me the courage and the hope to live with your words in my mind for the rest of the day. In Jesus Christ, my teacher, I pray. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Andy Vloedman

PRELUDE

Through Love to Light

E. Hagenberg

Through love to light! Oh wonderful the way, through love, that leads from darkness to the perfect day! From darkness and from sorrow of the night to morning that comes singing o'er the sea. Through love to light! Through light, O God, to thee who art the love, the love of love, the eternal light, the light of light! Through love to light!

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus said to them,

I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Jesus and His Father testified to his identity.

*** HYMN 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of justice and mercy, we confess that we put ourselves first and trust in things that will not last. We desire the evil and scorn the good; we gather up power and wealth and push aside the needy in our way. O Lord, be gracious to us in spite of our great sin. Teach us to love your justice and share in your mercy. Help us to seek the treasure of heavenly life with you; through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-3 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 690

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

Jesus Loves Me!

W. Bradbury

Alleluia Choir; Alek Concepción, conductor

*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong. Yes,
Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so!*

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Holli Best

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

* **HYMN 182**

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD

GOSPEL READING

John 8:12-20 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 101

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

I Am the Light of the World

Rev. Mark Hults

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING

* **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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (11 A.M.)

I Am the Light of Nations

H. Hopson

O sing alleluia, sing alleluia! I am the light of nations, light for the whole wide world, the light that repels the darkness, and guides all who follow me in faith. God is our light, God is our peace, sing alleluia! God is our love, God is our light, God is our peace, God is our love, I am the light of nations, O sing alleluia, light for the whole world, the light that repels the darkness and guides all who follow me in faith. God is our light, God is our peace, God is our love, God is our light, God is our peace, O sing alleluia!

* **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 192**

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE**

Processional in G

S. Eithun

Jubilate Ringers

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Holli Best, Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Scott Stuart

ELDER ON DUTY: Colin Conerly

ACOLYTE: Travis Fosser

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST: Anait Piloyan

CHANCEL CHOIR

CHAPEL USHER: Tom Chamberlain; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** College Trajectory

A/V TEAM: Bruce Brashear, John Rayl

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God and in honor of Cretora Biggerstaff from family.

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT: We extend our sympathy and offer the prayers of our congregation to Jim Lowry upon the passing of his wife, Anita Lowry, who joined the Church Triumphant on September 20, 2024. A funeral will be held on Monday, October 14 at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Iona Chapel.

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT: We extend our sympathy and offer the prayers of our congregation to the family of Brittany Robinson, who joined the Church Triumphant on September 27, 2024. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, October 15 at 4 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

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.

Prayer of Belief: *Lord Jesus Christ, I admit I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and offering forgiveness. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior. Amen.* (If you are saying this prayer for the first time today, please let the pastor or elders on duty know.)

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Leon & Jayne Fox, and Carol Hayes-Christiansen. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala.

Leadership

Rev. Mark Hults
Pastor

Carol Israel
Clerk of Session

Dink Henderson
Treasurer

Session

Diaconate

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Fleetwood Fleming	Pam Bailey	Rachel Coffey
Carol Israel	Greg Dowling	Colin Conerly
Joe Mueller	Andy Greer	BarBee Geiger
Elisa Neale-Tobener	Margaret Lingg	Evelyn Lewis
Geoff Spiegel	Susannah Peddie	Coleen O'Brien
Alexis Vellis	Dick Rauber	Rose Anna Rutledge
Sarah Whitfield	Steve Walker	Eileen Stephens

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Holli Best	Mark Coffey	Buzz Boyd
Megan Greer	Mimi Gray	Mimi Carr
Fred Lewis	Dean Schoenfeld	Bob Tucker
	Jane Smith	Beth Wood

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO
 11.11.11.11

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-3 (NRSV)

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and

found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

GOSPEL READING

John 8:12-20 (NRSV)

¹²Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." ¹³Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid." ¹⁴Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge by human standards; I judge no one. ¹⁶Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. ¹⁸I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf." ¹⁹Then they said to him, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." ²⁰He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining Shine, Jesus, Shine

Capo 2: (G) (C) (G) (D) (G)

A D A E A



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the
2 Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the
3 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our

(C) (G) (D) (C) (D)

D A E D E



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; by the blood I may
fac - es dis - play your like - ness; ev - er chang - ing from

(Bm7) (Em7) (C) (D) (Bm7)

C#m7 F#m7 D E C#m7



World, shine up - on us; set us free by the truth you now
en - ter your bright-ness. Search me; try me; con - sume all my
glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our lives tell you

(Em7) (F) (Dsus)(D) (F) (Dsus)(D)
 F#m7 G Esus E G Esus E

bring us. Shine on me; shine on me.
 dark - ness. Shine on me; shine on me.
 sto - ry. Shine on me; shine on me.

Refrain (G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)
 A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (Am/G) (F) (D7sus)(D7)
 A E F#m D A Bm Bm/A G E7sus E7

Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)
 A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 A E F#m D A Bm E7 A

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8/Mark 9:2-8/Luke 9:28-36). This is the most popular of the author/composer's many songs.

