

SERMON NOTES:

1. Eden Escalated (vv. 1-2)

2. Endless Intimacy (vv. 3-5)

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.



New to 1st Pres?
We'd love to connect with you!
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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

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|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

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, MAY 14, 2023
11:00 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.

PRELUDE

“Adagio e dolce” from “Trio Sonata 3” by J.S. Bach
Patrick Rice, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARING HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP
“Saints Bound for Heaven” arr. Lloyd Larson

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.

†HYMNS OF PRAISE
“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks”
“Jerusalem the Golden”

†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.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE
“Before the Throne of God Above”

RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS
Chink and Judy Brown
Wanda Hicks
Larry and Nancy Mehne
Jack Perry
Bill and Kathy Wilder

PRAYER FOR CHRIST’S PEOPLE

OFFERTORY
“When I Can Read My Title Clear” arr. Dan Forrest

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH
Please check in your children PreK-1st grade at the check-in station by the
Fellowship Hall level elevator and walk them to the PreK-K dept.

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

†HYMN OF RESPONSE
“My Jesus, I Love Thee” No. 648 (vv. 1-4)

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!

POSTLUDE
“We’re Marching to Zion” arr. Craig Duncan
Celtic Ensemble

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| <u>Pastors</u> Gabe Fluhrer, Senior Pastor gabe@1stpresbyterian.com Dick Cain, Senior Assistant Pastor dick@1stpresbyterian.com Chris Ehlers, Congregational Care & Assimilation chrisehlers@1stpresbyterian.com Dick Fisher, Visitation ref27@msn.com Mike Haberkorn, Discipleship, Children & Youth mike@1stpresbyterian.com Randy Nabors, Missions randy@1stpresbyterian.com | <u>Directors</u> Jessica Bayless, Communications & Community Coordinator jessica@1stpresbyterian.com West Breedlove, Assistant Director of Worship west@1stpresbyterian.com Emily Brelsford, Kids emily@1stpresbyterian.com Shad Guinn, Community Outreach shad@1stpresbyterian.com Darrin Hassevoort, Music & Worship darrin@1stpresbyterian.com Brad Roberts, Youth brad@1stpresbyterian.com Forrest Walker, Vesper Point forrest@vesperpoint.org |
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