

January 25, 2026  
First Presbyterian Church  
3rd Sunday after Epiphany

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise*

Michael Burkhardt

Welcome

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

\*Call to Worship (*Psalm 27:1*)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

We gather in the presence of God. Let us open our hearts and minds in worship.

\*Hymn 645 *Sing, Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Invitation to Confession

Let us pause here to confess the sins that have kept us from recognizing and enjoying God's presence.

Prayer of Confession (based on *Psalm 40*)

Gracious God, when despair and suffering overwhelm us, we cry out for you and feel abandoned. We doubt your presence and your promises. We believe you have turned away from us in anger. We ask why you have forsaken us. In these moments, strengthen us in faith and fill our hearts with courage. We believe, God. Help our unbelief. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (*Psalm 103:7*)

"The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting." Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. 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 *Count Your Blessings*  
(Chancel Choir)

Excell

Children's Message

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: *Psalm 27:1, 4-9*

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:25-29*

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Old Time Religion"

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. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

\*Hymn 824 *There Is a Place of Quiet Rest*

MCAFEE

Announcements

Moment for Stewardship

Pastoral Prayers & 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*

Michael Burkhardt

\*Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, we present these offerings to you in faith. We trust that you will bless and use them to further Christ's ministry and serve those in need. May these gifts bless those we know who are suffering and those known only to you. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

Hymn 366 *Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

Benediction

Benediction Response *Amen*  
(Chancel Choir)

Traditional

Postlude *Holy, God, We Praise Your Name*

Paul Manz

\*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: Sam Baker and Sam Phillips

## The Church This Week (01/25/2026)

Today	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Worship
	1:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Mon.	8:30 a.m. MMO
Wed.	8:30 a.m. MMO
	3:15 p.m. Fun Program
	5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting in Session House
Sun.	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Worship

## Prayer List as of January 25, 2026

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  
Nadia Harris  
Lesley Jean Watson  
Rebecca Harris Ott  
Pam Cook (Alison Chapman's mother)  
Wyatt Smith  
Tommy Gulledge  
April Quick  
Summer Cathey

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 outside of the church office. You can also call, or email Cathy Chapman and she can sign you up for a date.

## Please Join Us

*At Ease* - first Tuesday of each month, 12 noon in the fellowship building.  
*Circle Meeting* - first Wednesday of each month at 10 am in Ladies Parlor.  
*Prayer meeting* - Wednesday night at 5:30 pm in the Session House.

## Community Women's Bible Study

A new 6-week Bible study is beginning on Tuesday February 3rd at 6pm and Wednesday February 4th at 9:00am. We will study Adam Hamilton's *When Christians Get It Wrong*. We will tackle some difficult topics that are sure to generate discussion and a better understanding of what it means to model our lives after Jesus. See the summary below and the link to purchase your book. Assignment for the first lesson: Chapter 1. For questions, reach out to Tracie Phillips or Caroline Streater.

### *When Christians Get it Wrong:*

*More and more young adults have opted out of Christianity and the church. The reason? Christians. When young adults talk about the problems they have with Christianity and the church, they often name certain attitudes and behaviors they believe are practiced too often by Christians: judging others, condemning people of other faiths, rejecting science, injecting politics into faith, and being anti-homosexual. With his familiar style, Adam Hamilton tackles these issues and addresses the how's and why's of Christians getting it right when it comes to being Christ in the world.*

Amazon Link:

[a.co/d/0yJwKlm](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07WZL7HJL)

## Nursery Volunteer Schedule for January - March

Jan. 4	Heather Tucker
Jan. 11	Cathy Chapman
Jan. 18	Jean Page Watson
Jan. 25	Kelli Beck
Feb. 1	Brittany Tillman
Feb. 8	Steve Cook
Feb. 15	Charlene Tillman
Feb. 22	Jessie Baker
March 1	Laura Folger
March 8	Mary Jane Evans
March 15	Lainey Baker
March 22	Alison Chapman
March 29	Marietta Melton Burch

## Session of First Presbyterian Church

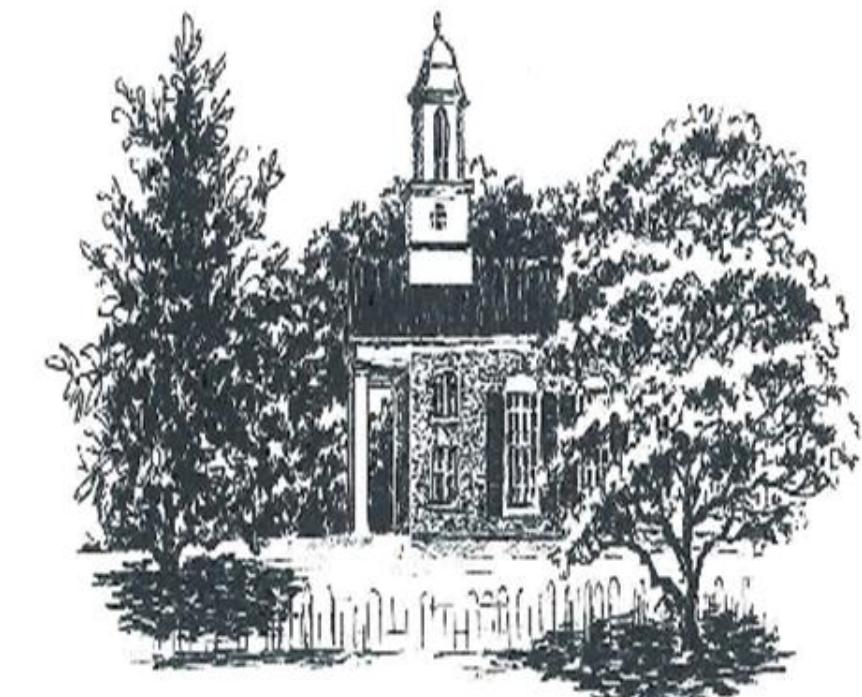
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

## The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor  
Mrs. Danielle Self, Secretary  
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton  
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper  
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Gini Eddins, Director MMO



## Our Vision

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

## Sunday, January 25, 2026

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