

GATHERING

Lord Jesus Christ, like the sun that fills the morning sky, you are the light that banishes the darkness of the world. Sun of Righteousness, arise in my heart, fill me with the radiance of your love, and display the light of your saving grace until I shine with the joy of life everlasting. In Your Name, Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

How Beautiful upon the Mountains
Delaney Geiser, soloist

F. F. Harker

Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high, and look about toward the east, and behold thy children gathered from the west and from the east by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! The glorious majesty of the Lord shall endure forever; the Lord shall rejoice in all His works. The earth shall tremble at the look of Him: if He do but touch the hills, they shall smoke. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will praise my God while I have my being.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news, who announces salvation.
Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

* HYMN 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, you lived for us, we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us, we have not forgiven others. You have loved us, we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another. Take pity on us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us to love through Christ our Lord. 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

Romans 10:14-17 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 160

Thanks be to God.

Chinese Folksong, Translated
ANTHEM (11 A.M.) Pengyou, Ting (Listen, My Friends) L. Ding and
C. M. Hawn
Friend, listen to this Good News. Jesus descended to earth to save you. Originally he was God in heaven. He came especially to save the people of the world. Listen, listen, listen to this Good News. Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ descended to earth for to save me, to save you.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.) Fred Lundy
(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God.)

* **HYMN 270** O Lord, You Are My God and King JERUSALEM

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 52:7-12 (NRSV)
This is the Word of the Lord. OT pg. 683
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Gospel of the Kingdom 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 How Beautiful Are the Feet G.F. Handel
Delaney Geiser, soloist

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.

* **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 134** Joy to the World ANTIOCH

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE** Toccata on How Firm a Foundation C. Phillips

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Jonathon Haney, Mark Hults, Fred Lundy

ELDER ON DUTY: Steve Walker

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST: Shiyi Zhu

CHANCEL CHOIR

8:30 USHER: Rose Anna Rutledge; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Roger Bachmann, Maralyn Foote, Perry Foote

A/V TEAM: Owen Best, Kaylee Bleeker, Jack Harling, John Rayl

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God, in honor of Madolyn Braley, and in memory of Gordon Braley and Sid & Evelyn Counts by Frank and Kathy Braley Counts.

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Clarice Anderson for her 107th birthday by Eileen, Caraline, and Jacob Stephens.

TODAY, AS THE SERVICE CENTERS ON "GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM," the Scriptural passages are Romans 10:14-17 and Isaiah 52:7-12. In both readings, we see the phrase "*Good News*." Our opening hymn, "Hear the Good News of Salvation," has "*Good News*" in the title. This same phrase appears in our anthem, "Pengyou, Ting." We are thankful to Shiyi Zhu, First Presbyterian Church Collaborative Pianist, for helping us with the Chinese pronunciation of this anthem. She was born and raised in Gulangyu Island, acclaimed as the "*Island of Music*" in China. Our hymn of the day, "O Lord, You Are My God and King," is based on the tune JERUSALEM. On September 6, Dr. Serendipity Zapanta Rinonos played this tune as a violin solo as we considered the "New Jerusalem." This week, we read Isaiah 52:7 which says, "*Your God reigns*." The hymn of the day is from the JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN section of the *Glory to God* hymnal and seems fitting for the idea of the reign of God. Our sending hymn, "Joy to the World," and postlude, "Toccata on How Firm a Foundation," connect with Isaiah 52:7-10. While we usually sing "Joy to the World" for Christmas, the text writer of this hymn, Isaac Watts, did not write the text strictly for Christmas use. Also, it's nice to sing this beloved hymn at more than one time of the year.

We are thankful to choral scholar Delaney Geiser for singing the prelude and postlude. The prelude, "How Beautiful upon the Mountains," draws inspiration from a variety of texts. One of these texts is Isaiah 52:7, our Old Testament reading. The offertory, "How Beautiful are the Feet," is from G.F. Handel's famous oratorio *Messiah*. The text is from Romans 10:15, which you will hear in our New Testament reading today.

ACTION FOR THIS WEEK: How might you share the Good News with others?

