

GATHERING

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Near to the Heart of God/
Children of the Heavenly Father
Michael Knowles, cello

arr. B. Adams

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.

*** HYMN 275**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 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

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

Psalm 53 (NRSV)

OT pg. 521

ANTHEM (11 A.M.) **God Is Our Refuge** W.A. Mozart

God is our refuge, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, a present help in trouble.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.) Sarah Whitfield

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

* **HYMN 649** **Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound** AMAZING GRACE

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 3:21-31 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord. NT pg. 154

Thanks be to God.

SERMON **The Righteousness of God Through Faith** Rev. Scott Stuart

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.) **Psalms 46** J. Weaver

The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our stronghold. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea; and though its waters rage and foam, and though its mountains tremble at its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away. Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth. It is he who makes wars to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

* **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 610** **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing** AZMON

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE** **Praeludium in G Minor** D. Buxtehude

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Scott Stuart, Sarah Whitfield

ELDER ON DUTY: Rachel Coffey

ACOLYTE: Isaac West

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST: Anait Piloyan

CHANCEL CHOIR

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

A/V TEAM: Owen Best, Bruce Brashear, Christabella de Fretes, Dania Moreno, John Rayl, Elijah West

ON REFORMATION SUNDAY, we are reminded that salvation is God's gift to us in Jesus Christ. It is ours not because of any good works we do, but because of who God is. We are loved and forgiven because God is full of grace and mercy. Romans 3:23-24 says "*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus . . .*"

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God and in honor of Margaret and Howard's 28th wedding anniversary by John Lingg.

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 Kari, Michael, and Wendy upon the passing of their father, Jim Garlington, who joined the Church Triumphant on Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

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

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 53 (NRSV)

¹Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they commit abominable acts; there is no one who does good. ²God looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God. ³They have all fallen away, they are all alike perverse; there is no one who does good, no, not one. ⁴Have they no knowledge, those evildoers, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God? ⁵There they shall be in great terror, in terror such as has not been. For God will scatter the bones of the ungodly; they will be put to shame, for God has rejected them. ⁶O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THANKSGIVING

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
 MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;
 Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

AMAZING GRACE
 CM

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 3:21-31 (NRSV)

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. ²⁹Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰since God is one; and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. ³¹Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 610

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
 2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and
 3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new
 4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
 5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be

dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
 bids our sor - rows cease, sings mu - sic in the
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
 now and ev - er given by saints be - low and

God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
 to re - joice; the poor in heart be - lieve.
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.

This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;
 Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001

AZMON
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MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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 Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)



All About Giving Locally

Gather on Sunday, November 10, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Gordon Hall to learn more about the local ministries we support and how you can join in the efforts. The Christian Education Committee is hosting this informal event of table talk and fellowship. A light breakfast will be served, and all are welcome! If you have any questions, email Evelyn Lewis, Chair of the Christian Education Committee, at citytr122@gmail.com.



Clothed in Love

The Montreat Worship and Music Conference

Travel with us this summer to NC for Bible study, bells, choir, fellowship, and more at the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. The theme is *Clothed in Love*. Sign up by November 11 to attend Montreat in June. Contact Mitch Rorick at music@1stpc.org to learn more about the conference or to register.

The Annual Montreat Worship and Music Conference Luncheon is today, October 27 at 12 p.m. in Gordon Hall. A few extra lunches are available for \$10 per person. And don't forget about pies! Ordering is open and pie making is every Friday and Saturday at 9 a.m.



LOGOS Fall Festival

Come to LOGOS at the regular time or join us at 5:30 in Gordon Hall for the Fall Festival! We will spend time in fun and fellowship with a craft, pumpkin golf, feed the pig, and other favorites (including sliders for dinner)! October Service – We are collecting canned goods to donate to Gainesville Community Ministry at the Festival. Please RSVP to Beverly Vloedman at dvloedman@aol.com.



Volunteer at the 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.



Concert for a Cause

The Gainesville Community Band, directed by R. Gary Langford, will present a Veterans Day Concert for a Cause in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 10 at 4 p.m. The program includes a variety of patriotic songs. A free-will offering will be taken to support *Made for More*, a mentorship program in Gainesville to help urban student athletes reach their full potential. Stay for a spaghetti dinner in Gordon Memorial Hall immediately following the concert. Dinner is \$5; no charge for veterans.

The After Party

We had meaningful discussions and good take aways from *The After Party*! And, it's not too late for you to view the course. Register now for the free videos and discussion questions at <https://reedmingbabel.org/the-after-party>. If you have any questions, call our office during regular business hours.

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 bvloedman@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 27, 2024

- 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: John 8:1-30 - Bob Bailey - 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. Montreat Luncheon - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Cafe - Serving Room

Monday, October 28, 2024

Tuesday, October 29, 2024

- 2:15 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. College Trajectory Pumpkin Carving - The Greers

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

- 3:45 p.m. LOGOS
- 6:00 p.m. LOGOS Family Time - Fall Festival
- 6:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers - Bell Room 215

Thursday, October 31, 2024

- 10:00 a.m. Preschool Fall Festival - Gordon Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Carol Ringers
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, November 1, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Youth Connection - Bagel Bakery
- 9:00 a.m. Pie Making - Kitchen & Serving Room

Saturday, November 2, 2024

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

Daylight Saving Time Ends - Change your clocks!

Sunday, November 3, 2024

All Saints' Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: John 8:31-58 - Perry Foote - Library
- 9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School: Genesis - Rm 201
- 9:40 a.m. Carol Ringers - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Choral Scholars
- 10:10 a.m. Cherub & Junior Choirs - Sanctuary
- 10:15 a.m. Senior Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Joyful 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