

**SERMON NOTES:**

1. Heaven Is God-Centered (vv. 5-6)

2. Heaven Is Exclusive (vv. 7-8)

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Don and Carolyn Nichols in celebration of their 65th Wedding Anniversary and in gratefulness for their two children and four grandchildren.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.*



*New to 1st Pres?  
We'd love to connect with you!  
Scan with your phone camera  
to fill out a connect card.*



*To make a secure contribution  
to First Pres, scan the above QR  
code with your phone camera or  
text GIVE to 423-888-0345.*

**This Week at 1st Pres**

**Sunday, April 23**

9:00 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:15 AM	Children's Church	Children's Wing
10:15 AM	Sunday School	Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 AM	Children's Church	Children's Wing
6:30 PM	High School Youth Small Group	Student Center

**Monday, April 24**

10:00 AM	Flower Delivery Pick-Up	Connector
	Women's Prayer Ministry	Session Room
5:30 PM	Session Meeting	Session Room
6:00 PM	Bell Choir Practice	SS 208
7:00 PM	CSO Chorus Rehearsal	Choir Room

**Tuesday, April 25**

10:00 AM	All-Staff Meeting	Tower 402
12:00 PM	Beatitude Living	Tower 404
6:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom

**Wednesday, April 26**

6:30 AM	Dead Theologians Society	Fellowship Hall
4:30 PM	Deacon-on-Call	Connector
	World Missions Prayer Time	Tower 303
5:30 PM	Midweek Meal	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Middle School Small Group	Student Center
6:15 PM	Adult Elective	Chapel
	Choir	Choir Room
	Kids Ministry	Children's Wing
	Rapha Fellowship	SS 209 & SS 210

**Thursday, April 27**

10:00 AM	Balance Exercise Class	Student Center
3:15 PM	First Friends English Class	Student Center
5:15 PM	Orchestra Rehearsal	Choir Room
7:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom

**Friday, April 28**

10:15 AM	Support Staff Meeting	
12:00 PM	Card-E-Ology	Tower 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor
7:00 PM	Evangelism Seminar	Tower 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor

**Saturday, April 29**

10:15 AM	Evangelism Seminar	Tower 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor
----------	--------------------	------------------------------

**The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of a month.  
The Sacrament of Communion takes place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.**

Announcements are available via email subscription,  
the 1st Pres App, or [1stPresbyterian.com](http://1stPresbyterian.com).



*First Presbyterian Church exists to be a Christ-exalting,  
city-center church committed to fulfilling the Great Commission  
in Chattanooga, North America, and around the world,  
to the glory of the Triune God.*

**The Lord's Day**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023**  
**9:00 AM**

† *Please stand as you are able.*

**WORSHIP REFLECTION**

We live in a world rife with conflict, terror, and the works of darkness, which tend to breed fearful, faithless, and discouraged hearts. The biblical antidote is to come into the house of the Lord and worship Him. Today, we will sing Charles Wesley's beloved hymn, "And Can it Be," to help us to do just that. Philip Ryken summarizes its beauty this way: ". . . this poem is an extended meditation on God's saving love for the sinner. That is the prism that the poem turns in the light. One strand in the poem's tapestry is a series of theological statements about Christ's substitutionary atonement and the divine love that it expresses. . . . Balancing this Christocentric element is a taking stock of the personal story of being saved from sin and death, with an emphasis on human unworthiness." – from *40 Favorite Hymns on the Christian Life: A Closer Look at their Spiritual and Poetic Meaning*

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

O Lord, you are the giver of eternal life in your Son. You promise that those who receive You and Your gift inherit heaven and live as Your children forever. Make this true for each of us. Create in us a ravenous spiritual thirst that causes us to drink deeply from your gospel springs of salvation. And may knowing how the story ends . . .

- Free us from despair and discouragement with our life circumstances,
- Galvanize us to remain faithfully devoted to King Jesus, and
- Inspire us with greater zeal to engage others with the good news of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

## THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

*Isaiah 55:1-3a*

Pastor: Come, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and he who has no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.