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. 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: Leon & Jayne Fox and Jed Keesling. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, Faith Thompson, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala.

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

Director of College Ministry

Jonathon Haney - college@1stpc.org

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Head Sexton - Tony Cogdill

Sexton - Margaret Hill

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Hear the Good News of Salvation 441

Wotanin waste nahon po

1 Hear the good news of sal - va - tion: Je - sus died to show God's love.
 2 All the sins I have com - mit - ted, to my Sav - ior now I bring.

1 Wo - tan - in wa - ste na - hon po, Je - sus he wa - i - hdu - sna:
 2 Wo - a - hta - ni kin e - ca - mon, hdu - ha Je - sus si - ha en,



Such great kind - ness! Such great mer - cy! Come to us from heaven a - bove.
 I bow down with tears of an - guish; Christ for - gives and so I sing:

to - wa - o - si - da kin tan - ka, he de - han i - yo - ma - hi.
 kun i - wa - hpa - mda wa - ce - ya, Je - sus on - si - ma - da ce.



Je - sus Christ, how much I love you! Je - sus Christ, you save from sin!

Je - sus Christ wa - ste - wa - da - ka, Je - sus Christ ni - ma - yan: han, wa -



How I love you! Look up - on me. Love me still and cleanse with - in.

ste - wa - da - ke a - ma - ton - we is e - ya wa - ste - ma - da.



This text, originally appearing in four stanzas, was written by the first Native American Dakota to be ordained to the Presbyterian ministry and was published in the Dakota hymnal he edited. Both the Dakota and English versions have been associated with this shape note tune.

TEXT: Native American (Dakota); John B. Renville, 1879; trans. Emma Tibbets, 1955; vers. Jane Parker Huber, 1989
 MUSIC: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813
 English Trans. Metrical Version © 1989 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

NETTLETON
 8.7.8.7.D

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 10:14-17 (NRSV)

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" ¹⁶ But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" ¹⁷ So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:7-12 (NRSV)

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹ Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

¹¹ Depart, depart, go out from there! Touch no unclean thing; go out from the midst of it, purify yourselves, you who carry the vessels of the Lord.

¹² For you shall not go out in haste, and you shall not go in flight; for the Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O Lord, You Are My God and King 270

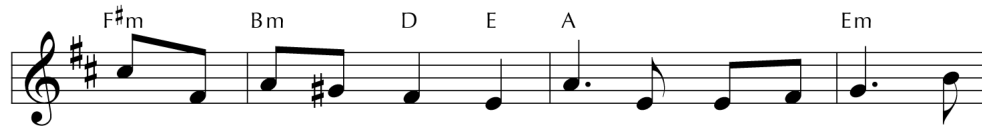
(Psalm 145)



1 O Lord, you are my God and King, and I will
 2 How rich in grace are you, O Lord, full of com -
 3 Your works will give you thanks, O Lord; your saints your



ev - er bless your name; I will ex - tol you ev - ery day, and
 pas - sion, mer - ci - ful, your an - ger al - ways slow to rise; your
 might - y acts will show, till all the peo - ples of the earth your



ev - er - more your praise pro - claim. You, Lord, are great - ly
 stead - fast love you show to all, for you are good in
 king - dom, pow - er, glo - ry know. E - ter - nal is your



to be praised; your great - ness is be - yond our thought; all
 all your ways; your crea - tures know your con - stant care. To
 king - dom, Lord, for - ev - er strong, for - ev - er sure; while



gen - er - a - tions shall tell forth the might - y won - ders you have wrought.
 all your works your love ex - tends; all souls your ten - der mer - cies share.
 gen - er - a - tions rise and die, your high do - min - ion will en - dure.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this paraphrase of Psalm 145 is abbreviated (the original psalm has a verse for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet), it maintains the tone of praise that characterizes the final six psalms. In fact, the whole book takes its Hebrew name, *Tehillim* (praises), from them.

TEXT: *The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*, 1909, alt.

