

* Congregation stands

The Gathering

Silent Meditation

Prelude *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* Haan

Words of Welcome

Introit

* Call to Worship *(Psalms 1)*

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

**People: Or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;**Leader: But their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**People: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in
its season,
and their leaves do not wither.**

Leader: In all that they do, they prosper.

**People: The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**Leader: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.**People: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the
wicked will perish.**

* Hymn 293

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of Judgment and Mercy, we are a peculiar people. We often clamor for justice for others but beg for mercy and forgiveness for ourselves. In our honest moments, not one of us would cry out for our own justice; we know too well we each need mercy. Grant us a wider vision of what it means to be united with all your people, O Lord. Remind us that the people created in your image are our brothers and sisters whom you unite in your divine love and mercy. Help us confess our sins so that we may be forgiven. In your forgiveness, O God, are the seeds of newness of life. Give us the wisdom and discernment to grasp the new life you offer us in Christ Jesus. Make us people who know what to do with our second chance at the blessed salvation you offer us freely. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

* Declaration of Pardon

* Gloria Patri

Hymn 579

* The Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reception of New Members

The Word of God

First Lesson Proverbs 31: 10-31

Second Lesson James 3: 13-4:3, 7-8a

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem *Come, Gracious Spirit* Fedak

Children's Message

Children will be dismissed for Children's Worship

* Gospel Lesson Mark 9: 30-37

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Finishing First" Dr. Cheetham

Response of the People

* Affirmation of Faith *from A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called, Abba Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

* Hymn 339

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

* Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Why Art Thou Troubled

Scheidt

* Doxology

Hymn 592

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sending Forth

* Hymn 280

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response

Postlude

Beautiful Saviour

Peeters

Lay Reader:

Becky Burris

New Members: We extend a warm welcome to Bill McNeal, who joins our church by letter of transfer and Marie McNeal, who joins us by profession of faith.

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Today	8:45 am	Contemporary Service
	9:45 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Traditional Service
	5:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting
	6:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Tuesday	9:00 am	Preschool
	6:00 pm	Southern Starrs
Wednesday	5:00 pm	Bell Choir
	6:00 pm	Wednesday Night Fellowship
	7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	9:00 am	Preschool
	6:30 pm	Contemporary Practice

Last Sunday's Record

Contemporary Service	45	Offering	\$ 2,824.00
Sunday School	43	Weekly Need	5,354.00
Sanctuary Service	68	Through Aug	163,705.15

Youth News: Movie Night for the youth will be Saturday, **September 30th** at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will also be a devotion as well as snacks and games. For more information, please contact the church office at 444-1360.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner September 27th 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night's program will be "Ireland" presented by Dr. John Cheetham.

All reservations must be received by Tuesday morning. To make a reservation, call the church office or sign up on the attendance slip inside the bulletin. You can now make your reservation on line at www.fpcelebanon.org.

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Greens, Three Bean Salad, Banana Pudding, Biscuits

The **4 Cents a Meal** offering will be collected today.

Prayer Concerns

Hazel Williams	Pam Anderson	Marcia Williams
Claudine Prowell	Don Denney	Isa Carroll
Etta Hammer	Peggy Williams	Susan Bowman
Thayer & Alice Smith	Betty Eshelman	John Freeman
Mary Helen Averitt	Maclynn Crawford	Debbie McClure
Sara Thompson	Debbie York	Sue Patton Guy
Sherry Arnold	Aubrey Roney	Julie Pepper
Marjorie Nabbe	Sheleah Jensen	Barbara Mullins
Stan Williams	John Angles	Valerie Eblin
Joseph Clemons	Julie Stephens	Grace Garrard
Jerry Gray	Shirley Walfus	Debbie Sharp
Martha Anderson	Debbie Brinner	Johnnie Keel
Jeremy Stubblefield	Jim Robbins	Charles Lambert
Jerry Pentecost	Donna Goliher	George Donnell
Jessie Ruth Hall	Charles Cowden Sr.	Mary Keiph
Kathy Keith	Sean Barber	Alba Telez
Delvinia Allen	Bonnie Hall Major	

Military

Kevin Alseys	Kyle Kaker	Randy Sandlin
Matthew Ash	James Scott	Noah Evans
Luke Baker	Mike Matthys	Jeff Scott
Blake Beckman	David Midgett	Jeremy Scott
Jaymon Bell	Jason Nolley	Jason Sellars

The Church Session

Brenda Thaxton, Clerk of Session

2006

Joe Adams
Jimmie Crawford
Brenda Thaxton
Lois Ann Wauford

2007

Suanne Bone
Tom Halbert
David Howell
Hugo Sandoval

2008

Charles Bradshaw
Pat Climer
Ken Hawkins
Gwynn Lanius

The Board of Deacons

Lesley Jacobson, Moderator

Jon Baker
Carolyn Beard
Mary Ellen O'Neil
Deborah Sanders

Loyce Bradshaw
James Herren
Lesley Jacobson
Karen Jump

Jennifer Breland
Faye Brown
Becky Burris
Alex Quarles

The Church Staff

Dr. John T. Cheetham, Pastor
Gary Scott, Organist
Branson Clark, Music Director
Kristy Stevens, Administrative Assistant
Tracey Hay, Treasurer
Kristin Herren, Nursery Attendant
Lee Anne Warren, Preschool Director

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