

July 19, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
8th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude Processional in G Major John Stanley

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 86:12-13) Cathy Chapman
People of God, let us gather to worship and praise God’s name.
I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart. I will glorify your name forever!
For great is your steadfast love for me.
You have delivered my soul from the depths.
God says, “Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.”

*Hymn 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ST. DENIO

Invitation to Confession
Before a word is on our tongue, God knows it completely. Before we ask for forgiveness, God is at work to set things right. Let us therefore confess our sin and the sin of the world together:

Prayer of Confession
Lord, you have searched us and found us wanting. You have known our inmost thoughts and called us to better things. You have set us in this world to love and serve you by loving and serving one another, to worship you by tending to those most vulnerable among us. When we fail, do not abandon us. When we go astray, call us back home. Search us O God and know our hearts. Test us and know our thoughts. Root out the wicked ways in us and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Where can we go from God’s spirit, or where can we flee from God’s presence? Even if we take the wings of the morning or settle at the farthest limits of the sea, God’s hand will find us and hold us fast. Proclaim the good news with me: Our God does not abandon us to sin or brokenness. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and called back home. Thanks be to God.

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

We Receive God’s Word

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 44:6-8
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Choices” Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith (from the Second Helvetic Confession)
The Church is an assembly of the faithful, called or gathered out of the world. They are all citizens of the one city, living under the same Lord, under the same laws, and in the same fellowship with all good things. Those who are in the Church have one faith and one spirit; They worship but one God, and in God alone they worship in spirit and truth. Hence, we must be very careful not to judge before the time, nor undertake to exclude, reject, or cut off those whom the Lord does not want to have excluded or rejected, and those whom we cannot eliminate without loss to the Church.

*Hymn 627 I Love You Lord LOVE

Announcements

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 All Things Bright and Beautiful Mark Hayes

*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
Gracious God, you have sown good seed among us. Receive now the harvest of what you have planted, the good gifts of our lives, time and resources, to further your kin-dom of heaven. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

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

*Benediction

Benediction Response Go, My Children, With My Blessing
Chancel Choir AR HYD Y NOS

*Postlude Come, Christians Join to Sing Don Phillips

*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

The flowers are placed in the church today to the glory of God by Debbie & Harold Watson.

The Church This Week (7/19/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship
 4:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social

Mon.
Tue.
Wed.
Thurs.
Fri.

Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship
 3:00 p.m. Organ & Piano Recital

Prayer List as of July 19, 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
Lynn Smith
Harold Watson
Susan Malloy
Mary Gulledge
Kathy Bradshaw
Jessie Baker
Betty Davis
Sue Funderburk
Bobbie Jones
Jessi Tillman

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.

Ice Cream Social – Today at the New Shelter at 4:00 pm

If you have a favorite home-made ice cream you would like to bring and share it with everyone, please bring it! We will also have ice cream and all the fixing, too. So come join the fun!

Join Us Sunday, July 26th!

Join us for a special afternoon of music as we celebrate the talents of Jackson & Watson in a combined organ and piano recital. Their dedication, hard work, and love of music have blessed our church family, and we invite the congregation to come and support them as they share their gifts in praise to God. We hope you will attend this joyful occasion of music and celebration on **Sunday, July 26th at 3pm** in the sanctuary with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Building.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for July - September

July 19	Alison Chapman
July 26	Kelli Beck
August 2	Brittany Tillman
August 9	Steve Cook
August 16	Charlene Tillman
August 23	Lainey Baker
August 30	Laura Folger
Sept. 6	Mary Jane Evans
Sept. 13	Jenny Michaels
Sept. 20	Maggie Barton
Sept. 27	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 Deacons 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. 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, July 19, 2026

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