

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2026

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Arr.: Mary Ellen Kerrick

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Elaine Barber, Liturgist

Leader: On this day of worship, we call on God’s name,

People: and hear our own invitation to work for the good of all.

Leader: Gathered with members and friends of the church, we call on God’s hope,

People: and discover that a lifetime of service seems but a few days.

Leader: In this place of praise and prayer, we call on God’s love,

People: and receive that grace which is as old as creation, yet as fresh as each morning.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN #8 *(see bulletin)*

“To God Be the Glory”

Crosby/Doane

*CALL TO CONFESSION

We spend so much time accusing ourselves, judging ourselves, punishing ourselves for what we have done, or not done. But God draws us closer to the heart of forgiveness, that we might be filled with healing and grace. Join me, as we pray together...

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

What then are we to say about our lives, Searcher of our hearts? We know how often we have duped others with our deceit. We remember how often we promise one thing, only to do the opposite. We struggle to trust you, while we so easily listen to the promises of those who would pull us away from you. Forgive us, O God, with overflowing mercy. Your grace is more powerful than any of our sins, your hope is more durable than our silly choices, your love will transform anything, and everything, which separates us from you. O God, speak to our hearts now in these moments of silence...

Our prayers continue in silence...

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Hear the good news: The One who could condemn us, cradles us in grace. The One who could punish us, prays for us.

People: Now we know, there is nothing, not a thing, that can separate us from God. Thanks be to the One who forgives us. Alleluia! 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 #443 *(see bulletin)*

“There Is a Redeemer”

Melody Green

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Abide With Me”

Setting: Emma Lou Diemer

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, inspire us now by your Holy Spirit that the words we read on the page might become living words in our hearts and lives as we encounter the grace, love and peace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Psalms 105:1-11

ANTHEM

“God So Loved the World”

Harlan

SECOND READING:

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON

“Hidden Treasures in Moultrie”

Rev. Rick Douylliez

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***HYMN #774** (*see bulletin*)

“There Is Now a New Creation”

Gambrell/Witt’s *Psalmody Sacra*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Now in this moment, God calls us to go forth.

People: **We will let nothing get in the way of working for the good of all.**

Leader: Now in the place, Jesus sends us out.

People: **We will let nothing get in the way of sharing hope and justice with all.**

Leader: Now as all of God's people, the Spirit scatters us.

People: **We will let nothing get in the way of being that grace which is as old as creation, as fresh as our next breath. Amen!**

POSTLUDE

“Psalm of Glory”

Dorothy Wells

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

(*) *We stand as we are able*

The flowers in the sanctuary today were placed to the Glory of God

and in honor of those who faithfully serve God through music and in memory of Doug Hall whose music we miss.

From Laura, Carl Chesley and Leila Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elders of the Month: Elaine Barber & Aileen McNair

Sunday, July 26 following the 11 a.m. service—CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to elect church officers

Saturday, August 1 FLINT RIVER PRESBYTERY MEETING at our church!

Sunday, August 2 at Noon – THRIVE youth fun park trip

Tuesday, August 4 at 9 a.m. Shalom Bible Study

(5-week study begins, using *Second Thoughts About Hell* by Allen & Cornwall)

Saturday, August 8 at 3 p.m. OUR TIME – GAMES!

Sunday, August 9 at 3:30 p.m. RESONANCE – alternative worship, fellowship & discussion

Wednesday, August 12 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPERS RESUME!!

DINNER AT FIVE

This Wednesday, July 29, our Dinner at Five crew will meet up at Rocco's at 5 p.m. Please let the office know by tomorrow (Monday) afternoon if you are interested: firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com.

DONATE SCHOOL SUPPLIES BY THE END OF JULY

August 1st, we will be hosting the Flint River Presbytery meeting. FRP is collecting school supplies for refugees in partnership with New American Pathways. Help us by donating items listed on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & BUY TICKETS FOR THE MISSIONS DINNER

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.

BACKPACKS FOR HOPE

Our church will be supporting our Backpacks ministry to local children during this quarter with the Helping Hands Box donations in the Fellowship Hall. 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.

The ladies who prepare the bags of food can stretch every dollar by purchasing items that are on sale each week of delivery. **So, 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.