

FIRST



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEBANON



February 23, 2025

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 2025

11:00 A.M.

THE GATHERING

To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever

PRELUDE

Aria

Roy W. Thygerson

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

Leader: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It leads us to enemy-love and scandalous forgiveness.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: So let us commit our way to the Lord together

People: until our righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.

*HYMN NO. 447 *Lead On, O King Eternal*

LANCASHIRE

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord of Love, we fall short of how you expect us to treat others. We confess that we love selectively.

We seek vengeance on our enemies and rejoice in the suffering of those we despise. We are stingy and lack generosity. We demand restitution when we are slighted.

Forgive us our many sins and help us heed the words of your son who gave his life so that we might enjoy your eternal kingdom. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

* Those who are able are invited to stand.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, the good news of our salvation is that
through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: We are made new. Thanks be to God!

*KYRIE

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Ron and Kim Barnes

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:27-32

*But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also;
and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.
Give to everyone who begs from you;
and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

The Lord's Prayer

Kathy C. Bowen

*Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy holy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us our daily bread,
Forgive our debts, as we forgive.*

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and thine is the power,
And thine is the glory forever, and forever, ever, and ever. Amen.*

SERMON

A Good Measure

Rev. Sherard Edington

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN NO. 386

O for a World

AZMON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

God's sovereign love is a mystery
beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.
But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ
by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving sinful men and women.
The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator
who made all things
to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Adagio

Francois Couperin

*DOXOLOGY

*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. 379

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Westminster Abbey Hymn

Henry Purcell

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

February 26, 6:00 p.m.

Covered Dish (Chicken will be provided)

Bring your favorite dish and a friend!

VETERANS BREAKFAST – All Veterans and their spouses are invited to join us for breakfast on Saturday, March 1, at 8:00 a.m. The breakfast is sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to the church office at 615-444-1360.

THE 4 CENTS A MEAL offering will be received today. Please use the yellow pew envelope. A portion of this offering stays with FPC to use in our local area with the remaining used to support hunger relief in Middle Tennessee.

YOUTH

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

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Today

8:45 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday

6:00 p.m. New Day Group

Tuesday

9:00 a.m. Preschool

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday

9:00 a.m. Preschool
6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Friday

Saturday

8:00 a.m. Veterans' Breakfast

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
Christian Education –
Congregational Care –
Outreach – Margaret Ann Trail
Personnel – Jack Emmert
Worship –

STAFF

Ministers – All Members of the Congregation
Pastor – Sherard Edington
Organist/Director of Music – Darryl Nettles
Office Administrator – Kristy Vincent
NCC Worship Leader – Natalie Loader
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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