FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 15, 2026

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church, Franklin.
The asterisk (*) invites all to rise in body or spirit.
*The people's responses are in **bold type**. Please silence cell phones.*

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S WORD

BELL PEAL / POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL TEACHING MOMENT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come and worship the Lord with me.
Let us bring our songs of thanksgiving to our God.
Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.
To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.
You are my God, I trust in you.

***HYMN 25** *O Lord, Our God, How Excellent* WINCHESTER OLD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God our Savior, we know the right words to say, that your Holy Spirit is always at work to transform us more and more into the image of Jesus.

But so often we look at our lives more through our own eyes. We see all the reasons "we can't." We let the awareness of our genuine weaknesses paralyze us as disciples. Free us from our sins and also from the distrust that comes from looking too much at ourselves and not at you. O Lord, have mercy! Grant us fresh grace each day that we may live our lives by faith, not in ourselves, but in the One who gave his life for us. Let it truly be no longer we who live, but Christ living in us.

SILENT CONFESSION

CHORAL RESPONSE *"…and lead me in the way everlasting"*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the Good News.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***THE PEACE** (*Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.)*

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** LOBE DEN HERREN

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore! Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

***SUMMARY OF THE LAW**

Let us now remember the standard by which God calls us to live.

"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets. Enter through the narrow gate, for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Blessed are those with ears to hear. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH Anne Keener

Children of all ages are invited to come forward. Nursery (0-3) and Children's Worship (ages 4 to K) information is on the back of the bulletin.

CHORAL RESPONSE *"…follow thee more clearly day by day."*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:14-30 (pg.807)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Fear, the Great Enemy of Grace* Robert Montgomery

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

MUSICAL MEDITATION Carillon Handbell Choir and Adam Troxler, Flute

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** 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; he descended into hell; 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND LIVES

Fold and place your completed "Connection Card" in the plate offering.
To give online, scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

OFFERTORY MUSIC Chancel Choir

"…to give and give, and give again, what God has given thee;
to spend thyself nor count the cost, to serve right gloriously…"

***DOXOLOGY** OLD 100TH (Augmented Rhythm)

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.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN 697** *Take My Life* HENDON
(VERSES One, Four, Five, and Six)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

***RINGING OF THE CARILLON** Five Bell Peal

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Robert Montgomery, Bridge Pastor
Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor
Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist
The Carillon and Chancel Choirs – Adam Troxler, Instrumentalist
Francelia Downey, Liturgist
Thomas Hatcher, Acolyte

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Will Shockley by Susan, Charles, and Claire Shockley.

PRAYER LIST

New:
Gary Cole
Mike Henry
Janet Frame
Charley Winger
Jennie Stevens mother, Judy Bowers
Adam Starace's friend, Chad
Martha Johnson's brother-in-law, Tom Anderson
Leah Stein's friends, Butch Owens, Tina Goode, and Anita Pringle
Lucy and Hunter Battle's friends, Rick and Elizabeth Carter

Deaths:
Mickey Wilhoite's mother, Beulah Chunn, October 28
Downey family's nephew and cousin, Sam Wilson, November 7
Pati DeMotte's mother, Paula Lopez de Sarat, November 1

Members:
Ann Brown
Barbara Crunk
Marilyn Doering
Joe Duarte
Eugenie Ermis
Carolyn Hayes
Kim Lewis
Lillard Family
Erik Lund
Anne Osborne

Assisted Living/Homebound:
Derrell and Tee Billingsley- home
Ann Brown- The Lantern, Spring Hill
Carolyn Hayes- Canterfield
Joan Hetherington- home
Marilyn Miller- The Heritage
Nancy Morris- Somerby
Opal Plumley- The Heritage
Jane Stafford- Willow Springs, Spring Hill
Betty Willoughby- home

In Memory:
Dot Woodard November 16, 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's Love on the Move: As we wrap up our stewardship campaign, we ask that you please return your pledge card or pledge online by **TODAY**. To date, 81 pledges have been received totaling $673,950.

Wednesday Night Live (WNL): 6 PM - Dinner; 6:45-7:30 PM - Adult, Youth, and Children programs. Sign up on the FPC website or the Connection Card. Please join us this Wednesday as TN Holocaust Commission Education Coordinator, Ken Gluck, whose father survived a Nazi concentration camp, will share survivor testimonies, educational programs, exhibits, and commemorations.

Adults 55+ Upcoming Events: Join us **Tuesday, November 17**, at 11 AM to enjoy lunch at Fox & Locke in Leipers Fork. On **Wednesday, December 2**, at 1 PM, we'll take a shopping trip to Brightstone's Christmas Shoppe. Sign up online and meet there, or reach out to Martha to carpool. Finally, join us for Christmas lunch in Wilson Hall on **Saturday, December 12**, at 11 AM. Sign up online.

