



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
MUSIC COMMISSIONING SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 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

Tom Wilhoite

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who are faithful, and let us worship the Lord God Almighty!

But the world around us has turned away from God's mercy and grace.

Then we must give witness together of God's truth and righteousness.

Yet the world mocks and ridicules us, trying to silence our voices.

Then proclaim all the louder the certainty of God's victory to come. Together, let us pray.

Giver of every perfect gift, your steadfast love endures forever. You redeem the nations for distress and trouble, and you gather your people from the corners of the earth. We enter your courts singing thanksgiving for the bountiful mercies you lavish upon us. Hear our praises and be pleased with our worship, for you are worthy of all honor and glory forever.

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

*HYMN 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

OLD 100TH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, our refuge, you lift the lowly and hold out hope to the hopeless. Yet we who receive your grace so freely do not follow your example. We are quick to judge, eager to criticize, slow to show mercy. We gather and keep for ourselves what was meant to be shared. We diminish and dehumanize those around us. God of us all, hear this confession. Receive it. We ask for your forgiveness.

SILENT CONFESSION / CHORAL VERSE

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

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

Sam Belcher

*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 VERSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 16:1-15 (Pew Bible, p. 851)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Let’s Make a Deal

Eddie Bellis

RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (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.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

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 to deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MUSIC 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

"Praise the Lord..."

Chancel Choir

***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 HYD Y NOS

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Tom Wilhoite

***RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

Five Bell Peal

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor

Sam Belcher, Director of Youth Ministries

Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist / Chancel Choir

Tom Wilhoite, piper

Clarke Oldham, Liturgist

Caroline Freiburg, Acolyte

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and
in thanksgiving for the donors who provided for the sanctuary pipe, and
for its builder, Casavant Frères Limitée, Quebec. Soli+Deo+Gloria.*

PRAYER LIST

New:

Beth Rose's son, Zachary Rose

Deaths:

Kate Devaney's brother, Stephen Devaney, September 7

Members:

Ted Bechtel
Barbara Crunk
Vickie Ellis
Anne Osborne
Jaclyn Tarkington
Marissa Walters
Tom Wilson

Assisted Living/Homebound:

Derrell and Tee Billingsley- home
Ann Brown- Vitality
Joan Hetherington- home
Marilyn Miller- The Heritage
Nancy Morris- Somerby
Opal Plumley- The Heritage
Jane Stafford- Willow Springs, Spring Hill
Betty Willoughby- home

In Memory:

Clair Regen	September 24, 1992
Karen Pratt	September 24, 1995
Ruth Flathe	September 24, 2005
Trudy Peyronnin	September 27, 2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Night Live (WNL): 6 PM- Dinner; 6:45-7:30 PM- Adult, Youth, and Children programs. Sign up on the FPC website or the Connection Card today. In September, Pastor Eddie will lead a study on *Christian Doctrine* by Shirley Guthrie.

FISH Event: Join us **Saturday, September 27**, at 8 AM for a Sweet Potato Drop in partnership with the Lions Club. We will help bag 40,000 pounds of sweet potatoes into 10-lb sacks to share with families in need throughout our community at Grassland Park Sensory Garden for the Blind, 6715 Manley Ln, Brentwood. We need volunteers! Stay all day or just an hour. Every hand makes a difference! This fun, family-friendly event is open to all ages.

Advent Devotional: Fall is in the air, but Advent is just around the corner. We will again create an Advent/Christmas/Epiphany devotional booklet for the congregation with the words of our own FPC members. If you would be willing to write a short reflection (approximately 300 words) please email Catherine Olson, colson@fpcfranklin.org, by **Sunday, September 28**. We will then send you more details including scripture options.

Fall Festival: We are looking forward to our annual Fall Festival **Saturday, October 18**, a partnership with FPC Franklin and the Hard Bargain Association! We will begin at 4:30 PM with Trunk or Treat, followed by a BBQ dinner at 5 PM and a movie at 6 PM. We need many volunteers to help make this wonderful community event a success! Sign up to volunteer and/or decorate a trunk on the FPC events page. Contact Verna Rydlund, vrydlund@gmail.com with questions.

Worship-Music & ARTS Event---Sunday, Oct. 19 (3:00 PM): Join us for our first event for fall as the *Vanderbilt Trombone Ensemble*, directed by Jeremy Wilson, combines forces with *Bone Therapy*, directed by Joseph Awad, a local community trombone ensemble. The afternoon of brass music will feature works by Nelhybel, Brahms, Straus, Saint-Saens, and others. A reception will follow in Wilson Hall.

Adults 55+: Join us for lunch at 11 AM Tuesday, October 14 at Carrabba's in Cool Springs and **Monday, November 17** at the Franklin Chop House. No need to sign up. Just show up!

FPC NaCoMe Women's Retreat: The retreat will be **November 14-16**. Registration link coming soon! **Questions?** Contact Katie England (england.katie@gmail.com), Namaste Anderson (nammer2649@gmail.com), or Diane Fender (diane.fender@gmail.com).

Music in Worship: Mid-week Rehearsals: Join us *Wednesdays* for *Carillon Handbells* (5:00 PM) and *Chancel Choir* (6:45 PM). **Music-area New Member Welcome:** Kathy Garst, Starr Nolan, and Gary Patterson.

Use the QR code to visit the Upcoming 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 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 get in touch with the Director of Youth Ministries, Sam Belcher (sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org).

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

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 | fpcfFranklin.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!

