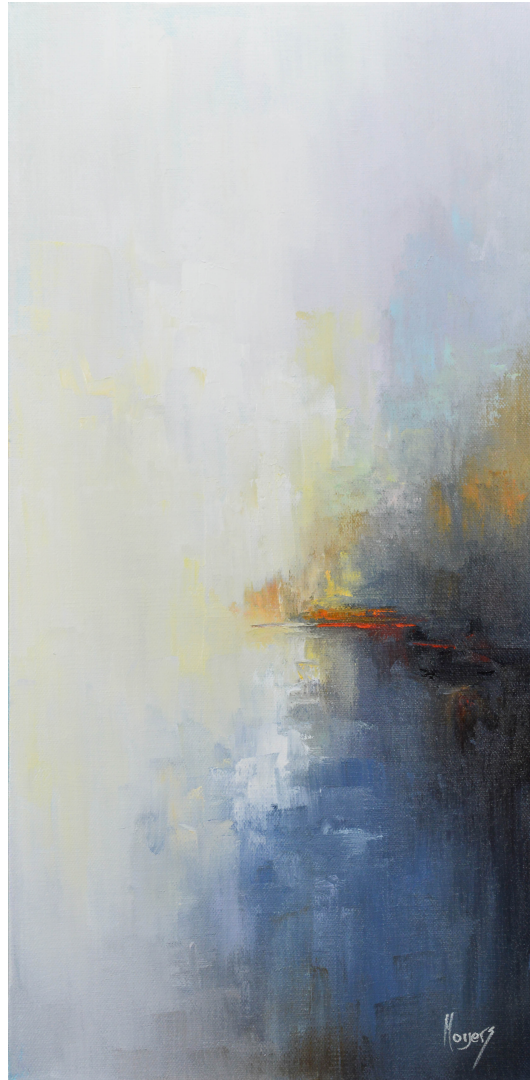




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
GLOBAL MISSION SUNDAY
AUGUST 16, 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 *A Walk in the Light*, is the tenth installment in our “Easel-y Heard”- *From Easel to Ear* series where we feature a piece of art by congregation member Mike Moyers and “hear” it as it is interpreted musically during the offertory music.

Nature is a constant source of inspiration for my work. Plein air painting has taught me much about light and color. Time spent in nature often leaves impressions that I later explore in the studio.

This painting was inspired by a walk at Radnor Lake on a foggy autumn morning, capturing the quiet atmosphere and diffused light of that peaceful moment.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR / POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE / HYMN INTONATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you."

Come, Holy Spirit. Fill us with your power.

Jesus says, "You will be my witnesses."

Send us beyond ourselves to tell what we have seen and known of God's grace.

From Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria, to the ends of the earth,

God's love is always on the move.

Come, people of God. Let us worship the One who calls us, empowers us, and sends us. Together, let us lift our voices in one accord by praying,

Gracious God, we are Christ's witnesses, called to tell of your love not only with our words, but with the lives we live. Send your Holy Spirit among us now. Open our hearts to your presence, our ears to your Word, and our lives to wherever you may send us. May our worship today prepare us to bear witness to your grace in the world.

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

*HYMN 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you call us to be your witnesses, yet too often we remain silent. You send us beyond what is familiar, yet we prefer what is comfortable. You give us the power of your Spirit, yet we rely upon our own strength. Forgive us when our lives fail to tell the story of your grace. Fill us again with your Spirit, give us courage to follow where you lead, and make our words and our lives faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe in 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.)

*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

Elizabeth Carter and 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

Acts 1:1-8 (p.884)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

My Witnesses

Rev. Dr. Mark Mueller
The Outreach Foundation

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN FAVORITE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Confession of 1967, inclusive language ed.)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes superlative qualities of power, wisdom, and goodness to God. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. 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

Mission

Cathy McCall

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 – A Musical Interpretation of "Walk in the Light"

*DOXOLOGY

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.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 741

Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

(VERSES One; Three; Five; and Six)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*RINGING OF THE CARILLON

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Mark Mueller, Executive Director, The Outreach Foundation
Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor
Elizabeth Carter, Director of Development, The Outreach Foundation
Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor
Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist
Adam Troxler, Instrumentalist
Sue Mahurin, Liturgist; Lynlee Nichols, Acolyte

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and
in memory of my husband, Robert Hayes, by Carolyn Hayes.*

The Outreach Foundation

For over 40 years, The Outreach Foundation has connected Presbyterians in the U.S., including many congregations in the PC(USA), with church partners around the globe to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Their ministries support leadership training, new church development, and compassionate outreach in countries such as Lebanon, Syria, Kenya, Malawi, Cuba, China, and Ukraine. While deeply rooted in the Presbyterian tradition, The Outreach Foundation works ecumenically, partnering with other denominations and Christian organizations to strengthen the global church and respond to needs with Christ's love.