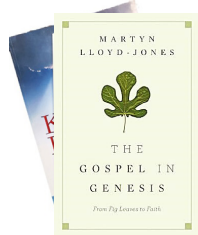
TEXT and MUSIC: Graham Kendrick, 1987
 Text and Music © 1987 Make Way Music (admin. Music Services)

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE
 Irregular

Reprinted with permission under CCLI #2742913 and #CSPL091568. All rights reserved.

Ministry Highlights

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



New Sunday School | Bible Study | Discipleship Class

Continuing today, October 13, the Multiply Class will study the first book of the Bible, Genesis, Chapters 1-11, led by Scott Stuart and Fred Lundy in Room 201 of the 2nd Floor of the Education Building. In this book of "origins," we will explore the beginnings of the world, the human race, sin and sacrifice, reconciliation and redemption. We will see the very beginning of God's endless pursuit of His people and the people's tendency to rebel and run away. For more information, contact Fred Lundy at youngadult@1stpc.org.

MONTREAT
LEAD US HOMEWARD 2024



Montreat Luncheon

The Annual Montreat Worship and Music Conference Luncheon is Sunday, October 27 at 12 p.m. in Gordon Hall. Please join us as we share memories of Montreat 2024 and say thank you for your support. RSVP to (352) 378-1527 or communications@1stpc.org. Cost is \$10 per person or a maximum \$35 per family.



Fall Means Sweetie Pies

A Sweetie Pie is a delicious pie lovingly made by volunteers and is a fundraising event for the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. A variety of pies are available frozen raw and order cards can be found in the pews and the upcoming Advent Bugle. Pies are made on Friday and Saturday mornings in the church kitchen from 9 a.m. to about 1 p.m. Anyone can help; no experience is necessary. Contact Carol Israel with questions, to help, or to order at ceisrael@cox.net.



Reframe Your Political Identity

This week offers one more opportunity to join *The After Party: Toward Better Christian Politics* discussion. Rev. Mark Hults will host a Zoom session at 7 p.m. this Tuesday, October 15 on this free course which helps you reorient towards a Christ-centered political identity. If you have any questions, please call our office.



Homecoming 2024

Plan now to park at the church this Friday morning, October 18, for the homecoming parade. Donations for parking will be accepted in the big lot on SW 2nd Avenue on Friday beginning at 9 a.m. Proceeds benefit our youth attending Montreat. *The church office will also be closed on Friday, October 18.*



Preschool Fall Festival

The preschool is looking for volunteers to help at the Fall Festival on Thursday, October 31. Arrive at 9:15 a.m. to run games and give out prizes. Celebrate with our families at this fun event. Contact Lisa Hershkowitz at preschool@1stpc.org with questions or to volunteer.

Pick-up a calendar page from the ushers for all this week's ministry events or print one from the weekly invite email. Children's worship guides are available at all entrances.


Online Contributions



Visit our website, 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 and audio as well as archives at 1stpc.org

CCLI License #2742913 & CCLI Streaming #CSPL091568

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

Kindergarten through 2nd 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

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.

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

Director of Music and Organist

MITCH RORICK - music@1stpc.org

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

FRED LUNDY - youngadult@1stpc.org

Parish Associate, Director of College Ministry

REV. SCOTT STUART - college@1stpc.org

Preschool Director

LISA HERSHKOWITZ - preschool@1stpc.org

Business Manager

TRUDY BONERBA - business@1stpc.org

Operations and Administrative Associate

LAURA MONTGOMERY - assistant@1stpc.org

Communications Specialist

JENNY CHAMBERLAIN - communications@1stpc.org

Event Sexton and Music Clerk

ANDREW NETARDUS - events@1stpc.org

Property Coordinator

JOHN RAYL - png.1stpc@gmail.com

Head Sexton

TONY COGDILL

Sexton

MARGARET HILL

Glorify God
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ
Meet Human Needs



First Presbyterian
Church of Gainesville

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 13, 2024

- 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: John 6 - Serendipity Rinonos - Library
- 9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School: Genesis - Rm 201
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Alleluia Choir Breakfast & Rehearsal - Gordon Hall
- 10:20 a.m. Jubilate Ringers - Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery - Rm 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Rm 217
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Cafe - Serving Room
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Connection - Rm 211

Monday, October 14, 2024

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

- 2:15 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. College Trajectory Bible Study - Gordon Hall
- 7:00 p.m. The After Party with Pastor Mark - Zoom

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

- 3:45 p.m. LOGOS
- 6:00 p.m. LOGOS Family Time - Homecoming Night
- 6:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers - Bell Room 215
- 6:45 p.m. YA&FM Bible Study

Thursday, October 17, 2024

- 6:00 p.m. Carol Ringers
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, October 18, 2024

Church Office & Preschool Closed

- 9:00 a.m. Homecoming Parade Parking - Big Church Lot
- 9:00 a.m. Pie Making - Kitchen & Serving Room

Saturday, October 19, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Pie Making - Kitchen & Serving Room

Sunday, October 20, 2024

- 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: John 7 - Rick Palmer - Library
- 9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School: Genesis - Rm 201
- 10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery - Rm 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Rm 217
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Cafe - Serving Room