FISH Events: On **Saturday, November 21**, from 10 AM -1 PM, join us at Room In The Inn in Nashville to serve lunch. Sign up online. Then on **December 5** at 9 AM in Wilson Hall join us for a morning of service benefiting Room In The Inn and the Society of St. Andrew. Help assemble 200 shelf-stable food packs for individuals experiencing homelessness, as well as cut produce bags and package seeds for SOSA. These simple acts of service make a meaningful difference in our community. No sign-up required. Everyone is welcome!

November Basic Essentials Collection: This month, we're collecting postage stamps, full-size shampoo, and conditioner for Bridges Domestic Violence Center, which helps Williamson County individuals and families find safety and independence. Please drop off donations in the cart in the Narthex.

Advent Workshop & United4Hope: Join us **Sunday, November 29** at 9 AM in Wilson Hall as all ages gather, create and learn to celebrate the start of Advent! The Mission Committee will also host a United4Hope station to assemble 180 Christmas Appreciation Bags for Poplar Grove teachers and staff.

Partner with the Mission Committee and Poplar Grove School to bless 15 children in need of a special Christmas! Adopt a child who needs extra love this season and provide gifts, clothing, and shoes (about $100 per child). Child specific wish lists will be emailed the week of 11/23. You can also sign up to provide a $50 grocery gift card to a family. Sign up online or contact Christine Grisham *cmgrisham@comcast.net*. Return unwrapped gifts to FPC **by Sunday, Dec. 6** under the mission bulletin board.

The Manger Tree: Pick up a gift tag in Wilson Hall and help bless a family this Christmas! Purchase from the Amazon Wishlist for delivery to GraceWorks by **Dec. 1** or place unwrapped gifts under the tree by **Sunday, December 6**.

Chili Cook-Off and Live Nativity, **Sunday, December 6,** from 5-7 PM in Wilson Hall. Sign up online to enter your chili in the competition, and remember, your donation is your vote! The evening will also feature a special presentation of the Live Nativity Story by our youth.

Advent Poinsettias: Help beautify the sanctuary this Advent season by dedicating a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. Dedications will be included in the bulletin each Sunday during Advent. Please note your dedication on the connection card or email it to Catherine at *colson@fpcfranklin.org.* The last day to submit dedications is **Sunday, December 13.** The cost is $20. Checks may be made payable to First Presbyterian Church (Flower Fund) or you may give online.

Save the Date:
Amy Jill Levine WNL series coming **December 2, 9, and 16.**

Use the QR code to visit the Events page.

Responding to God's grace through worship, study, and service.

Our purpose is to joyfully follow Christ and respond to God's grace as an inclusive, multigenerational faith community by:

- Deepening discipleship through relevant worship and lifelong learning
- Creating and nurturing congregational relationships
- Transforming lives and connecting with others through service

Welcome! We warmly welcome everyone here today. Whether you are from our community or visiting, we are glad to have you among us.

We strive to be inclusive and offer assistance for those with disabilities.
T-Coil hearing devices are available from members of the Hospitality Team. We have pew cutouts for accessibility and offer sensory nurturing items for children. If anyone has other needs or disabilities that require assistance or accommodation for any church activity, please don't hesitate to contact the church office at 615-794-5114.

Our Nursery is available for infants and children through 3 years old downstairs in Room 111. Children of all ages are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary.

Children's Worship is available for children ages 4 through kindergarten in Room 101 following Time with the Young Church. Those attending will be returned to the sanctuary before the end of the service. For accommodations and more information, please get in touch with the Director of Youth Ministries, Sam Belcher *(sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org)*.

Send prayer requests, concerns, or celebrations to Anne Keener *(akeener@fpcfranklin.org)*.

THE SESSION

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Leanne Hoeffler	Greg Bennorth	Judi Arnold
John Korab	Dan Crunk	Rick Blackburn
Tammy Love	Sarah Fox	Rich Crim
Starr Nolan	Martha Johnson	Tony Inglis
Phillip Otts	Jim Petersen	Rachael Stanfill

THE CHURCH STAFF

Robert Montgomery, Bridge Pastor
Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor
Michael Snoddy, Dir. of Music/Organist
Sam Belcher, Dir. of Youth Ministries
Catherine Olson, Dir. of Operations
Marie Hayman, Accountant
Kate Lasseter, Nursery Coordinator
Kelly Oldham, Nursery Coordinator
Linda Cairatti, Nursery Staff

First Presbyterian Church, Franklin, is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a member of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, the Synod of Living Waters, and the General Assembly of the PC(USA).

Church Office Hours M-Th 9 AM-4 PM

101 Legends Club Lane, Franklin, TN, 37069
615.794.5114 | fpcfranklin.org

Scan the QR code to the right to make an online donation.
I appreciate your generosity!