PRAYER LIST

New:

Marilyn Doering
Karen Hanson
Sam Belcher's friends, Keith, Paden, and Copeland Brown
Anne Osborne's family, the Stacy family
Leah Stein's mother, Mary Rosswog
Tim Stein's sister, Kristina Stein and family
Leah Stein's friend, Mindy Dawson
Hunter Battle's mother, Carolyn Battle
Joe Duarte's great-granddaughter, Adelynn Armistead

Deaths:

Steve Gillum's mother, Margaret Jean Gillum, July 25

Members:

Ann Brown, Barbara Crunk, Carolyn Hayes, Kim Lewis, Lillard Family,
Erik Lund, Anne Osborne, and Jane Plumley

In Memory:

Hugh DuPree	August 17, 2025	Stuart Wells	August 20, 2020
Payne Shanafelt	August 18, 2014	Scott Neprud	August 22, 2002

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Music in Worship – “Easel-y Heard”—From **Easel to Ear** continues today. **THIS WEEK: First Rehearsals for Fall Begin** – Carillon Handbell Choir (*WED, AUG 19-5:00 PM*) and Chancel Choir (*WED, AUG 19-6:45 PM*)
NEXT TWO WEEKS: “One and Done Choir” – (*SUN, 9:45 AM*) No Vestments – No Experience – No Problem!
Interested in the Chancel Choir? Join us for an easy Sunday of music making.

The Basic Essentials Collection: During August, we're collecting donations for the DG PENCIL Box, a free school supply store for Metro Nashville Public Schools teachers. Please donate “loose leaf only” notebook paper (wide ruled, college ruled, or graph paper). Year-round donations are welcomed to support the GraceWorks Food Pantry. Place donations in the collection cart in the Narthex.

Rally Day is NEXT Sunday, August 23! Join us at 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary as we kick off the Christian Education year and learn about our fall Sunday School classes. In worship, we will present upper elementary students with a Deep Blue Kids' Bible, so if you have a kid (rising 3rd grade through 5th grade) who hasn't received that Bible and would like to, please email Sam Belcher at sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org.

Volunteer as a Children's Worship Leader during the sermon NEXT Sunday and throughout the fall. Contact Sam Belcher sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org.

Adults 55+: Wednesday night dinner at the Chop House continues through **Aug 26**.

FPC Youth Dinner and Fundraiser September 2: We invite the congregation to come enjoy a delicious meal, hear about the impactful trips that FPC Youth went on this summer, and consider donating to fund our efforts for the summer of 2027. Sign up on the FPC events page.

Adults 55+: Thursday, **September 3**, join us at 9 AM in Barr for a meeting of the Intentional Older Adult Ministry Network. A guest speaker from Age Well will present on Dementia and Alzheimer's. No signup needed.

Mercy Franklin Classic, Labor Day, September 7: 5K, 10K, 15K Combo, or 1K Kids Run. The race begins and ends on the Downtown Franklin Square. For registration and details, visit FranklinClassic.org and select **FPC Legends** as your team. Questions? Contact Tony Inglis tony@inglis.me.

Wednesday Night Live (WNL) begins September 9: Join us for an interactive evening of mission, conversation, and connection. Learn how FPC partners locally, nationally, and globally, and discover ways to get involved. Explore mission displays at 5:40 PM, dinner at 6:00 PM. Sign up online or on the Connection Card.

Rise Against Hunger: Join us **Saturday, September 12**, 9 AM-11 AM in Wilson Hall as we partner with Rise Against Hunger to package nutritious meals for families facing food insecurity around the world. We need 80 volunteers, and all ages and abilities are welcome! Sign up online.

Red Cross Blood Drive: We are in an emergency blood shortage, and all blood types are needed. Please make your appointment today for our next FPC Blood Drive on **September 13**. Use code FPCF19 at redcrossblood.org.

Adults 55+: Come for fun and fellowship at Serrato's Steakhouse (3046 Columbia Avenue) at 11 AM on Monday, **September 14!** No signup needed.

Pavilion Picnic, Sunday September 20 at 4:30 PM: Join us for a church picnic at the Pavilion! FPC will provide fried chicken and drinks. Members are invited to bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. Come enjoy good food and fellowship together!

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 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 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.
Thank you for your generosity!

