

GATHERING

Apart from You, O Christ, we can do nothing. You alone can bring to completion the works to which You have called us. If You do not labor through us, all our offerings will be in vain. Yet, we ask You to take these – our meager offerings, our talents, our time, our treasures, the fruits of all our labors – and make of them something more than we alone can give. For Your glory and Yours alone, Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Come, O Holy Spirit, Come

Nigerian Melody

Wa wa wa Emimimo. (Emiolye.) Wa wa wa Alagbara. (Alagbarameta.) Wao, wao, wao. (Emimimo.)

Come, O Holy Spirit, come. (Holy Spirit, come.) Come, Almighty Spirit, come. (Almighty Spirit, come.)

Come, come, come. (O Spirit, come.)

This short gathering song from Nigeria was originally created in Yoruba, one of that country's three primary trade languages. Although it has a very different rhythm and feel, this is essentially the same sung prayer as the Taizé chant, "Veni Sancte Spiritus" (no. 281).

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Apart from You, O Christ, we can do nothing. But You said to us, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

Apart from You, O Christ, we can do nothing. But You said to us, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties.

Apart from You, O Christ, we can do nothing. But You said to us, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."

For when I am weak, then I am strong.

* HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Apart from You, O Christ, we can do nothing. All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. Yet, You delight, O Christ, in using our poverty to display the riches of Your grace. You delight, O Christ, in meeting and filling our weaknesses so they become hollows in which Your mercies and Your glories might pool. Do so now, O Lord, for our best efforts will never be enough to bring to meaningful fruition any labor You have set before us. So, hear us as we confess our sins, both of omission and commission. And 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.

*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

Ephesians 2:4-10 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 188

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

Simple Gifts

M. Wilberg

Chancel Choir; Christine Alicot, piccolo; Murielle LeMaire, flute; Norah Barat, glockenspiel

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be, and when you find yourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the valley of love and delight. When true simplicity is gain'd, to bow and to bend we shan't be asham'd. To turn, turn will be our delight, till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be true, 'tis the gift to labor 'til the day is through. And when you find yourself in the place so fine, 'twill be in the cool of the birch and the pine. 'Tis the gift to be joyful, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift, 'tis the gift, 'tis the simple gift to be! And when you find yourself filled with pure delight, the gift to be simple has led you a-right.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Fred Lundy

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

* **HYMN 465**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 35:30-35 and 31:6b-11 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 82 and 78

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Empowering by God's Spirit

Fred Lundy

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

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

C. Gabriel

This hymn based on Jesus' saying about God's care for all creatures (Matthew 10:29-30/Luke 12:6-7) began with the refrain's last line, inspired by a woman who had endured much illness. It was first sung in public at the Royal Albert Hall, London, during evangelistic services in 1905.

* **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.

SENDING

* **HYMN 326**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE**

When In Our Music God is Glorified

R. Hobby

Written to supply this tune with words suitable for occasions celebrating music, this text explores how human song gives voice to creation, how music can convey new insight, how sung faith has kept the church authentic, how Jesus relied on the psalms, and how sound can be praise.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Fred Lundy, Elisa Neale-Tobener, Dan Sutton

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST: Shiyi Zhu

CHANCEL CHOIR

8:30 USHER: Jeanne Thomas; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Maralyn Foote, Perry Foote, Louis Motz, Mary Lou Schubert, Steph Tyler

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

TODAY'S SERMON IS "EMPOWERING BY GOD'S SPIRIT" and the main Scriptural passages are Exodus 35:30-35 and 31:6b-11. Mark Hults suggested [BibleProject.com/videos/holy-spirit](https://www.bibleproject.com/videos/holy-spirit) as a good source related to the theme for today. The video talks about the Biblical concept of spirit (ruakh). In searching the GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT section of the *Glory to God* Hymnal (#278-294), #283 "Come, O Holy Spirit, Come," a gathering song, seemed fitting for the choir to sing as the prelude. As we are also celebrating hymns of the faith today, the prelude, anthem, offertory, and postlude are all arrangements of hymns. Since the [BibleProject.com](https://www.bibleproject.com) video for today talks about the Spirit revealed through Jesus Christ, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "For All the Saints" work well as the middle and sending hymns. In addition, they were submitted as favorite hymns by two parishioners. "What Wondrous Love Is This," "Simple Gifts," "His Eye Is on the Sparrow," and "When In Our Music God Is Glorified," were also submitted as favorite hymns. As you hear the postlude, some of you might remember this arrangement from the Hymn Festival in February. Robert Hobby composed this arrangement and played it for us at the Hymn Festival. Thank you to all that submitted favorite hymns this summer, to Fred and Jenny for leading the Favorite Hymns session at 10:30 a.m., and to the Chancel Choir for helping lead us in the Favorite Hymns at the 11 a.m. Service.

ACTION FOR THIS WEEK: Look up the text to one of your favorite hymns, and maybe also look up a related scripture. Meditate on the words and offer a prayer to God in response.

