



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 26, 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

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Carillon Handbell Choir

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE / HYMN INTONATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We rejoice in the One who leads us beside still waters,
and gives us refreshment of soul.

Christ our Shepherd shows us the way we should go,
so that the name of God will be glorified.

Though all manner of evil befall us, we will not be afraid,
for the Great Shepherd is with us.

We are never apart from the love and mercy of the Lord. Let us pray.

We, like the Psalmist, cry out in praise and thanksgiving in response to God's eternal loving-kindness, holding us, guiding us, enfolding us with grace. As Easter people, we pray that our worship will reflect that divine love. Let our praise for all that God has done, is doing and will do, truly resound within our hearts and our homes, within these walls and beyond.

In the name of Jesus Christ, let us worship God.

*HYMN 667

When Morning Guilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gentle Shepherd, You guide us in right paths and lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, rage, greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. We have overreacted, taken more than our share, and despised others that seem to have it all. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and our neighbors. Help us to unclench our fists and offer our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love.

SILENT CONFESSION

CHORAL RESPONSE – *“Lord of life, hear our prayer...”*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the Good News.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Handbell Choir

Carillon

*THE READING OF THE LAW

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

“God spoke all these words, saying, I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor’s home; you shall not covet your neighbor’s spouse, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

Blessed are they whose delight is in the law of the Lord. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Keener

Anne

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 – *“O Lord, my Lord, I hear your voice...”*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM 23

James Version

King

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy

shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23 (p. 435)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Anne Keener

For You Are With Me

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN 801**

CRIMOND

The Lord's My Shepherd

(VERSE One—All; Two—Upper Voices; Three—Lower Voices;
Four and Five—All)

***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

Outreach Committee

Dale

Roos

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

***DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS

ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit,
Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***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 541**
RANDOLPH

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

***RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor
Sam Belcher, Director of Youth Ministries
Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist
The Carillon Handbell and Chancel Choirs
Susan Burns, Liturgist
Charlie Stevens, Acolyte

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and
in memory of our son, Ian Raines, by Shawn and Mark Raines.*

PRAYER LIST

New:

Sandra Fields' friends, Tom Bateman and family
Barb Roos' cousin, Karl Lache
Marlene and Gary Cole's friend, Cathey Mason
Norm and Linda Parker's daughter, Anita Wade
Leah Stein's friend, Duane Dearfield
Sarah Brown's friend, Marilyn Peters
Cathie Davidson's grandson, CPT Tyler Davidson and friend, Judy Shuford
Barb Heerman's friend, Owen Charley and family

Deaths:

Angela Calhoun's mother, Claire Mitchell, April 17

Members:

Ann Brown, Barbara Crunk, Jeff Doering, Carolyn Hayes, Caleb Lillard,
Anne Osborne

Military:

Melinda Henderson
Taylor Reynolds
Thomas Reynolds
Cathie Oldham Davidson's grandson, Kyle Davidson
Marilyn Miller's grandson, Will Herbert
Opal Plumley's grandson, Douglas Plumley
Sally Wanzer's grandson-in-law, Mclane Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Nominations: Please take a moment to submit your nominations for Elders for the Class of 2029. You can do

this by filling out the Connection Card. Your prayerful consideration is appreciated as we seek leaders to serve.

Adults 55+: Will you miss WNL meals and enjoy fellowship? Why not enjoy dinner at the Franklin Chop House (1101 Murfreesboro Rd) at 5PM every Wednesday night this Summer? Dinners start this Wednesday, **April 29**. No need to sign up, just show up!

Study Opportunities: Sisters in Spirit meets Fridays at 10:00 AM in the Parlor. The group is finishing a study on *The Difficult Words of Jesus* by A.J. Levine and will begin a new study on *Counterweights* by Shannan Martin on May 8. All women are welcome. The Men's Bible Study meets Saturdays at 7:30 AM in the Parlor and is studying *Proverbs* by Christine R. Yoder. All men are invited to join for fellowship and meaningful discussion. The Presbyterian Women will have their final meeting of this study on May 12 at 9:45 AM in the Church Parlor and will begin a new study in the fall.

FISH Service Opportunities:

May 2, FPC Workday at Hard Bargain Assoc. 9:30 AM–1:00 PM, meeting at Ty's House (608 Mt. Hope St.) to help with yard work, painting, and repairs.

May 16, FPC will serve alongside GraceWorks Ministries at Fairview Middle from 7AM until 10AM.

June 2, Volunteer with Williamson County Animal Shelter at 10 AM.

Senior Sunday: May 3 join us for a special worship service honoring our graduating seniors, followed by a banquet in Wilson Hall which is open to the congregation. Senior Bibles are available in Wilson Hall. Each member is invited to stop by to leave an encouraging note.

Confirmation Sunday: May 17 join us for worship as we celebrate Confirmation Sunday, honoring our six confirmands and welcoming them into full membership in the life of the church.

FPC Music & Arts: Sunday, May 17 at 3 PM we welcome African American Concert Organist Alcee Chriss III. Celebrated for his "grace, skill, and abundant proficiency," Dr. Chriss has performed throughout North America and Europe and is University Organist and Artist-in-Residence at Wesleyan University. In addition to his concert career, Alcee is active as a church musician, guest lecturer, and remains engaged with his lifelong love of gospel and jazz.

Blood Drive, May 31: Join us for a blood drive with the American Red Cross in Wilson Hall from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Blood donation is vital—and you can help save lives by giving to patients in need. To schedule an appointment, please visit www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code FPCF19.

Outreach Events: Franklin Pride is **June 6** at Harlinsdale Park and Juneteenth is **June 19**. FPC members are invited to sign up to volunteer at our FPC tent and/or come enjoy each event. Sign up on the Connection Card or Email Verna for more info at vrydlund@gmail.com.



Use QR code to visit the Events/Registrations 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 life-long learning
- Creating and nurturing congregational relationships
- Transforming lives and connecting with others through service

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to all who are 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 contact the Director of Youth Ministries, Sam Belcher (sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org).

Prayer requests to share concerns or celebrations may be sent to Anne Keener (akeener@fpcfranklin.org).

THE SESSION

Class of 2026

Leanne Hoeffler
John Korab
Tammy Love
Starr Nolan
Phillip Otts

Class of 2027

Greg Bennorth
Dan Crunk
Sarah Fox
Martha Johnson
Jim Petersen

Class of 2028

Judi Arnold
Rick Blackburn
Rich Crim
Tony Inglis
Rachael Stanfill

THE CHURCH STAFF

Eddie Bellis, Interim 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 Lassetter, 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).

615.794.5114 | fpcfranklin.org

Church Office Hours M-Th 9 AM-4 PM

101 Legends Club Lane, Franklin TN, 37069

615.794.5114 | fpcfranklin.org

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Thank you for your generosity!

