



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
COMMUNION SUNDAY  
JULY 5, 2026

*Welcome to worship. The asterisk (\*) invites all to rise in body or spirit.  
The people's responses are in **bold type**. Please silence cell phones.*



The artwork above, titled *An American Prayer*, is the fourth installment in our “*Easel-y Heard*”- *From Easel to Ear* series where we will feature a piece of art by congregation member Mike Moyers and “hear” it as it is interpreted musically during the offertory music.

Painting can be a meaningful form of prayer. Abstract painting, in particular, frees the artist from the distraction of trying to create something representational. This creates space to express thoughts and feelings more openly, allowing emotions—both joyful and painful—that may be difficult to put into words or organize into coherent thoughts. This piece was painted during a time of prayer. Throughout the session, prayers were offered for our American siblings, especially those who are marginalized or experiencing persecution. Prayers were also lifted for those serving in our government and military. As the colors blended across the canvas, prayers of gratitude mingled with prayers for justice, mercy, and healing.

Prayer is a colorful blending of our deepest thoughts, values, emotions, and concerns, offered in humble conversation with God. What a beautiful work prayer is.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR / POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE / HYMN INTONATION

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

People of God, come and worship. Not because we have gathered ourselves, but because God has called us together.

**We come at the invitation of the living God.**

Nations rise and fall, generations come and go, but the kingdom of God endures forever.

**We come to worship the One whose reign has no end.**

Jesus Christ stands among us still, proclaiming good news to the poor, release to the captives, sight to the blind, and freedom for the oppressed.

**We come to hear the liberating word of Christ again.**

We give thanks for the blessings of this land, yet we remember that our deepest hope rests not in any nation, but in God alone.

**Our citizenship is in heaven, and our lives belong to Christ.**

Then come and lay down every burden. Bring your gratitude and your needs. Open your hearts to the Spirit's renewing power.

**Let us worship God, whose grace sets us free.**

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

**\*HYMN 331**

*God of the Ages*

NATIONAL HYMN

**CALL TO CONFESSION/PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, as we celebrate our freedom as a nation, we confess that we sometimes confuse the freedoms we cherish as citizens of this world with the freedom Christ offers. We issue our thanks for the liberty of this land, yet we forget that Jesus came proclaiming a deeper freedom: the freedom of captives released, burdens lifted, sins forgiven, and lives made new by your grace.**

**Forgive us when we seek our independence more than discipleship, our security more than justice, and our comfort more than compassion. By your Spirit, set us free from all that binds us, so that we may join Christ in bringing good news to the poor, hope to the brokenhearted, and joy to your world. We confess our sins to you in the name of Jesus, who alone makes us truly free.**

**SILENT CONFESSION/ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe in 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 581**

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

**\*SUMMARY OF THE LAW**

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

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

**On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

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

PROCLAIM 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.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:14-22 (p.835)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*“Freedom Is Here, Today”*

Eddie Bellis

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN 317

*In Christ There is No East or West*

ST. PETER

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the Barmen Declaration)

“Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption” (1 Corinthians 1:30).

**As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.**

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

\*DOXOLOGY 606

OLD 100TH

**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.**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Leader continues the prayer...* who forever sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Leader continues the prayer...* Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*Leader continues the prayer...* now and forever. **Amen.**

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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP OF SALVATION**

*All bread is gluten-free. The wine is non-alcoholic grape juice.*

**COMMUNION MUSICAL MEDITATION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*HYMN 337**

*My Country, 'Tis of Thee*

AMERICA

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

**LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor

Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor

Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist

Khris Downey, Liturgist; Nora Downey, Acolyte

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and  
in memory of Judy Wayson, Kathy's mother, by the Garst family.*

