

SERMON NOTES:

1. Eden Escalated (vv. 1-2)

2. Endless Intimacy (vv. 3-5)

This Week at 1st Pres

Sunday, May 14		
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
5:15 PM	Evening Worship Service	Sanctuary
Monday, May 15		
10:00 AM	Flower Delivery Pick-Up	Connector
	Women’s Prayer Ministry	Session Room
11:45 AM	Bible in the Schools Meeting	Fellowship Hall
5:15 PM	Diaconate Monthly Meeting	Nell Davis
6:00 PM	Bell Choir Practice	SS 208
6:00 PM	Regional Historical Society	Chapel
Tuesday, May 17		
10:00 AM	All-Staff Meeting	Tower 402
12:00 PM	Beatitude Living	Tower 404
5:45 PM	Bonded in Fellowship	Fellowship Lounge
6:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday, May 17		
6:30 AM	Dead Theologians Society	Fellowship Hall
4:30 PM	Deacon-on-Call	Connector
	World Missions Prayer Time	Tower 303
5:30 PM	Rapha Fellowship	SS 209 & SS 210
6:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Thursday, May 18		
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 19		
9:00 AM	Children’s Play Group	Student Center
10:15 AM	Support Staff Meeting	
12:00 PM	Card-E-Ology	Tower 8 th Floor



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, MAY 14, 2023
9:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

THE GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

Now suppose both death and hell were utterly defeated. Suppose the fight was fixed. Suppose God took you on a crystal ball trip into your future and you saw with complete certainty that despite everything—your sin, your smallness, your stupidity—you could have free for the asking . . . your whole crazy heart’s deepest desire: heaven, eternal joy. Would you not return fearless and singing? What can earth do to you if you are guaranteed heaven? To fear the worst earthly loss would be like a millionaire fearing the loss of a penny—less a scratch on a penny. This is the gospel, the scandalously good news. We are guaranteed heaven by sheer gift.

~ Peter Kreeft, Heaven: The Heart’s Deepest Longing

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love toward You, that we, loving You in all things and above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



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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.

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 33

Pastor: The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high;
He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness.
And He will be the stability of your times,
A wealth of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge;
The fear of the LORD is Zion’s treasure.

People: Your eyes will see the King in His beauty;
They will behold a far-distant land.
But there the majestic One, the LORD, will be for us
A place of rivers and wide canals. . .
For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver;
The LORD is our King; He will save us.

†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

Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 58

Q. How does the article concerning “life everlasting” comfort you?

A. Even as I already now experience in my heart
the beginning of eternal joy,
so after this life I will have perfect blessedness
such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard,
no human heart has ever imagined:
a blessedness in which to praise God forever.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious Father,
we are slow to learn,
prone to forget and weak to climb.
We are in the foothills
when we should be in the heights
of our spiritual journey.
We are pained by our graceless hearts,
our prayerless days, our poverty of love,
our slothfulness in the heavenly race,
our guilty consciences,
our wasted hours and unspent opportunities.
We are blind while the light shines around us:
Take the scales from our eyes,
grind to dust our heart of unbelief.
Make it our highest joy to worship You,
by sitting, like Mary, at Your feet;
appealing, like Peter, to Your love;
and counting, like Paul, all things loss
in light of knowing Jesus Christ our Lord.
We believe; help our unbelief. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 John 2:1-2

My little children,
I am writing these things to you
so that you may not sin.
But if anyone does sin,
we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous.
He is the propitiation for our sins,
and not for ours only
but also for the sins of the whole world.

†SONG OF ASSURANCE

RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS

Scottie Cain
Emily Conn
Clark and Laura Kellogg
Wesley, Melissa, Mary Claire, and Oliver Nimon
Carter and Campbell Young

PRAYER FOR CHRIST’S PEOPLE

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 22:1-5 — “Living Your Best Life”
“Revelation: Roadmap for Daily Life, Refuge for the Future”
Gabriel N.E Fluhrer

†SONG OF RESPONSE

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

Revelation 22:20-21

Pastor: He who testifies to these things says,
“Surely I am coming quickly.”
Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: Thanks be to God. AMEN!

The flowers today are given by the family of Bob Campbell on his first anniversary in heaven
and in honor of the First Pres Choir he loved so much.

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our
homebound and hospitalized on Monday, May 15th.

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