FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 8, 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

STORIES OF BELONGING *Living Waters for the World* Kendall Cox

PRELUDE / HYMN INTONATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

This is the day that the LORD has made.
Thanks be to God! We will rejoice and be glad in it.
Let us present our whole selves, body, mind, soul and spirit—all that we are and have—to the LORD.
For every good thing comes from the mercies of our God.
Here, we are, Lord.
Let it be to us according to your will, and your will alone.
Let us worship God with open hearts, with our ears listening for the Word of God.

***HYMN 353** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* SOLID ROCK

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our lives are in your hands. In your mercy, hear our prayers. We have come to you for mercy and help so many times, and here we are again. We come solely on your promise in Jesus that you welcome all who seek you.

As we come to ask for your grace, help us to extend the same mercy and forgiveness to all those around us. Only your Spirit can free us from the sins and self-centeredness that so quickly invade our thoughts and actions. O God our Father, draw us ever more deeply into the ways of Jesus Christ that we may be filled with the endless joy of life that is truly life. Let your love and truth flow into us and carry us into the world as living witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ. In his name, we pray.

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.

He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH Robert Montgomery

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 25:1-13 (pg.806)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Important? Sure, But How Important?* Robert Montgomery

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

MUSICAL MEDITATION *Chancel Choir*

"Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh."

***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.

STORIES OF BELONGING *Stewardship* Terry Love

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 John Johns, guitar

***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 363** *Rejoice, the Lord is King!* DARWALL'S 148th

***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 Chancel Choir – John Johns, Guitarist
Ryan Fox, Liturgist
Elizabeth Fox, Acolyte

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband, John Heerman, by Barb Heerman.

PRAYER LIST

New:
Gary Cole
Mike Henry
Janet Frame
Charley Winger
Betty Webb's, uncle, John Knox Andrews
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:
Pati DeMotte's mother, Paula Lopez de Sarat, November 1
Myers Parsons' mother, Ann Nora Parsons, October 18

Members:

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

In Memory:
Warren Keller November 9, 2015

VETERANS DAY 2026

IN HONOR OF ACTIVE DUTY….

Kyle Davidson (grandson of Cathie Oldham) - Army
***Melinda Henderson -** Army Reserve
Will Herbert (grandson of Marilyn Miller) – Air Force, Major, Pilot
Douglas Plumley (grandson of Opal Plumley) - Navy Seal
Taylor Reynolds - Air Force
Thomas Reynolds - Air Force
Mclane Smith (grandson-in-law of Sally Wanzer) - Marines
Jason Tompkins, Sr. (nephew of Barbara Winger) – Air Force, Colonel
Jake Wawrzyniak (son-in-law of Karen & Jim Sumrall) – Coast Guard
Scott Wooden (nephew of Kathy Garst) – Air Force

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's Love on the Move: The 2027 stewardship campaign is underway! Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to share your time, talents, and financial gifts. Please return your pledge card or pledge online by **November 15**. To date, 68 pledges have been received totaling $580,650

Fall Potluck: TODAY following worship in honor of our Veterans.

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 Travis Murphy, Assistant Commissioner with the Tennessee Department of Veterans Services discusses the Tri-Stars and Stripes Council's work to support service members, veterans, and their families.

UKIRK: Join us for a FPC tradition this **Thursday, November 12**, at 5:45 PM at St. Augustine's Chapel on Vanderbilt's campus. Enjoy an evening of fellowship as we serve a meal for Vanderbilt and Belmont students. Questions? Contact Cathy McCall at *cathymccall@icloud.com.* Sign up online.

Boy Scouts All-You-Can-Eat Country Breakfast & Silent Auction on Saturday, **November 14** in Wilson Hall. Join us from 7-10:30 AM to support Troop 135. Adults and kids (ages 5 and up): $15 donation and kids 4 & under free.

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. Finally, join us for Christmas lunch in Wilson Hall on **Saturday, December 12**, at 11 AM. Sign up online.

Room In The Inn: On **Saturday, November 21**, from 10 AM to 1 PM, join us at Room In The Inn in Nashville to serve lunch. Sign up online.

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 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: Please consider picking up one or more gift tags. The tree is up in Wilson Hall. Please choose a gift from the Amazon Wish List for automatic shipping to GraceWorks by Dec. 1 or place your unwrapped gifts under the Manger Tree by **Sunday, Dec. 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.

2027 Flower Dedications: You may donate them in memory, honor, or celebration. There are many open dates, so sign up today!

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!