



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 23, 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 *Pie Jesu*, is the eleventh 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.

This painting is an abstract work inspired by a movement of the same name in John Rutter’s Requiem. The Latin phrase “Pie Jesu” means “Merciful Jesus” and is a petition of prayer—like when we say, “Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.” The painting is about a community in prayer. When we pray together as a community of faith, as in the Prayers of the People, I imagine our collective petitions swell toward God like ocean waves.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR / POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE / HYMN INTONATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your spiritual worship.

We present ourselves as a living sacrifice, praying we will be holy and acceptable to God.

Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.

May God help us to see what is good and acceptable and perfect.

As the one body of Christ, and individually members one of another, together let us lift our voices in prayer.

Almighty God, Maker of heaven and earth, we gather in Your name offering our worship and thanksgiving, our praise and our prayers. Hear the prayers we offer for all Your faithful people and use us to serve You in holiness and truth. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, transform our hearts and minds so that we may recognize Your presence, hear Your voice, know Your will, and walk in Your way today and always.

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

***HYMN 612**

We Praise You, O God

KREMSER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, giver of all good and perfect gifts, You have blessed the church with people who possess diverse talents in order to build the body of Christ. We confess our tendency to neglect the gifts you give. Even though You call us to use what we have for the body, we are distracted by the cares of the world, the busyness of our schedules, and the demands of our lives. Forgive us, O God. Ignite within us a passion for ministry and mission. Give us a sense of connection to You and to one another, that we may discern Your will, what is good and acceptable and perfect, for the sake of Christ.

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.

***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 to K) information is on the back of the bulletin.*

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO UPPER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:1-8 (p.922)

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

SERMON

Be Transformed

Anne Keener

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN FAVORITE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(excerpt from A Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

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)*

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 "Pie Jesu" (Merciful Jesus)

*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 697

Take My Life

HENDON

(VERSES One; Two; Three; Five; and Six)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

***RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor

Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist

Khris Downey, Liturgist; Charlie Stevens, Acolyte

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and
in memory of Will Shockley by Susan, Chuck, and Claire Shockley.*

PRAYER LIST

New:

Joe Duarte

Karen Hanson

Marilyn Doering

Namaste Anderson's friends, the Frazier family

Clata Miller's grandson, Aether Fisher-Miller

Sam Belcher's friends, Keith, Paden, and Copeland Brown

Anne Osborne's family, the Stacy family

Leah Stein's mother, Mary Rosswog and friend, Mindy Dawson

Tim Stein's sister, Kristina Stein and family

Hunter Battle's mother, Carolyn Battle

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:

Elva Darby	August 24, 2004	Andy Grisham	August 25, 2021
Robert Sanders	August 26, 1998	Bob Porter	August 26, 2017

CE Commissioning Liturgy (insert)

Sisters and brothers in Christ, our confessions remind us that the church gathers to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to be tested, to renew and reform, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time. Each of us is called to a special ministry and to be the church in the world. Every one of us is endowed by the Holy Spirit with some gift of ministry and is responsible for the integrity of that witness in particular situations. Each member of this congregation is entitled to the guidance and support of the Christian community.

We gather this day to recognize and bless those endowed by Christ and called to the ministry of teaching as we seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We invite those who lead and teach in our Christian Education ministries to stand.

You have been chosen to lead and be led by the good news of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ, our Lord. You have been called to guide and be guided in your specific ministry of teaching in response to Christ's call to discipleship. Do you accept this invitation to Christian witness and service?

Response: I do

Will you be led by the Holy Spirit, who qualifies all who serve the church for their special work and who imparts various gifts of grace to you as you follow Christ?

Response: I will.

Will you seek to instruct and inspire us as we grow spiritually in the church? Will you help us to know the love and justice of God revealed in Jesus Christ?

Response: I will.

The Congregation Will Stand:

Will you the member of First Presbyterian support the Christian Education ministries of this church with your prayers, talents, and participation?

Response: We will.

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING (Responsive)

O God of Abraham and Sarah, Joseph and Mary, our ancestors in faith, by your grace we have been made part of a family of faith. You call us your children and so we are your beloved. You watch over our coming and going; you nurture our growth with sustaining wisdom. You send your Spirit as a guide for our wanderings and give the promise of Christ's redeeming love to rescue us from waywardness.

We thank you for the wonder of children and curiosity of adults. Within that wonder and curiosity, let the conversations we engage in and the lessons we receive and understand nourish all of us, regardless of age, in the faithful love of our Lord.

We thank you for our curiosity that leads to learning and for the wonder that leads to a willingness to move beyond what is known and take risks. Make each of us impatient to know more of your truth. By the gift of your Spirit, guide us through prayer and study that we might become the community of faith you want us to be.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Music in Worship – “Easel-y Heard”—From **Easel to Ear** continues today. **THIS WEEK: Rehearsals for Fall** – Carillon Handbell Choir (*WED, -5:00 PM*) and Chancel Choir (*WED, -6:45 PM*) **TODAY and NEXT WEEK: “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.

Adults 55+: Final Wednesday night dinner at the Chop House is **August 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 where a guest speaker from Age Well will be presenting about 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 with a New Season of programs and a New Caterer- FPC's own Eric England with Seasoned Smoke! We begin with a Mission Fiesta. Join us for an interactive evening of mission, conversation, and connection. Learn about FPC partners locally, nationally, and globally and discover ways to get involved. Explore mission displays at 5:40 PM, dinner at 6 PM, and more about mission after dinner. 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.

Inquirer Gathering, September 13: Are you a guest wanting to learn more about FPC? Join us at 9 AM in the Parlor. Email Anne Keener akeener@fpcfranklin.org.

Adults 55+: Monday, **September 14:** Come for fun, fellowship, and lunch at Serrato's Steakhouse (3046 Columbia Ave, #102) at 11 AM! No signup needed.

Sweet Potato Drop: Join us Saturday, **September 19** at the Sensory Garden for the Blind (6759 Manley Lane) from 8 AM – Noon in Brentwood to pack sweet potatoes for food banks in Middle TN. Stay the whole time or just an hour. All ages welcome!

Pavilion Picnic, Sunday September 20 at 4:30 PM: Join us for a will provide fried chicken and drinks. Members are invited to bring. Come enjoy good food and fellowship together!

Use the QR code to visit the Events page.



church picnic at the Pavilion! FPC a side, salad, or dessert to share.

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



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Thank you for your generosity!