

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Sunday, May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter

ACCOLYTES (Bringing in the Light)

At the beginning of worship, the acolytes carry the light of Christ into the sanctuary. This symbolizes Christ's presence among the gathered people — a reminder that we don't create the light ourselves; God brings it to us.

As the candles are lit, we remember Jesus' words, "*I am the light of the world.*" Worship begins in that light.

PRELUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Rob Mattson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you! (We greet each other in appropriate ways.)

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Recognition of the Honorary Life Membership.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. Leader: If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened; he has heard the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

Together let us worship God!

GATHERING PRAYER

God of life and holy love, you call us together and draw us near. As a mother gathers their children, you welcome us—known and cherished—into your presence. On this day we honor the many ways your nurturing grace is shared among us: in mothers and grandmothers, in step and foster and adoptive parents, in mentors and caregivers of every kind. Gather also those who come with grief, longing, or complicated memory; hold them in your gentle mercy. Knit us into one body, ready to praise, to listen, and to be formed for love that protects the vulnerable and seeks justice for all those who parent your children. By your Spirit, make us a people who reflect your fierce tenderness; through Jesus Christ, who calls us together. Amen.

HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

Hymn #634

1 To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, in you we live and move and have our being, yet we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have failed to honor and protect mothers and all who nurture life; we have accepted systems that exploit their labor, ignore their voices, and leave them vulnerable to harm. We have been silent where there is violence, near and far—within homes, in our communities, and across the world—forgetting the blessing you intend for all peoples and the refining work you desire in us. We have not kept the way of your love, nor trusted the Advocate you sent to guide us in truth.

And now in this moment of silence, those sins which are ours alone.

Forgive us, O God. Turn us again to your life-giving ways; teach us to do what is right with gentleness and reverence, to resist harm, and to seek the good with courage. By your Spirit, make us a people who embody your justice and tender care; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

GLORIA PATRI “Glory Be to the Father” Hymn #581

“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end, Amen.”

ANTHEM “Wings of the Dawn” Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE (NRSV UPDATED EDITION)

First Reading

Acts 17:22-31 p.105, NT

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22 p.184, NT

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-27 p.83, NT

Acts 17:22-31 p.105, NT

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every

way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

1 Peter 3:13-22 p.184, NT

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism,

which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

John 14:15-27 p.83, NT

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON “You Are.....Because He Is!” Terry Albright

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle’s Creed)

Hymnal p.35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (with the Lord's Prayer)

Hymnal p.35

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Tommy Clay, Jr.

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn #606

“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.”

Let us pray:

In Christ's name we thank you. Amen

HYMN

“The Lord Is God”

Hymn #63

The Lord is God, the Lord alone!
Give honor, thanks, and praise to God,
The maker of all things and giver of our days.

With all your heart, with all your soul,
With all your mind and might,

O people, love the Lord your God,
the source of truth and light.

At night or day, at home, away,
together and apart, O children,
take these holy words and keep them in your heart.

The Lord is God, the Lord alone!
Give honor, thanks, and praise to God,
The maker of all things and giver of our days.

ACCOLYTES (Taking the Light Out)

At the end of the service, the acolytes take the flame back out of the sanctuary. This is not extinguishing Christ's presence — it is sending it.

The light that gathered us now goes ahead of us into the world, where we are called to carry Christ's love, justice, and compassion into our daily lives.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Details on our website, Facebook, Realm & 386-385-3040.)

This week's prayer: Creator of heaven and earth, open the heavens and pour out the **rain** we so desperately need, drench the fields, forests, and neighborhoods. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Church Activities

Small Groups-Sunday 9:15 am; Tues. 3:00 pm; Wed. 4:30 pm.

Presbyterian Women-Circles meet every 2nd Tuesday, 10:30am & 6:30pm.

Social Connections-Thurs. 1pm in Zoom Rm. Contact Shaaron Kohl 864-378-7032.

Quilting Group-Friday's at 10:00 in the Zoom Room, Welcoming new members.

Outreach Ministries

Bread of Life- April needs are Bottled Water, Barbeque Sauce, Ziploc sandwich bags.

Shower Ministry-Thurs. from 2-6pm

PC3 Ministry-Monday 2-6pm

Meridian/Grace Market Place-Thurs. 2-4pm in the Bartram Rm a representative for assistance.

CDC (Chemical Dependency Counseling)-Mon. 8-12; Tues. 8-6, Wed. 8-6, Sat. 8-6.

Church Calendar

5-16	Private Event	8:00am	WH
5-12	ARK/pets	9:00am	WH/Parking
5-22-24	Blue Crab	8:00am	Parking
5-26	ARK/pets	9:00am	WH/Parking

Financial Report

2026 Financial Report/Operating Budget through April 30th.

<u>Total Received</u>	<u>Total Spent</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
\$73,129	\$69,747	\$3,382

The Brick Opportunity *Let's get those orders in to build a space rooted in legacy, community, and faith, one brick at a time. (#39)*
For more details go to our website fpcpalatka.com. **(profits through April \$2,868)**