

**GATHERING**

*Holy Spirit, enliven in us faith and witness, that through deepened prayer we might rise to action in service of the gospel. Amen.*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

Adagio for Strings

S. Barber, arr. W. Strickland

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus calls us by saying, "Follow me."

**We rise, leave everything, and follow him.**

When the religious elite see us at Jesus' table, they deride.

**Jesus says, "I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."**

**\* HYMN 401**

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, we confess that we are an anxious people who deny your blessing and fail to keep your word. Forgive us, we pray, for these and all our sins, that we might live in peace and reflect your love in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. 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**

Psalm 86:1-11 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 544

**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM (11 A.M.)**

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

M. Hayes

Kate Vellis, mezzo-soprano

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne. Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood. Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His blood. Alleluia!*

*Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now. Alleluia! He is near us; faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received Him when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore"? Alleluia! Bread of heaven, You on earth our food and stay! Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to You from day to day. Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.*

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)**

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

\* **HYMN 442** Just as I Am, without One Plea WOODWORTH

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 5:27-32 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

NT pg. 63

**SERMON**

Dinner with Jesus: Who You Eat With

Jonathon Haney

**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.**

**MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP (11 A.M.)**

Vi Asmuth

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

Lord of the Small  
*Kate Vellis, mezzo-soprano*

D. Forrest

*Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things, Who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing, Who loves the lame child, and the wretch in the street, Who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet. Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid, Who girds them with courage and lends them His aid; He pours out His spirit on vessels so weak that the timid can serve and the silent can speak. Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill, Who heals their afflictions, or carries them till they leave this tired frame and to paradise fly, to never be sick and never to die. Praise Him, O praise Him, all ye who live, who've been given so much and can so little give, our frail, lisping praise God will never despise: He sees His dear children through mercy-filled eyes.*

\* **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 8** Eternal Father, Strong to Save MELITA

\* **BENEDICTION**

\* **POSTLUDE** Alleluia! Sing to Jesus R. Vaughn Williams

## TODAY IN WORSHIP

**WORSHIP LEADERS:** Jonathon, Haney, Mark Hults, Scott Stuart

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Heather Mears

**ACOLYTE:** Bella de Fretes

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

**CHAPEL USHER:** Jeanne Thomas; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Young Adult & Family Ministries

**A/V TEAM:** Troy Bleeker, Frank Counts, Dania Moreno, Elijah West

**THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rev. Robert C. Asmuth by his wife, Vi Asmuth, and his children, John, Paul, and Cindi.

**THE ROSE ON THE BAPTISMAL FONT** today is given to the glory of God and with joy and thanksgiving to announce the birth of Ethan Bernard on May 6, 2025. He is the son of Andrew and Victoria and brother to Rowan.

**THE PENTECOST OFFERING** unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and gifts with the church and the world. It is unique in that 40% of our total amount received will stay here to support work with at-risk children, youth, and young adults in our local community, 50% supports Presbytery ministries with youth and young adults, and 10% supports child advocacy/children at risk. Use the special envelopes in the pews between now and June 8 or write "Pentecost Offering" in the memo line when you give.

**TODAY BEGINS A NEW SERMON SERIES** titled "Dinner with Jesus." The gathering hymn (*Here in This Place*) and hymn of the day (*Just as I Am, without One Plea*) speak especially to sermon passage from Luke. *Here in This Place* is also part of the GATHERING section of *Glory to God*, hymns that work well to begin a worship service. The anthem (*Alleluia, Sing to Jesus*), offertory (*Lord of the Small*), and postlude (*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*), were chosen for how they relate to the Luke passage.

On this weekend (Memorial Day Weekend), we also reflect and remember those who have died in service to our county. Our sending hymn (*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*), is known as the Navy Hymn. The prelude (*Adagio for Strings*) is frequently heard throughout the world during times of mourning, and seemed appropriate for this weekend.

Our anthem and offertory soloist is Kate Vellis, PA. During the day she is an Advanced Practice Professional for Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute (FCS) in Gainesville. She specializes in the supportive care and treatment of patients recovering from cancer and blood disorders. Kate has been a member of the Chancel Choir for many years, and we are grateful to her for continuing to share her musical gifts with us today.

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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.

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

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# Here in This Place

## Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Psalm 86:1-11 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.<sup>2</sup> Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God;<sup>3</sup> be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.<sup>4</sup> Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.<sup>5</sup> For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.<sup>6</sup> Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.<sup>7</sup> In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.

<sup>8</sup> There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.<sup>9</sup> All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.<sup>10</sup> For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 5:27-32 (NRSV)

<sup>27</sup> After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."<sup>28</sup> And he got up, left everything, and followed him.

