

SERMON NOTES:

1. The Bride’s Reflective Glory (vv.9-14)

2. The Bride’s Immeasurable Glory (vv.15-21)

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents
by George and Elissa Clark.

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our
homebound and hospitalized on Monday, May 1st.

This Week at 1st Pres		
Sunday, April 30		
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, May 1		
10:00 AM	Flower Delivery Pick-Up	Connector
	Women’s Prayer Ministry	Session Room
6:00 PM	Bell Choir Practice	SS 208
Tuesday, May 2		
7:00 AM	Men’s Monthly Breakfast	Tower 10 th Floor
10:00 AM	All-Staff Meeting	Tower 402
12:00 PM	Beatitude Living	Tower 404
6:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday, May 3		
6:30 AM	Dead Theologians Society	Fellowship Hall
4:30 PM	Deacon-on-Call	Connector
	World Missions Prayer Time	Tower 303
5:30 PM	Middle School End of Year Party	Student Center
5:30 PM	Rapha Fellowship	SS 209 & SS 210
6:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Thursday, May 4		
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, May 5		
10:15 AM	Support Staff Meeting	
12:00 PM	Card-E-Ology	Tower 8 th Floor

The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 1st Sunday of a month.
The Sacrament of Communion takes place on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Announcements are available via email subscription,
the 1st Pres App, or 1stPresbyterian.com.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
CHATTANOOGA

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 30, 2023

9:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

THE GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

A man with his back against the wall, fighting for survival, needs more than moral exhortation and pious entreaty. He must encounter the living Lord Jesus Christ. This was true for the aged Apostle John on the island of Patmos in the late 1st century. This is also true for us today.

Hearing His voice, seeing His beauty, and feeling His hand are the essence of true worship. This type of worship galvanizes us to endure hardship and difficulties. It also frees us from paralyzing fear and empowers us to serve our God.

William Temple explains more graphically why worship is so crucial for us and our world. “This world can be saved from political chaos and collapse by only one thing: Worship of the living and true God.”

Let us pray that all who gather for worship today might encounter the living Christ and experience His transforming power!

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, Whose blessed Son came into the world
that He might destroy the works of the devil
and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life:
Grant that, having this hope,
we may purify ourselves as He is pure;
that, when He comes again with power and great glory,
we may be made like Him in His eternal and glorious kingdom;
where He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Hebrews 13:14-15

Pastor: For here we have no lasting city,
but we seek the city that is to come.

People: Through Him then let us continually
offer up a sacrifice of praise to God,
that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.

†PRAYER OF INVOCATION

†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.

†SONGS OF PRAISE

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed, Part Two

Pastor: Christian, what do you believe concerning Jesus Christ?

People: We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy Jesus, Light of the World,
have mercy upon us, Your disciples,
who have too often walked in the darkness,
preferring the fleeting shadows of this world
to the radiant light of Your fellowship.
Please forgive us,
for the ways that we have dishonored
and dethroned You in our hearts.
Receive us anew into the brightness of Your fellowship,
grant us the joy of Your salvation,
and move us to walk in the light of Your Word
so that we may glorify You with satisfied hearts,
now and forevermore. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 John 1:7-9

But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus His Son
cleanses us from all sin.
If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

PRAYER FOR CHRIST’S PEOPLE

OFFERING AND BUDGET PRESENTATION

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.

THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

SERMON

Revelation 21:9-21 — “The Beauty of the Church”
“Revelation: Roadmap for Daily Life, Refuge for the Future”
Gabriel N.E Fluhrer

†SONG OF RESPONSE

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

from Numbers 6:24-26

Pastor: May the Lord bless you and keep you;
May the Lord make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God, Amen!

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