

November 16, 2025  
First Presbyterian Church  
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise Michael Burkhardt

Welcome Dr. Dan Sansbury

We Worship Together

\*Call to Worship (Isaiah 12:5-6) Cathy Chapman  
Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously;  
let us sing God’s praises throughout all the earth.  
Shout aloud and sing for joy,  
from the highest peaks, to the deepest caverns.  
Shout aloud and sing for joy,  
as we come to worship the God of all creation!

\*Hymn 35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty LOBE DEN HERREN

Invitation to Confession  
Just as the prophet Isaiah assured God’s people so many years ago he assures us now that God is our salvation. It is because of that confidence, because of that promise, that we dare approach God with our confession.

Prayer of Confession  
God of peace we confess we are a people of fear. We have let anxiety rule our days and worry our nights. We have been distracted by nerves and focused on tension. We confess we have ignored your command to not be afraid. Forgive us, O God. Calm our hearts and renew in us the ability to find our comfort in you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon  
The prophet Isaiah assures us: God is building a new heaven and a new earth; the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. Forgiven and freed, rejoice in what the Lord is creating in you and in all creation.

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 Down From His Glory Arr. By E. Di Capus  
(Dr. Raymond M. Harris, soloist)

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring J.S. Bach

\*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.

We Receive God’s Word

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Psalm 139  
This is the Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading John 15.12-17; Ephesians 1.3-10  
This is the Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “When God First Thought of You” Dr. Dan Sansbury

\*Hymn 839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine ASSURANCE

Sacrament of Communion  
Communion

Invitation to Communion

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music O Come to the Altar Elevation Worship  
(Lainey Baker & Weiz Baker, duet)

Are you hurting and broken within?  
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?  
Jesus is calling  
Have you come to the end of yourself?  
Do you thirst for a drink from the well?  
Jesus is calling  
O come to the altar  
The Father's arms are open wide  
Forgiveness was bought with  
The precious blood of Jesus Christ  
Leave behind your regrets and mistakes  
Come today, there's no reason to wait  
Jesus is calling  
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy  
From the ashes, a new life is born  
Jesus is calling  
Oh, what a Savior  
Isn't He wonderful?  
Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen  
Bow down before Him  
For He is Lord of all  
Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

We Go Out to Serve

\*Hymn 353 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less SOLID ROCK

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response 708 We Give Thee But Thine Own SCHUMANN

\*Postlude Blest Are They Haas/Keesecker

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: Grace Tillman & Cloie Tillman

The flowers are placed in the church today to the glory of God and in remembrance of Mike and Nancy Cook by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Cook.

**The Church This Week (11/16/2025)**

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	1:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	6:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
Sun.	5:30 p.m.	Friendsgiving
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	1:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir

**Prayer List as of November 16, 2025**

Gerry Rogers  
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  
Kity G. Grubb-niece of Brother Davis  
Nadia Harris  
Rebecca Harris Ott  
Sherri (Ronald) Thurman, Ruby SC

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.

Special thanks to Dr. Raymond M. Harris, Mrs. Weiz’s dad, for his time & talents today.

**Christmas Poinsettias**

It’s time to order Christmas Poinsettias! Order forms on the table in the Narthex. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 16, 2025.

If you give on-line, please call the church office with details.

**Christmas Shoe Boxes**

PW has boxes for the Christmas Shoe Box located in the Narthex. Please return the boxes filled by November 23. They will be delivered to Westside Baptist church at 1:00 Sunday November 23.

**Decorate The Church**

Everyone is invited to help decorate the church on Friday Dec.5 at 10:00a.m.

**Nursery Volunteer Schedule for October - December**

Oct. 5	Heather Tucker
Oct. 12	Cathy Chapman
Oct. 19	Alison Chapman
Oct. 26	Jean Page Watson
Nov. 2	Maggie Barton
Nov. 9	Steve Cook
Nov. 16	Jessie Baker
Nov. 23	Charlene Tillman
Nov. 30	Laura Folger
Dec. 7	Mary Jane Evans
Dec. 14	Kelli Beck
Dec. 21	Lainey Baker
Dec. 28	Marietta Melton Burch

**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. Gini Eddins, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	



**Our Vision**

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

**Sunday, November 16, 2025**

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