

April 26, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
4th Sunday of Easter

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *All Creatures of our God and King*

Hal Hopson

Welcome

Dr. Dan Sansbury

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship *(Adapted from I Corinthians 12)* Christie McLeod
There are varieties of gifts for ministry, but it is the same Spirit at work in each believer.

And there are varieties of ways to serve, but it is the same Lord who is served.

There are varieties of mission activities, but it is the same God who is active in each believer.

To everyone of us is given some manifestation of the spirit of Christ for the common good.

The body of Christ is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though different, are one with Christ.

We were all baptized into one body, the Church, which is the body of Christ on earth.

All glory be to Jesus Christ!

*Hymn 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

CORONATION

Invitation to Confession

Friends, the scriptures tell us that, *"If we say that we have not sinned, the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, our LORD is faithful and just to forgive us, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* [I John 1.8-9]. Let us now make an honest confession of our need to have the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Risen Christ, transforming our lives. Let us join together in prayer.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and Almighty God, we are thankful that you have called us to share in your ministry on earth. We will pray for and work for the coming of your kingdom among us. And yet, there are times when our enthusiasm fades and our fears replace our faith. Forgive us, O Lord. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us anew. Make us the people and the Church that you want us to be. Increase our love for you and for one another. Use us for a positive witness for Jesus Christ wherever we may be. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon *(Adapted from II Corinthians 5)*

Friends, the Scriptures also tell us, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new."

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting our trespasses against us.

We are now ambassadors for Christ, with God making his appeal through us.

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

Anthem *I Danced in the Morning*
Traditional Shaker Melody
Chancel Choir

arr. by Mark Hayes

We Receive God's Word

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Matthew 25.31-40

Second Scripture Esther 4

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *"For Such a Time as This?"*

Dr. Dan Sansbury

*Hymn 772 *Live into Hope*

TRURO

Announcements

Prayers of Intercession and the 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 Voluntary on *Olivet*

Gordon Young

*Doxology

We Go Out to Serve

Hymn 612 *We Praise You, O God*

KREMSER

Benediction

Benediction Response *Alleluia, Amen!*
Chancel Choir

Traditional

Postlude Trumpet Tune II

McCabe

*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: Kane & Blair Driggers

The flowers are placed in the church today to the glory of God by Buddy & Reba Brooks.

The Church This Week (04/26/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship
 2:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
 5:00 p.m. VBS Meeting
 Mon. 8:30 a.m. MMO
 3:15 p.m. Fun Program
 Tues. 6:00 p.m. CW Bible Study
 Wed. 8:30 a.m. MMO
 9:00 a.m. CW Bible Study
 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
 Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship

Prayer List as of April 26, 2026

Gerry Rogers
 Benny Moore
 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
 Summer Cathey
 Lynn Smith
 Harold Watson

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.

VBS Meeting

We will have our first VBS "Rainforest Falls" meeting **today at 5 p.m.** in the Fellowship Building. If you'd like to help with this year's Vacation Bible School, please join us! It's going to be a fun experience for all!

Youth & Children's Sunday

Make plans to attend our annual Youth & Children's **Sunday, May 3rd** where the entire service is led by our Fun Program children & youth! Join us!

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for April – June

April 26	Kelli Beck
May 3	Brittany Tillman
May 10	Steve Cook
May 17	Charlene Tillman
May 24	Jessie Baker
May 31	Laura Folger
June 7	Mary Jane Evans
June 14	Lainey Baker
June 21	Maggie Barton
June 28	Heather Tucker

Session of First Presbyterian Church

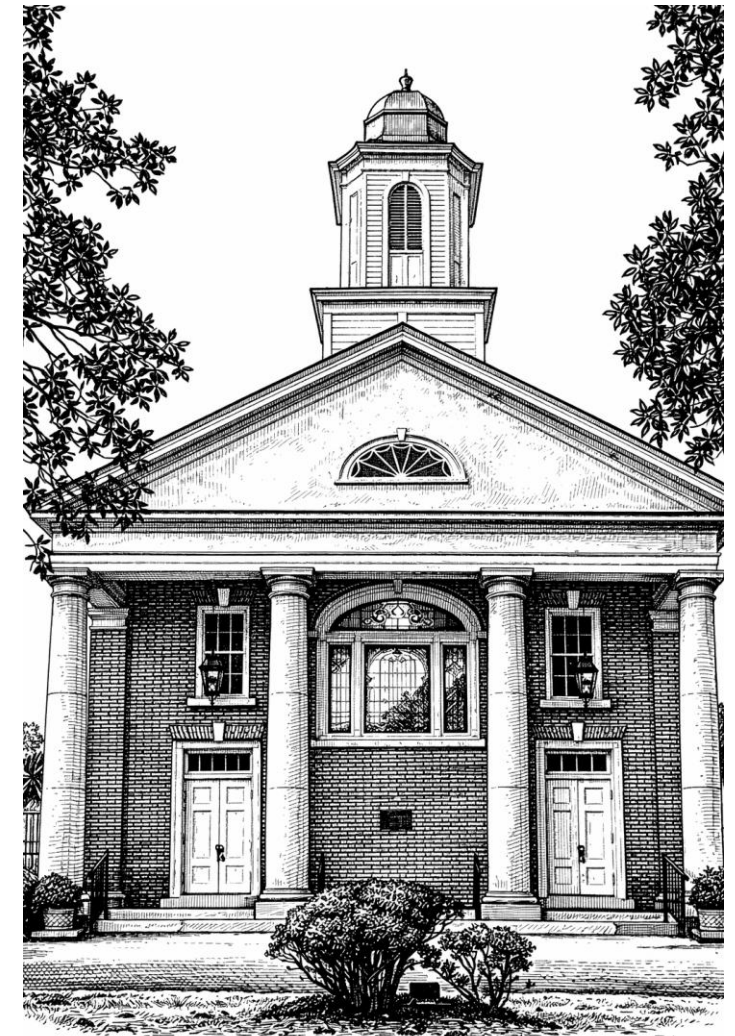
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

Board of Decans of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Marion Anderson	Buddy Brooks	Karen Tillman
Becky Childers		Debra Luke
Bron Long		

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor
 Mrs. Danielle Self, Office Administrator
 Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton
 Mrs. Arneha 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, April 26, 2026

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