

# FIRST



# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEBANON



September 21, 2025

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

September 21, 2025

11:00 A.M.

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## THE GATHERING

*To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever*

PRELUDE      *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*      Don Hustad  
CHIMING THE HOUR

## WHO WE ARE

Leader: We are called Christians but what does that mean?

People: We are a welcoming community of disciples of Jesus Christ continually demonstrating God's reign.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHORAL INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 79*

Leader: We look upon our world, our neighborhoods, our families, and see suffering and want.

People: How long, O Lord?

Leader: We see deep suffering, brutal violence, destroyed homes, and ravaged nations.

People: How long, O Lord?

Leader: Let your compassion come quickly to meet us, for we are brought low.

People: How long, O Lord?

Leader: Help us, O God of our salvation!

People: Help us, O Source of our hope!

\*HYMN NO. 473      *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God, our refuge, you lift up the lowly and hold out hope to the hopeless. Yet we who receive your grace so freely do not follow your example. We are quick to judge, eager to criticize, slow to show mercy. We gather and keep for ourselves what was meant to be shared. We diminish and dehumanize those around us. God of us all, hear this confession. Receive it. We ask for your forgiveness. Amen.

### SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, rejoice in the Good News:

People: In the name of Christ we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!

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\* Those who are able are invited to stand.

**\*KYRIE**

Hymn No. 572

*Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**\*THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)**

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 16:1-13

*And his master commended the dishonest manager  
because he had acted shrewdly;  
for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation  
than are the children of light.*

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God!

**ANTHEM**

*Ave Verum*

Wolfgang A. Mozart

*Ave, Ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine:  
Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:  
Cujus latus perforatum Unda fluxit et sanguine:  
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine, In mortis examine.*

*Hail, true body born of the Virgin Mary,  
Who having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the Cross for mankind,  
Whose pierced side flowed with water and blood,  
May it be for us a foretaste in the trial of death.*

**SERMON**

*Desperate Times, Desperate Measures*

Rev. Sherard Edington

## RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN NO. 422 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

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; 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.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY *Meditation on "As the Deer"* Darryl G. Nettles

\*DOXOLOGY Hymn No. 592

*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.*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional) Hymnal Page 16

Lord, in your mercy  
Hear our prayer.

## SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN NO. 280 *Amazing Grace* AMAZING GRACE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE *Recessional* Ellen Jane Lorenz

## WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to become a member of First Presbyterian Church. For more information, please speak to the pastor at the close of the service.

📶 For WiFi access go to FPC\_CONNECT and enter password 6154441360.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner

September 24, 6:00 p.m.

*Country-Style Ribs, Squash Casserole, Cole Slaw, Banana Pudding*

To make a reservation, please call the church office at  
(615) 444-1360 by Tuesday.

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**FAITH FEST** – Cumberland University will be hosting their **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Faith Fest Event** on Tuesday, September 30, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. It is hosted by faith-based student organizations and local churches for all students. We need volunteers to help host our table. Please contact the church office for more information.

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER** – We are one month away from our **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Rise Against Hunger food packaging event**. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this fun morning in which we will assemble 10,152 meals. Our event will take place on Saturday, October 11, at 9:00 a.m. when we will gather to measure, weigh, package, seal, and box those meals. This event is for all ages. We must raise \$4,263.84 to cover the cost of the meals. So far we have raised \$2300. Your generosity is appreciated.

**THE 4 CENTS A MEAL** offering will be received next Sunday. We invite every member to contribute a few cents for every meal as an expression of thanks for what we have received. All monies collected are used to support local hunger programs and to help fund grants that are awarded to hunger agencies throughout Middle Tennessee. The 4 Cents-a-Meal offering is received on the fourth Sunday of each month. 30% of this offering stays with FPC to use in our local area.

## YOUTH

**YOUTH GROUP** (5<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade) will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

## THIS WEEK AT FPC

<b>Today</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
9:00 a.m. Worship	6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
10:00 a.m. Church School	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
10:45 a.m. Congregation Mtg.	6:30 p.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m. Preschool
6:00 p.m. New Day Group	6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
9:00 a.m. Preschool	<b>Saturday</b>

## SESSION

Class of 2025  
W.P. Bone  
Jack Emmert  
Frank Reeves

Class of 2026  
Carol Hill  
Margaret Ann Trail  
Allen Vance

Class of 2027  
Marilyn Peyton

## DIACONATE

Class of 2025  
Rachel Low  
Jim Stueck  
Kim Wall

Class of 2026  
Melissa Cassetty  
Karen Hunter-Lowery  
Jim Murff  
Mickey Stueck

Class of 2027

## CHURCH COMMITTEES

Clerk of Session – Barbara Howell

Treasurer – Jim Stueck

Budget & Finance – Jim Stueck

Buildings and Grounds – Allen Vance

Congregational Care & Outreach – Margaret Ann Trail

Personnel – Jack Emmert

Worship & Christian Education – Mickey Stueck

## STAFF

Ministers – All Members of the Congregation

Pastor – Sherard Edington

Organist/Director of Music – Darryl Nettles

Office Administrator – Kristy Vincent

NCC Worship Leader – Connor Patrick

Preschool Director – Angela Hankins

Custodians – Stratus Cleaning Service

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

### Children

Elementary Class and  
Middle - High School Class

### Adult

Crossroads Class  
Faith Builders Class

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