<sup>29</sup> Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others sitting at the table with them.<sup>30</sup> The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"<sup>31</sup> Jesus answered, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick;<sup>32</sup> I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

FORGIVENESS

# 442 Just as I Am, without One Plea

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya  
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,  
 4 Just as I am, thy love un-known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me  
 con - flict, man - ya doubt, fight - ings and fears with -  
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise  
 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

come to thee,  
 in, with - out,  
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!  
 thine a - lone,

When illness limited her involvement in a bustling household, the author wrote this hymn that helped her both to achieve and to express a renewed sense of worth grounded in Christ's self-giving. Its simple, direct, and deeply felt language has made it a source of comfort to many.

TEXT: Charlotte Elliott, 1834, alt.; Spanish trans. Tomás M. Westrup, alt; Korean trans. anon.  
 MUSIC: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1849; harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955  
 Korean Trans. © *The Hymnal Society of Korea*  
 Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

WOODWORTH  
 LM

# 8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, all trav - elers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
 wild and rude, and bade its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
 calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we  
 gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

The year after this text was written for a student sailing to America, it was included in the most influential British hymnal of the 19th century. The tune especially composed for it preserves the ancient Roman name of the island where Paul was shipwrecked, now called Malta.



### Chattanooga Boys Choir Concert

The acclaimed Chattanooga Boys Choir will perform in concert on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. This event is part of the choir's 2025 summer tour entitled *We Are the Music Makers*, a celebration of youth, creativity, and the unifying power of song. In addition to an evening of inspiring choral music, the concert offers a special opportunity for local youth singers to take part in the performance. Young singers from the Gainesville area are invited to sing. Under the direction of Vincent Oakes, the Chattanooga Boys Choir has delighted audiences across the country and around the world for over 70 years. The concert will include a varied selection of repertoire including both traditional favorites and contemporary selections – all reflecting the spirit of the tour. For more information, please contact Mitch Rorick at [music@1stpc.org](mailto:music@1stpc.org).



### Share Your Ideas

Thank you for attending the congregational meeting in April. 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 to the offering plate using the cream pew card, at <https://www.1stpc.org/ideas>, or in the suggestion box in Gordon Hall.

### Where to Park in Our Main Lot

During business hours Monday through Friday, please park in the spaces with WHITE numbers (101 and higher) on the east and north sides of the lot. Please do not park in the reserved spots with YELLOW numbers (1-100) during weekday business hours. All spots are available on Sunday mornings. Currently, the gates in our main lot are 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. More updates and information to come. If you have any trouble, please call John Rayl at (352) 577-2082.



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

## 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 during the school year with worship arts, Bible time, recreation, and family dinner for students age 3 through high school. Contact Bev Vloedman with questions [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

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Head Sexton

TONY COGDILL

Sexton

MARGARET HILL

Glorify God  
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ  
Meet Human Needs



## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, May 25, 2025

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

9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Nahum - Bob Bailey - Library

9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School: John 21:1-25 - Room 201

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

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

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

### Monday, May 26, 2025

Memorial Day

Church office and Preschool Closed

### Tuesday, May 27, 2025

2:15 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor

7:00 p.m. First Summer College Trajectory Bible Study

### Wednesday, May 28, 2025

7:15 p.m. Session - Zoom

### Thursday, May 29, 2025

6:00 p.m. Handbells - Room 215

### Friday, May 30, 2025

### Saturday, May 31, 2025

### Sunday, June 1, 2025

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

9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Habakkuk - Perry Foote - Library

9:30 a.m. Multiply Class: Matt 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-20 - Rm 201

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

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

## Stewardship Focus

All too often, Stewardship is regarded as just another fundraising operation. However, it is not the claims of a budget, but rather the claim of Almighty God upon each one of our lives that we are called to reaffirm. We are reminded that we do not own the world, nor does the world owe us a living. Everything that we have is on loan, lent for our use by the providence of God. Reluctant though we might be to admit it, anything we have achieved in life is through Him whose we are and whom we are committed to serve.

When this fact of our total dependence upon God for our very existence and survival really grasps us, it totally changes our attitude to our possessions. Instead of asking how much we can spare for God's work, we begin to ask how much we dare keep back to spend upon ourselves. Our gifts should be the first claim upon our giving of money, time, and talents as part of the total offering of our lives to God.

As we enter this Stewardship season, may God grant that we may return some small part of the immense debt of gratitude we all owe to our Lord who in Christ Jesus has given us the Gospel of His amazing love. *"Give and it shall be given to you ...."*

Faithfully,  
Your Stewardship Committee


## 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)