***The background information for today's hymns is reprinted with permission from *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*. All rights reserved. ONE LICENSE #A-735386.*

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.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef. It consists of five systems of music, each with a line of lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Dm, C, Dm, C, Dm, Am for the first system; Dm, C, Dm, C for the second; Dm, Am, Bb, Gm, Am, Em for the third; G, Dm, C, Am, C, Dm, Am for the fourth; and Em, Am, C, Dm, Am, C, Dm for the fifth.

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing

soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

TEXT: American folk hymn, c. 1811
 MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1965
 Music Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

WONDROUS LOVE
 12.9.12.12.9

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 2:4-10 (NRSV)

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 35:30-35 and 31:6b-11 (NRSV)

³⁰ Then Moses said to the Israelites: See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; ³¹ he has filled him with divine spirit, with skill, intelligence, and knowledge in every kind of craft, ³² to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, ³³ in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, in every kind of craft. ³⁴ And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. ³⁵ He has filled them with skill to do every kind of work done by an artisan or by a designer or by an embroiderer in blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and in fine linen, or by a weaver — by any sort of artisan or skilled designer.

^{6b} and I have given skill to all the skillful, so that they may make all that I have commanded you: ⁷ the tent of meeting, and the ark of the covenant, and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furnishings of the tent, ⁸ the table and its utensils, and the pure lampstand with all its utensils, and the altar of incense, ⁹ and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the basin with its stand, ¹⁰ and the finely worked vestments, the holy vestments for the priest Aaron and the vestments of his sons, for their service as priests, ¹¹ and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense for the holy place. They shall do just as I have commanded you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Rev. Mark Hults - pastor@1stpc.org

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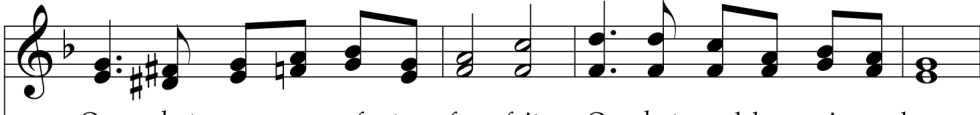
465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?



What a priv-i-lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so-lace there.

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

For All the Saints



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
 3 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low-ship di - vine!
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war-fare long,
 5 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well-fought fight;
 We fee - bly strug - gle; they in glo - ry shine; yet
 steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Harmony, stanza 3

3 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!

We fee - bly strug - gle; they in glo - ry shine; yet

all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Al - le - lu - ia! *to stanza 4*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.

TEXT: William Walsham How, 1864
MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

SINE NOMINE
10.10.10 with alleluias

Ministry Highlights

Visit our website for more
about our church and
ministries.



The College Café Is Open!

All college students are invited to join us in the serving room for a delicious, homemade lunch! Bring your parents. Bring a friend. The menu changes weekly as it is chef's choice. Thank you to John & Sandra Roberts for hosting today's lunch! If you are interested in cooking/feeding our college students, please contact Jonathon Haney.

LOGOS Begins Wednesday

LOGOS is an intergenerational, mid-week ministry during the school year with worship arts, Bible time, recreation, and family dinner for students age 3 through high school. We meet at the church this Wednesday, August 26 for Back to LOGOS Night from 3:30 to 6:45 p.m. Contact Bev Vloedman at dvloedman@aol.com to RSVP for dinner at 6 p.m. We hope to see you there! For registration, calendar, and schedule, visit www.1stpc.org/logos. Also go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0444A4AA2BA1F8C07-64911354-logos> to sign up to serve. See you soon!



Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord

Don't like your seat in the sanctuary? FREE UPGRADE to the Chancel Choir! Please join us Sunday, August 30 at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Feeling inspired after last week's service? Come ring with the handbell choir – there's still time to join. For more information, please contact Mitch Rorick.

Grow with Us

New to the church or here for years, we want to intentionally invite and inform **YOU** about the varied and interesting life of our church. Join us after worship on Sunday, August 30, in Gordon Hall to explore interests and ministries of the church, like the Archives Project, Senior Saints, and Doctors Koinonia, along with Sunday school classes, Bible study groups, Property projects, PW, Choirs, Local missions, and Hospitality opportunities from Sunday cookies to pies. If you have any questions, email Evelyn Lewis, Chair of the Christian Education Committee, at citytr122@gmail.com.



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 dvoloedman@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

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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, August 23, 2026

All Church Hymn Sing

- 8:30 a.m. Worship - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Job 15-17 - Elizabeth Bolton - Library
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Luke 12 - Room 201
- 10:30 a.m. Hymn Sing - Sanctuary
- 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. Fellowship Time - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Cafe - Serving Room

Monday, August 24, 2026

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Human Resource

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

- 3:30 p.m. LOGOS Kicks-Off
- 6:00 p.m. LOGOS Family Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers

Thursday, August 27, 2026

- 6:00 p.m. Carol Ringers - Room 215
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Friday, August 28, 2026

Saturday, August 29, 2026

Sunday, August 30, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Job 18-19 - Steph Tyler - Library
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Luke 13 - 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. Grow with Us - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Cafe - Serving Room