

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 16, 2026

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Prelude in G Minor”

J.S. Bach

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Terry Turner, Liturgist

Leader: It is here that we come together as people searching for healing and hope:

People: Here we are met by the One who would bless us with abundant life.

Leader: Here we are called to gather as the family of God:

People: We may find those who are strangers yet are beloved siblings of ours.

Leader: Here we discover the truth that God makes no distinctions among us:

People: It is here we are welcomed and embraced by the One whose arms are open to all.

Let us worship God together!

*HYMN #509 *(see bulletin)*

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

Oxenham

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Our words, our deeds, our lives build barriers between us and others, between us and God. But God would shatter every distinction, God would reshape us as new people. Let us come to the One who loves us, and longs to forgive us. Please join me as we confess our sins together, saying...

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

We admit, O God, that we have difficulties living as your children. We could live in unity, but our words fracture relationships with family and friends. We have been shown the way to your kingdom but turn into blind guides when asked for the directions by others. When we could offer others the precious oil of peace, we hand them the vinegar of despair and rejection. Have mercy on us Lord. When you call to us, may we listen with open ears, even now in these silent moments of worship, that we will understand with embracing hearts, that we have been graced by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior...

Our prayers continue in silence...

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Hear the good news for you and for me: God has provided hope for us all, filling us with joy, with mercy, with peace.

**People: As mercy leads to mercy, let us promise to take these gifts to share with the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another.

*HYMN #89 *(see bulletin)*

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

Doris Akers

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Andante Religioso”

Johann C.H. Rinck

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Psalms 133:1-3

ANTHEM

“Table of Grace”

Pete Carson/John Carter

SECOND READING:

Matthew 15:(10-20)21-28

SERMON

“Really Jesus?”

Rev. Rick Douylliez

***HYMN #504** (*see bulletin*)

“We Come As Guests Invited”

Dudley-Smith/Steurlin

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with You.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise. . . .

the prayer continues ...

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Sacrament

Communion Prayer

THE LORD’S PRAYER

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Introduction-Chorale, Suite Gothique”

Léon Boëllmann

(*) *We stand as we are able*

*The flowers placed in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
and in memory of W.C. Johnson, Jr.
By Brett Johnson.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elders of the Month: Laura Hall & Aileen McNair

Sunday, August 16 at 4 p.m. Confirmation Class

Monday, August 17 at 7 a.m. Biscuits & Blessings

Monday, August 17 at 9 a.m. TIDY TEAM

Monday, August 17 at 5:30 p.m. Cornerstones Anniversary

Tuesday, August 18 at 9 a.m. Shalom Bible Study

Tuesday, August 18 at 5:15 p.m. SESSION

Thursday, August 20 at 4 p.m. Spiritual Growth

Monday, August 24 at 7 a.m. Biscuits & Blessings

Tuesday, August 25 at 9 a.m. Shalom Bible Study

Friday, August 28 at 6 p.m. MOVIE NIGHT

Sunday, August 30 CONFIRMATION

Monday, August 31 at 7 a.m. Biscuits & Blessings

BACKPACKS FOR HOPE

Our Helping Hands Box is focusing on donations for the Backpacks ministry. At the end of the last school year, our Alice Griner Backpacks for Hope Ministry was serving 24 families, which included 82 kids, with bags of food weekly to help them get through the weekend. **As we prepare for the new school year, the BEST thing you can do to support the ministry is make a financial donation** by writing a separate check to First Presbyterian and put “backpacks” in the memo line. You can bring/send the check to the office or put it in the collection plate.

If you prefer to donate food items, please **only bring select items from this list in September** to ensure freshness: Peanut butter, Vienna sausages, Individual packaged fruit (raisins, fruit cups), breakfast bars, granola bars, spaghetti sauce (ONLY can or plastic containers - no glass) and Spaghetti noodles.

MISSIONS DINNER: SEPTEMBER 20TH

This year's Missions Dinner to benefit the Fellowship for Disadvantaged Peoples in Bangladesh will be held at noon **Sunday, September 20th.** Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from Patty June or the office. The menu for eat-in or take-out meals is Fried Chicken, Creamed Corn, Green Beans, Roll and Peach Cobbler.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION FOR WATCH SUPPER

MENU for Wednesday, August 19:

Regular & Children: Hamburger or Hot dogs, French Fries, Baked Beans, Salad Bar

Diet: Baked Chicken, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar

Dessert: Cookies & Ice Cream