MUSIC: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1916; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1987

Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

JERUSALEM

LMD

134

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

ANTIOCH

CM with repeat

(alternate tune: RICHMOND, 266)



All-Church Sunday Sundae Reception for Katherine Whisler

Come meet Katherine today and learn about all the things she is doing already and has planned for the youth this year, and enjoy some ice cream, too! The Welcome Reception will be held in Gordon Hall after 11 a.m. worship and is hosted by the Search Committee, the Christian Education Committee, the Youth Committee, the LOGOS Committee, and our youth.



Monday Morning Women's Bible Study

All women of the church are invited to a Bible study on the book of Ruth. We will meet twice a month starting tomorrow, Monday, September 14 at 10:30 a.m. in the parlor. If you are new to the group, please purchase *How to Read the Bible* by David Platt. Call or email Jenny Chamberlain in the church office (communications@1stpc.org) with questions.



Youth Group Gatherings

Students in grades 6-12 meet for Youth Group at the church on Saturday, September 19. Join us at 5:30 p.m. in Room 211 of the CE building. Questions? Email Katherine Whisler at 1stpcyouthgmv@gmail.com.



Presbyterian Women

Did you save the date? All FPC women are invited to Gordon Hall on Sunday, September 20 after 11 a.m. worship for PW season planning.

UFSO Concert for a Cause - Sunday, September 27 at 4 p.m.

Join the University of Florida Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Tiffany Lu, as they present *Down the River, Across the Pond* in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. This first concert of our 2026-2027 season will include a free-will offering to benefit Family Promise, which provides families experiencing homelessness with compassionate care until they can transition to a home of their own. Visit www.1stpcmusic.org for more on the concert series.



Serve with Us - Usher for 11 a.m. Worship

This minimal effort and maximum impact service opportunity allows us to help folks feel welcome and comfortable as they join with us for Sunday worship. By arriving a little early, handing out worship guides, showing people where the nursery, restrooms, etc. are, and helping collect the offering during the service, your warm, smiling faces remind those with us that they are loved and cared for by our church and by God. Ushers are needed for the September and October teams. Contact Laura Montgomery at assistant@1stpc.org or call the church office to fill this need.



Children's worship guides are available at all entrances.

Pick-up a calendar page at any entrance or click the calendar link in the weekly email for all this week's ministry events. Not receiving the weekly invite? Email communications@1stpc.org to be added to the email list.

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 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

Ministries & Staff

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.

Preschool Director

LISA HERSHKOWITZ - preschool@1stpc.org

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:** Victoria Bernard - toraleighb@gmail.com

Kindergarten through 2nd grade children are excused from worship for **Kids-4-God** to spend time growing their faith on Sundays during the school year. **Contact:** Evelyn Lewis - 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 dvloedman@aol.com

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

Part-Time Youth Coordinator

KATHERINE WHISLER - 1stpcyouthgnv@gmail.com

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 & a free lunch and Tuesday Bible study & a free dinner at 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend!

Director of College Ministry

JONATHAN HANEY - college@1stpc.org

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.

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

FRED LUNDY - youngadult@1stpc.org

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.

Director of Music and Organist

MITCH RORICK - music@1stpc.org

Additional Staff

Senior Pastor

REV. MARK HULTS - pastor@1stpc.org

Business Manager

TRUDY BONERBA - business@1stpc.org

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ANDREW NETARDUS - events@1stpc.org

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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, September 13, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Job 22-26 - Ross Teigen - Library
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Genesis - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Room 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Kids-4-God
- 12:00 p.m. Welcome Reception for Katherine Whisler

Monday, September 14, 2026

- 10:00 a.m. Trustees - Zoom
- 10:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study - Ruth - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Christian Education Committee

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Trajectory College Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Human Resource Committee - Zoom

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

- 12:00 p.m. Executive Commission - Zoom
- 3:30 p.m. LOGOS
- 6:00 p.m. LOGOS Family Dinner - School Spirit Night
- 6:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers

Thursday, September 17, 2026

- 6:00 p.m. Carol Ringers - Room 215
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Young Professionals Bible Study - Gordon Hall

Friday, September 18, 2026

Saturday, September 19, 2026

Sunday, September 20, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Job 27-31 - Laurie Shorter - Library
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Genesis - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Room 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Kids-4-God
- 12:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women Gathering - Gordon Hall