

GATHERING

God of daybreak, thank you for holding me through the night and awakening me to behold your likeness in this brand-new day. Go with me now as I walk with you. Show me the world and its people through your eyes of compassion. Bless me, break me, and move through me to heal and feed those who hunger for you. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Andantino
Murielle LeMaire, flute

G. Fauré

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on our own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight our paths.

* **HYMN 816** If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of mystery, God of life, we imagine that we are capable judges of power and wisdom and goodness. We trust our own standards; we separate and categorize; we mark the performance of others. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, transform our withered imaginations until we yield the judgments we trust to a love we cannot control. 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

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-34 (NRSV)

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

NT pg. 6

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

D. Kasbohm

Elisa Neale-Tobener, soloist

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom, she who danced when earth was new. Follow closely what she teaches, for her words are right and true. Wisdom clears the path to justice, showing us what love must do. Listen to the voice of Wisdom, crying in the marketplace. Hear the Word made flesh among us, full of glory, truth, and grace. When the word takes root and ripens, peace and righteousness embrace. Sister Wisdom, come, assist us; nurture all who seek rebirth. Spirit-guide and close companion, bring to light our sacred worth. Free us to become your people, holy friends of God and earth.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Sarah Whitfield

(Afterward, children will return to sit with their families.)

* **HYMN 708**

We Give Thee but Thine Own

SCHUMANN

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 3:1-12 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 585

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Wisdom Literature Series: Proverbs

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

Fantasia in C Major

G. P. Telemann

Murielle LeMaire, flute

* **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 819**

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE**

Allegro

G. Fauré

Murielle LeMaire, flute

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Jonathon Haney, Mark Hults, Matt Mitchell, Sarah Whitfield

ELDER ON DUTY: Elizabeth Bolton

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

8:30 USHER: Margaret Lingg; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Roger Bachmann, Paul Bennett, Matthew Morse, Mary Lou Schubert

A/V TEAM: Jelvi Fika, Dania Moreno, John Rayl, Geoff Spiegel

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God and in honor of Linden Greer's 10th birthday from her family.

TODAY BEGINS A NEW SERMON SERIES on Wisdom Literature in the Bible. For this first Sunday of the series, the focus is Proverbs, and more specifically Proverbs 3:1-12. Our gathering hymn, "If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee," connects with Proverbs 3:5-6; the hymn of the day, "We Give Thee but Thine Own," with Proverbs 3:9; and the sending hymn, "Be Still, My Soul," with Proverbs 3:5.

Our anthem, "Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom," is from our *Glory to God* Hymnal #174. Written in 1993 (text) and 1995 (music), this is possibly the first time this hymn has been sung at First Presbyterian Church. The hymnal description for this hymn is as follows: "*Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: Sophia), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.*" A cursory search of Hagia Sophia (Holy Wisdom) shows that this architectural masterpiece was originally an Eastern Orthodox cathedral built in AD 537.

Gabriel Fauré (May 12, 1845 - November 4, 1924) is the composer of the prelude and postlude, two sections of Fauré's Fantaisie, Op. 79 that was commissioned in 1898. Fauré was a French composer, organist, pianist, and teacher and served as the Head of the Paris Conservatoire. We've sung movements from his Requiem for worship.

We thank Elisa Neale-Tobener and Murielle LeMaire for leading us in worship today. Elisa is a Speech Language Pathologist, serves on Session at First Presbyterian Church, and helps in a number of other ways at church. Murielle LeMaire grew up at First Presbyterian Church and still shares her gift of music through handbells, flute, and singing.

ACTION OF THIS WEEK: Proverbs 3 directs you toward trust, integrity, generosity, and disciplined wisdom. This week, practice wholehearted trust in God— choose one area of uncertainty (finances, relationships, decisions) and intentionally surrender it in prayer each morning. At the end of the week, notice God's faithfulness - What changed in your heart, not just your circumstances? Where did trust replace worry?

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: Marilyn Ast, 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

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

Head Sexton - Tony Cogdill

Sexton - Margaret Hill

Property Coordinator

John Rayl - png.1stpc@gmail.com

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816



1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine



heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of



tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
 plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er



God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-34 (NRSV)

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 3:1-12 (NRSV)

¹ My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; ² for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you. ³ Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴ So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of people. ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. ⁸ It will be a healing for your flesh and a refreshment for your body. ⁹ Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; ¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. ¹¹ My child, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, ¹² for the Lord reproves the one he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

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.

TEXT: William Walsham How, c. 1858
 MUSIC: Mason and Webb's *Cantica Laudis*, 1850

SCHUMANN
SM

LIVING AND DYING IN CHRIST

819 Be Still, My Soul

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
 2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
 to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
 when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord;

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide,
Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

This meditative text seems to be rooted in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God," while also reaching forward to 1 Thessalonians 4:17b, "we will be with the Lord forever." Much of the appeal of this hymn comes from its tune, named for the tone poem on which it is based.

TEXT: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; trans. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855, alt.

MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

FINLANDIA
10.10.10.10.10.10



Back to School Drive

Support Gainesville Community Ministry as they meet the needs of our community. Bring donations of school supplies to the School Bus in Gordon Hall now through August -pencils, notebooks, scissors, and more, but most importantly, backpacks! See the full list in the weekly email or at www.1stpc.org.



Do You Have a Favorite Hymn?

In July, share your favorite hymn and a personal story about it with us. In August, we'll sing some of those hymns together. Complete the card at one of the boxes outside the sanctuary or submit answers at www.1stpcmusic.org/hymn. Let's celebrate the hymns of our faith together this summer.



Church Growth Initiatives

Join us for the next Zoom meeting with John Fong on Wednesday, July 29, at 7 p.m. — all are invited! We will stay for a 30-minute debrief after John's presentation. You need to RSVP to receive the Zoom link - please email communications@1stpc.org. Contact the church office with questions.



Preschool Summer Break

The Preschool at First will be closed for summer break starting tomorrow, Monday, July 27 through Friday, August 7. The first day of the new school year will be Monday, August 10.

Click the link in the weekly email for all this week's ministry events. 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, audio, and archives at 1stpc.org

Welcome, Katherine!



We are excited to introduce Katherine Whisler as the Interim Part-time Youth Coordinator.

Katherine is a lifelong Presbyterian from Clemson, South Carolina. She attended the University of South Carolina and now works as a full-time medical intensive care unit nurse. She was an elder at her home church and has held many leadership positions throughout her own time in youth group and college ministry.

Katherine has been a part of the Middle and High School LOGOS team for the past year and looks forward to even more opportunities to grow alongside our youth.

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.

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 at 7 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

Operations and Administrative Associate

LAURA MONTGOMERY - assistant@1stpc.org

Communications Specialist

JENNY CHAMBERLAIN - communications@1stpc.org

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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, July 26, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Job 4-5 - Library
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Luke 10:25-42 - Jenny C. - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Room 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time - Gordon Hall

Monday, July 27, 2026

Preschool Summer Break Begins

- 12:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study Lunch - Parlor

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

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

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

- 7:00 p.m. Church Growth Zoom with John Fong

Thursday, July 30, 2026

Friday, July 31, 2026

Church Office Closed

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Sunday, August 2, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Job 6-7 - Ross Teigen. - Library
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Luke 11 - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Room 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time - Gordon Hall