**PRAYER LIST**

**New:**

Erik Lund

Jane Plumley

Kim Lewis

Pam and Kevin Asa's son-in-law, Corey Springer

John and Ruthie Moulton's friends, Horesch family

Cathie Davidson's friends, Karen Mitchell and Judy Shuford

Ruthie Moulton's sister, Ingrid Morrison

Barb Roos' cousin & Eric Lache's niece, Susan Bendell

**Deaths:**

Caleb Lillard, June 22

Martin McGirt, June 20

Christi Granstaff's brother, Michael Granstaff, June 16

Roger Fender's mother, Margaret Fender, June 11

**Members:**

Ann Brown, Barbara Crunk, Carolyn Hayes, Anne Osborne

**In Memory:**

Mary Litton                 July 7, 2014

Kate Holdcroft            July 8, 2020

Bob Hetherington         July 9, 2007

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Church Office will be closed on Monday, July 6, in observance of Independence Day.**

**Music in Worship – “Easel-y Heard”—From Easel to Ear** continues. Each week, we will feature a piece of art by congregation member Mike Moyers and “hear” it as it is interpreted musically during the morning’s offertory music.

**Battery Recycling:** You can now recycle household batteries at FPC! Bring your used batteries (excluding lithium ion) and deposit them in the white bucket in front of the mission board in Wilson Hall.

**Worship Flowers:** Sign up today on the website to dedicate worship flowers in memory or in honor of someone you love. Open dates September-November.

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Front Desk Volunteer- on Monday afternoons from 12:30 pm – 4 pm. The position includes answering the phone and doors, and some light administrative work as needed. Please reach out to Catherine Olson ([colson@fpcfranklin.org](mailto:colson@fpcfranklin.org)) if you are interested.

Children’s Worship Leader- one Sunday this month during the sermon. Contact Sam Belcher ([sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org](mailto:sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org)) for details.

**Summer Wonder Hour:** Elementary will study *The Wonder of God’s Creation* in Room 209; They will be led by an all-star crew of nature-loving members! Each week this summer, students will meet to explore creation and learn about the creator. Don’t miss it! The weekly calendar is available on the FPC website.

**Summer Sunday School:** Youth will combine middle and high school Sunday School classes in rooms 117/118, studying *The Classics*, which explores familiar Bible stories like Noah and Jonah; Adult Sunday School will meet in Barr and study *1 Corinthians: Then and Now*, led by Pastor Eddie and Kimberly Coward.

**The Basic Essentials Collection:** During July, we’re collecting items for the Mountain T.O.P. Fall Festival, including new work boots (adult sizes 10–12), new athletic shoes (youth through adult sizes), and new or gently used winter hats and gloves for children and adults. You can also support our year-round collection for the GraceWorks Food Pantry. Drop off items in the cart in the Narthex.

**Fish and Loaves Meal Ministry:** The FPC mission committee will be partnering with Downtown Presbyterian on **Saturday, July 18**. If you would like to volunteer, sign up on the FPC website.

**Summer Potluck:** Stay for food and fellowship following the worship service. Bring a dish to share on **Sunday, July 19**.

**Fish Event:** Volunteer **Tuesday, July 28**, from 10:00 AM–Noon at the Williamson County Animal Shelter. We will help prepare supplies, assemble care packages, and assist with shelter projects. We’d love to have you join us!

### **Mark your calendar:**

**August 9**, Blessings of the Backpacks; Sundaes on Sunday

**August 23**, Rally Day

**Montreat Women’s Connection Aug. 14–16:** Who wants to join us? Enjoy a meaningful weekend of worship, fellowship, rest, shopping, the Blue Ridge Folk Art Center, and keynote speaker **Kristin Kobes Du Mez**. We are planning accommodations so—sign up online today or contact Barbara Roos ([barbararoos427@gmail.com](mailto:barbararoos427@gmail.com)).

Use the 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](mailto:sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org)).

**Prayer requests** to share concerns or celebrations may be sent to Anne Keener ([akeener@fpcfranklin.org](mailto: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 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](http://fpcfranklin.org)

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Thank you for your generosity!

