

September 21, 2025
First Presbyterian Church
15th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude Praise Him With Trumpets Patricia Lou Harris

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship Diane Hines
Turn us, O God,
away from the world’s temptations and distractions
Return us, O God,
to the quiet calm of your presence
Restore us, O God,
to the path you call us to follow
Orient us, O God,
to the hope of all that is possible through you

*Hymn 49 The God of Abraham Praise LEONI

Invitation to Confession
Let us honestly acknowledge how we have gone astray and confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession
God, our refuge, you lift up 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. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace.

*Holy Interruption

*Gloria Patri

Choral Anthem With Songs of Rejoicing J.S. Bach
(Chancel Choir)

We Receive God’s Word

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Amos 8:4-7
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading Luke 16:1-13
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Woven in Prayer: For What It’s Worth”
Rev. Maxwell Michaels

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.

*Hymn 54 Make a Joyful Noise DIX

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Paul Manz

*Doxology Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow 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
Generous God, what we place before you is but a fraction of all you have entrusted to us. We ask that you receive these gifts and multiply them for your purpose. Let our offerings become a source of blessing for the most vulnerable, for those in greatest need. May the act of giving, rooted in generosity, loosen our grip on what we possess, and kindle in us a deeper desire to share. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

*Hymn 816 If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee
WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

*Benediction

*Benediction Response 545 Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace
LAND OF REST

*Postlude Recessional Edward Wetherill

Please wait until the end of the Benediction Response before exiting.

*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

Acolytes: Lainey Baker and Sam Phillips

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God by Debra Luke.

The Church This Week (9/21/2025)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tue.	6:00 p.m.	CBS
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	CBS
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
Sun.	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of September 21, 2025

Gerry Rogers
Ina Coggeshall
Gray & Bea Sloop
Benny Moore
Bobbie Jones
For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
B.J. Moore
Louise Carpenter
Shirley Brock
Edward Tinsley
Ruth Jackson
Marion Murphy
Kathie Cook
Kity G. Grubb-niece of Brother Davis
Nadia Harris
Stasa Petros

The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

If you would like to place flowers or a plant in the sanctuary for worship service, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. You can also call, or email Cathy Chapman and she can sign you up for a date.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for July - September

July 6	Cathy Chapman	Heather Tucker
July 13	Laura Folger	Maggie Barton
July 20	Alison Chapman	Kelli Beck
July 27	Jean Page Watson	Beth Witherspoon
Aug. 3	Maggie Barton	Brittany Tillman
Aug. 10	Alison Chapman	Brittany Tillman
Aug. 17	Jessie/Lainey	Jenny Michaels
Aug. 24	Charlene Tillman	Heather Tucker
Aug. 31	Jean Page Watson	Steve Cook
Sept. 7	Laura Folger	Marietta Melton Burch
Sept. 14	Kelli Beck	Steve Cook
Sept. 21	Jessie/Lainey	Heather Tucker
Sept. 28	Beth Witherspoon	Jean Page Watson

Spaghetti Fundraiser

Come support the Chancel Choir for a spaghetti fundraiser on Wednesday, October 1st at 5:30pm! We are raising money for special music & guest musicians so that we can continue providing dynamic, worshipful music for years to come!
Love,
Mrs. Weiz

Session of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Kelli Beck	Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman
Avery Dickson	Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod
Mary Jane Evans	Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips
Jean Page Watson	Richard Pierce	Harold Watson

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Danielle Self, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Gini Eddins, MMO
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	



Our Vision

*Rooted by God's Grace,
Growing in the Spirit,
Reaching Out with Christ's Love*

Sunday, September 21, 2025

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