**People: Why do you spend your money  
for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me;  
hear, that your soul may live.**

### †PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### †SONGS OF PRAISE

### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 99 & 100*

Pastor: What rule has God given for our direction in prayer?

**People: The whole Word of God is of use  
to direct us in prayer;  
but the special rule of direction  
is that form of prayer which Christ taught His disciples,  
commonly called the Lord's Prayer.**

Pastor: What does the preface of the Lord's Prayer teach us?

**People: The preface of the Lord's Prayer,  
which is, Our Father Which art in heaven,  
teaches us to draw near to God  
with all holy reverence and confidence,  
as children to a father, able and ready to help us;  
and that we should pray with and for others.**

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*Pray silently.*

**“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. . . .”**

Let us confess the ways that we have been more committed to  
making our names great rather than our Father's.

**“Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. . . .”**

Let us confess the ways that we have pursued our kingdom, our wills,  
and our agendas more than God's.

**“Give us this day our daily bread. . . .”**

Let us confess all our ways of self-sufficiency and acknowledge our  
dependence.

**“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. . . .”**

Let us confess our lack of a forgiving spirit as well as the ways that  
we have not pursued interpersonal reconciliation.

**“And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. . . .”**

Let us confess our own personal struggles with temptation and evil.

**“For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours forever. Amen.”**

Let us confess the ways that we look to other things and people for  
security, significance, and satisfaction.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Isaiah 55:6-7*

Seek the LORD while He may be found;  
call on Him while He is near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the LORD,  
and He will have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for He will freely pardon.

### SONG OF ASSURANCE

### PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S PEOPLE

### OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Please check in your children PreK-1st grade at the Kid-Check and walk them to the  
1st-3rd grade dept.*

### †DOXOLOGY

## THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

### SERMON

***Revelation 21:5-8 — “What Is Heaven? Part 2”***

*“Revelation: Roadmap for Daily Life, Refuge for the Future”*

Gabe Fluhrer

### †SONG OF RESPONSE

## THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### †BENEDICTION

*adapted from Psalm 67:1-2*

Pastor: May God be gracious to you and bless you and make His face  
to shine upon you that His way may be known on earth,  
His saving power among all nations

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

#### Pastors

Gabe Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*  
[gabe@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:gabe@1stpresbyterian.com)

Dick Cain, *Senior Assistant Pastor*  
[dick@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:dick@1stpresbyterian.com)

Chris Ehlers, *Congregational Care &  
Assimilation*  
[chrisehlers@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:chrisehlers@1stpresbyterian.com)

Dick Fisher, *Visitation*  
[ref27@msn.com](mailto:ref27@msn.com)

Mike Haberkorn, *Discipleship,  
Children & Youth*  
[mike@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:mike@1stpresbyterian.com)

Randy Nabors, *Missions*  
[randy@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:randy@1stpresbyterian.com)

Don Holwerda, *Church Administrator*  
[don@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:don@1stpresbyterian.com)

#### Directors

Jessica Bayless, *Communications  
& Community Coordinator*  
[jessica@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:jessica@1stpresbyterian.com)

West Breedlove, *Assistant  
Director of Worship*  
[west@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:west@1stpresbyterian.com)

Emily Brelsford, *Kids*  
[emily@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:emily@1stpresbyterian.com)

Shad Guinn, *Community  
Outreach*  
[shad@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:shad@1stpresbyterian.com)

Darrin Hassevoort, *Music &  
Worship*  
[darrin@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:darrin@1stpresbyterian.com)

Brad Roberts, *Youth*  
[brad@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:brad@1stpresbyterian.com)

Forrest Walker, *Vesper Point*  
[forrest@vesperpoint.org](mailto:forrest@vesperpoint.org)

---

*Stay connected and informed with the 1st Pres app. Text APP to 423-888-0345.*

554 McCallie Avenue Chattanooga, TN 37402

Office (423) 267-1206 [office@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:office@1stpresbyterian.com) [www.1stpresbyterian.com](http://www.1stpresbyterian.com)