



Welcome to

First Presbyterian Church

August 16, 2026



Welcome to this sanctuary.
Welcome to this time of worship and wonder.
Welcome to this family of faith.

We're glad you're here today and pray that your experience
with us in worship is both challenging and uplifting!

Our ushers are available to assist you as needed.

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, we invite you
to visit our website. There you will find out the ways to keep in touch,
how we live our faith, our different partnerships and so much more.

Our website address is: www.firstpresracine.org

If you're interested in receiving news about the church,
please call 262.632.1686 or email: shelley@firstpresracine.org

Rev. Darren Utley—Church Pastor
pastordarren@firstpresracine.org

Today's Service

PASTOR—Rev. Darren Utley

LITURGIST—Jeff Leavell

MUSICIANS—Jim Sodke, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, Dave Titus

MEDIA TECH SPECIALIST—Steve Comeau

*Please stand as you are able.

[**Bold type**] indicates text to be spoken by the congregation.

[***Bold italic type***] indicates song to be sung by the congregation.

We Gather to Worship

As a courtesy to everyone, please mute your mobile device.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Leavell

Welcome! May you find God's love, peace, grace, and joy as we worship today.

PRELUDE

Soft and Tenderly | Mary McDonald
Jim Sodke

PRAYER OF INVITATION

Lord of the harvest,
we praise you for the bounty
that only you can bring.
Teach us to trust you
with the persistence of the Canaanite woman,
who sought healing for her child,
and to advocate for the needs of one another.
Fill each pantry with sustaining food
and fill us with the fruits of the Spirit,
that we might serve you
until every hunger is met with justice
and every outcast is welcomed home,
in the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

In the Bulb There Is a Flower
[GtG Hymn #250]

Jim Sodke, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, Dave Titus

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE | 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.

*ACT OF PRAISE

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

[GtG Hymn #444, v v. 1 & 4]

"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"

You taught us Lord to pray,

But You alone can grant us grace

To live the words we say.

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls

And bid resentment cease.

Then, by your mercy reconciled,

Our lives will spread Your peace.

*PASSING THE PEACE

In the Sermon on the Mount

Jesus offers this blessing:

“Blessed are the peacemakers

They will be called children of God.”

Jesus also encourages us to not worry about tomorrow for God's eye is on the lilies and the sparrow.

As children of God,

let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclaiming the Word

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 56:1,6-8 [OT 686]
Matthew 15:10-28 [NT 17]

SERMON

Purity & Danger
Rev. Darren Utley

Responding to the Word

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

4th Gnossienne | Erik Satie

*SONG OF RESPONSE

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
[GtG Hymn #435]

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Brief Confession of Faith '91

"We trust in the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through scripture, engages us in the world to proclaim good news and to work for justice and peace, and prays in us when our own words fail. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives."

OFFERING/OFFERTORY **My Faith Has Found a Resting Place** | Mary McDonald

*Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen!***

Going Forth to Minister

*CLOSING HYMN

In Christ There Is No East or West
[GtG Hymn #317]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING

When the Lord Redeems the Very Least
[GtG Hymn #852, v. 1 & refrain]

***When the Lord redeems the very least,
we will rejoice.***

***When the hungry gather for the feast,
we will rejoice.***

***We will rejoice with gladness. we will rejoice.
All our days we'll sing to God in praise.
We will rejoice!***

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision | Mark Hayes

Announcements

Sun., Aug. 16 th	9:30 ^{AM}	Sunday Worship
Wed., Aug. 19 th	4:00 ^{PM}	Food Pantry
Sat., Aug. 22 nd	9:00 ^{AM}	Session Retreat
Sun., Aug. 23 rd	9:30 ^{AM}	Sunday Worship



Prayer Matters

Heartfelt thoughts & prayers for the family of Evelyn Vanderheyden, as she passed away on Wednesday night; and all who have recently lost a friend or family member. May they know peace and comfort during these difficult times.

Prayers of comfort & healing for Steve & Pam Simpson, Jen Seversen, John Brooke, Kay Mahl, Sheila and Shelley Lawrence, Jennifer Humphreys, Peggy Taylor, Vi Shufelt, Don Tobias, Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Ed Lehmann, Leah Fisher, Barb Stevenson, and an unspoken prayer for a church member.

As they deal with physical, emotional and/or spiritual issues, please pray for Shaun—friend of Patrick Herrera, family members of Sharon Campbell, Monica—daughter of Ben & Catherine Neal, Rudy—brother of Nancy Lechner, John—husband of Sandy Hawley, Janice—friend of Shelley Maurer, John—son of Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Nancy—mother of Gloria Zember, paternal grand-father of Autumn Eifert, Baby Hazel—grandniece of Carrie & Kathi, Chad—son of Sheila Lawrence, Masako—mother of Fumi Nakayama, Johan—brother of Cecilia Andersson, Elena & Ezequiel Romero—parents of Deb Utley, Mary Ann—mother of Cheryl Nitz, Amy—daughter of Jim & Bonnie Eastman, Chuck—husband of Sue Pehlivanian, Austin Moulds, Meyer Schaal, friends & family of the Lehmanns, Jack Flynn and Mary—sister of Gretchen Hermann, Scott Mohn—friends of the Paffrath family, friends & family of the Galles.

Prayers for those in the service – Evan Humphreys, Jared Smith, Jordan Smith, Nicholas Hansen.



It's time to help out the families at Julian Thomas Elementary by purchasing supplies for the children.

The deadline for dropping off supplies at the church is Sunday, August 23, 2026.

As always, thank you for your generous heart!

Refined list of school supplies:

No. 2 pencils
Crayola crayons (24 ct.)
Crayola markers (10 ct.)
Crayola colored pencils (12 ct.)
Scissors
Glue sticks (large)
Wide-ruled loose-leaf paper
Dry erase markers

Composition notebooks
Highlighters
Plastic supply boxes
Clipboards
Facial tissue
Disinfecting wipes
Watercolor paints