



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 17, 2025

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

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us shout the victory that belongs to the Saints in Christ!

For even though all things be cast away there will be a new heaven.

There will be a new earth where no pain and no sorrow will exist.

Such are the rewards to the Saints: those past and even those yet to be.

Together let us lift our voices in praise for the mercy and grace of our Lord.

O God, you fulfill the desire of all who call upon you; we gather to worship and praise your name.

You uphold those who are falling and raise up those who are bowed down. You are faithful in words, gracious in deeds, just in all ways, and kind in all that you do. Your dominion shall endure forever. With our mouths we will give you blessing and honor.

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

***HYMN 1**

Holy, Holy, Holy

NICAEA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, when times are tough and we are tempted to give up, we have forgotten about the wonderful things yet to come in the eternity You have planned for us. Forgive us, Lord, and help us remember this world is not our final home and we have no reason to doubt that all the wonderful promises are real. Give us the courage to keep on keeping on, Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION

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.)

*HYMN OF PRAISE

MEINEKE

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.

*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.**

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, 5, K) info on back of bulletin.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO UPPER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:1-6 (Pew Bible, page 1007)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Bear’s Got Your Back

Eddie Bellis

RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN 375

Shall We Gather at the River

GALILEE

(The congregation will remain seated for this hymn.)

VERSE One—Solo; Two—Choir; Three and Four—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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSIONING (*see insert*)

STORIES OF BELONGING

Transition Team

Rich Crim

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 HUNDREDTH

**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 547**

Go My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYDY NOS

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

***RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

Five Bell Peal

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor
Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor
Michael Snoddy, Director of Music/Organist
The Chancel Choir
Ryan Fox, Liturgist
Charlie Jennings, Acolyte

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and
in memory of Andy Grisham from your loving family-Christine, Parkes, Will, and Neeley.*

PRAYER LIST

New:

Jaclyn Tarkington
Harriett and David Sawyer's granddaughter, Annelise Allen

Deaths:

Bob Kopjoe, August 12

Births/Adoptions:

Ava Koeppen, daughter of Lauren Christman and John Koeppen, July 2

Eleanor Koeppen, daughter of Lauren Christman and John Koeppen, July 2

Members:

Ted Bechtel, Barbara Crunk, Vickie Ellis, Anne Osborne, Tom Wilson

In Memory:

Payne Shanafelt August 18, 2014

Stuart Wells August 20, 2020

Scott Neprud August 22, 2002

PLANNING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

We will be inviting you to complete the Church Assessment Tool (CAT), an on-line instrument that will help leaders gauge the strength, vitality, and trends in our church. The information gained from this assessment will be valuable in helping the leaders of First Presbyterian Church (FPC) as they make decisions about the future of our church.

You will receive additional information soon, and in a couple of weeks, you will receive an email with a unique link to the CAT. Beginning August 24th, we are asking you to go online by clicking on the link provided and tell us about your experiences and priorities for FPC.

If you are homebound and are struggling to complete the survey, we will help you. The Transition Team wants your input. Please contact Eddie Bellis by calling the office (615-794-5114) or email (ebellis@fpcfranklin.org). *All answers are strictly anonymous.* We have no way of matching any assessment to a particular person, so please feel free to candidly share your perceptions, opinions and experiences. Our bright future together is dependent on your participation and honest answers.

If you have questions, please contact Eddie Bellis (ebellis@fpcfranklin.org) or phone (615-794-5114).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Ministry Coordinator: We are now hiring a part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator. Please help us spread the word about this new position.

Sundaes on Sunday: Join us after worship **TODAY** for a *sweet* time of fellowship and conversation while enjoying ice cream sundaes! You'll find blank name tags in the pews. We invite you to write down something you'd enjoy talking about and wear it to the social. Whether it's hiking, baking, baseball, or your favorite book, jot it down and wear it proudly! These name tags are a simple way to start conversations and get to know the amazing people sitting around you each week. Also include your name if you aren't wearing your FPC nametag. Come celebrate the kickoff to the new year of Christian Education with us!

Music in Worship: Chancel Choir Return—We welcome the choir back to worship today! **Mid-week Rehearsals Resume THIS week**—Join us *WED, August 20* for *Carillon Handbells* (5:00 PM) and *Chancel Choir* (6:45 PM). **Music Commissioning Sunday and Music Area Common Grounds Event**—*SUN, September 21*

Growth Groups: Fall groups begin the week of September 14. Look on the back of the Connection Card for group details and choose the group that is best for you. Sign up today online or using the connection card. Registration deadline is August 31.

Adults 55+ Last Summer Dinner: Join us for our last summer dinner this Wednesday, **August 20**, at 5 PM at the Franklin Chop House.

Inquirer Gathering: Are you a guest wanting to learn more about FPC? Join us for our Inquirer Gathering on **Sunday, August 24**, at 9 AM in the Parlor to learn more about our congregation and get to know others better.

FPC Youth Dinner and Fundraiser: Wednesday, August 27 at 6 PM in Wilson Hall, we invite the whole congregation to come enjoy a delicious home-cooked meal, hear about the impactful trips that FPC Youth went on this summer, and consider donating to fund our efforts for the summer of 2026. Let us know you are coming by visiting the FPC event page on the website.

No Sunday School or Wonder Hour Sunday, August 31, (Labor Day Weekend).

Join FPC Legends at the Mercy Franklin Classic! Run with us on Labor Day, Monday, September 1, in downtown Franklin for the annual Franklin Classic. Events include a 5K, 10K, 15K combo, and a 1K Kids Run. Register at The Franklin Classic website and select FPC Legends as your team. Questions? Contact Khris Downey.

Wednesday Night Live (WNL) returns on **September 3**

6PM- Dinner; 6:45-7:30 PM- Adult, Youth, and Children programs

In September, Pastor Eddie will lead the Adult program with a discussion of *Christian Doctrine* (Revised Edition) by Shirley Guthrie.

GraceWorks Collection: In AUGUST we are continuing collecting Boxed meals, Canned goods, Pasta/Rice, Shampoo/Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper, and Diapers to share with our neighbors. Donated items can be placed in the basic essentials cart, now in the Narthex.

Upcoming FISH Events – Save the Dates

Sept 6: Crossroads Mission Care

Sept 14: Blood Drive

Sept 27: Sweet Potato & Apple Drop



Use the QR code to visit Upcoming Events/Registrations.

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 requiring assistance or accommodation for any church activity, please 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 4 years old through kindergarten in Room 101 following the Time with the Young Church, and those attending will be returned to the sanctuary before the end of the service. For accommodations and more information please contact the coordinator, Katie Oldham, (k.oldham1994@gmail.com).

Prayer requests to convey concerns or celebrations may be shared with Anne Keener (akeener@fpcfranklin.org).

THE SESSION

Class of 2025

Jason Coleman
Marti Downey
Christine Grisham
Jim Mahurin
Verna Rydlund

Class of 2026

Leanne Hoeffler
John Korab
Tammy Love
Starr Nolan
Phillip Otts

Class of 2027

Martha Johnson
Jim Petersen
Dan Crunk
Greg Bennorth
Sarah Fox

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
Katie Oldham, Children's Worship

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

Scan the QR code to the right to give online.

Thank you for your generosity!

