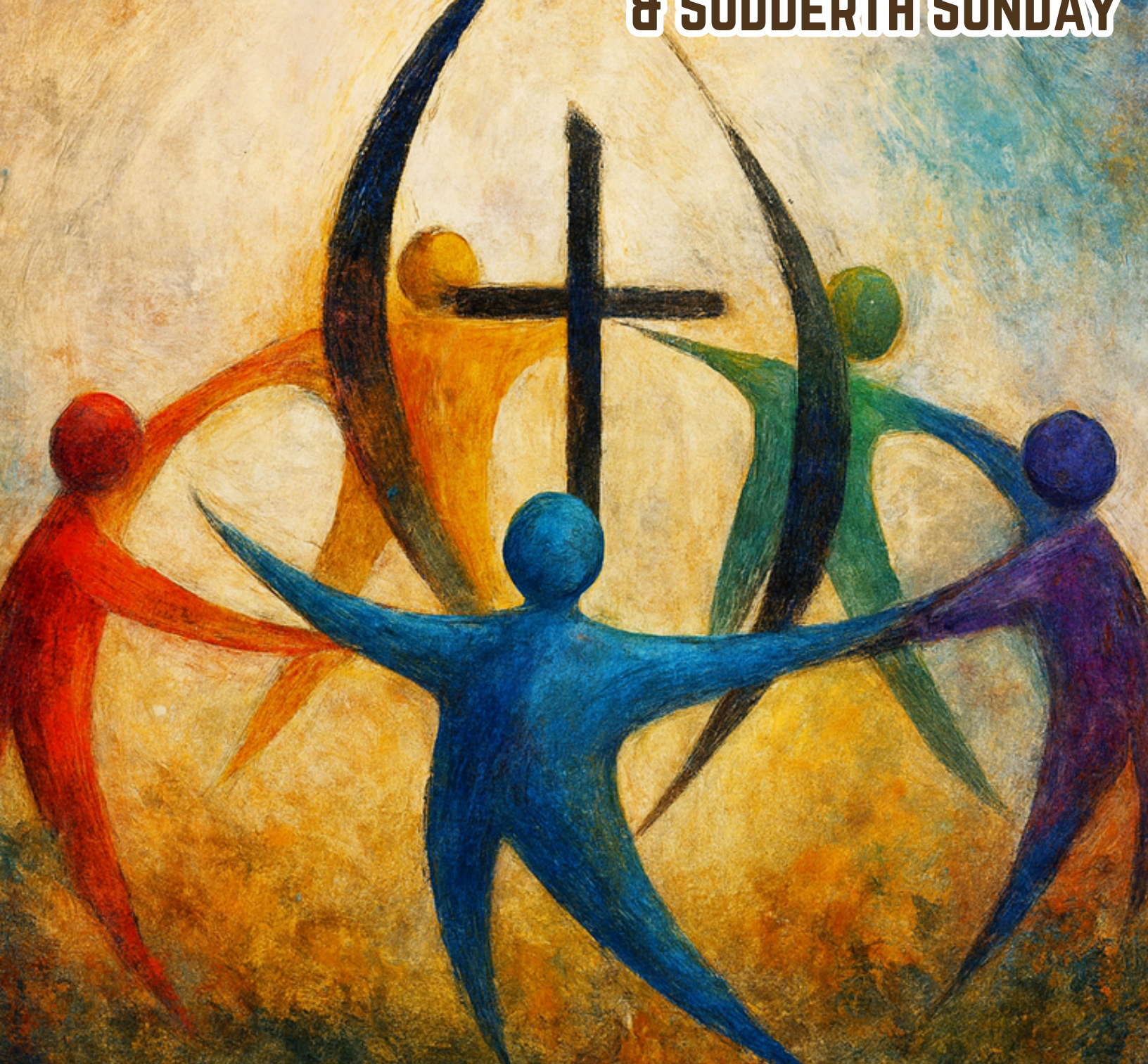




**JANUARY 18, 2026**  
**ORDINATION & INSTALLATION SUNDAY**  
**& SUDDERTH SUNDAY**



**WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD**



# Explanation of the Worship Service as Examination of the Officers

This morning's worship service prepares our Deacons and Ruling Elders to be ordained and installed. Ordained means that they are called to serve Christ on behalf of the larger congregation. Installed means that they are going to serve a particular three year term. Once you are ordained an Elder or Deacon, you are one for life though terms begin and end. Deacons lead us in Christian care and nurture. Elders, serving on Session, lead us in the tasks of program, administration, building, and finances. These officers traditionally respond to a series of eight questions that are found in our Book of Order. This Book of Order organizes and orders the shared life of the Presbyterian Church USA. Below you will find the list of ordination and installation questions. They have been built into the liturgy of the church worship service. The question to the congregation will be asked during the Offering portion of our worship service.

- a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? (Call to Worship)
- b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? (Call to Worship)
- c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? (Prayer of Confession)
- d. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? (Prayer of Confession)
- e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? (Call to Worship)
- f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? (Prayers of the People)
- g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? (Prayers of the People)
- h. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? (The Charge)
- i.1 (For Ruling Elder) Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
- i.2 (For Deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**Guidance for Laying on of Hands** – All those who are gathered are invited to create a circle around the perimeter of the sanctuary. We will use our Bibles we brought from home or the Bibles in the pew. Placing them in our right hands, we will extend the bible to rest on the shoulder of our neighbor. If possible, our other hand will rest on another neighbor's shoulder and we'll be connected in a circle of fellowship. Once settled, we'll offer a prayer. **2**

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude (8:30)	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	Roberson
(10:30)	<i>Festival March</i>	Burkhardt

**+ Please  
rise in  
body or in  
spirit.**

+ Call to Worship

Leader: This Congregation believes you are called to lead them in the way of Christ. Do you trust that it is the Spirit of Christ who leads and instructs this church? Will you do your best to discern it?

**Officers: We will.**

**Congregation: Our Congregation's story abides within the larger story of Scripture. Do you understand the memory of the Old Testament and the New to be authoritative for our community of faith and God's word to you?**

**Officers: We do.**

Leader: Leadership in the church requires discipline of mind and heart. Will you be subject to the way we govern ourselves and will you govern as a friend to the entire congregation?

**Officers: We will.**

**All: Let us worship God, who calls upon the leader's heart and mind.**

+ Hymn #11	<i>Source and Sovereign Rock and Cloud</i>	ABERYSTWYTH
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In observance of M.L.K holiday, the prelude today pairs "Lift Ev'ry Voice" (Hymn 339) and "Battle Hymn of the Republic" (Hymn 354) in remembrance of the Civil War struggle for freedom—a quest that continues through the ages.

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration (See confession comment on page 6)

**Lord, we confess that in the tradition of your church, there are essential understandings of God that we carry forward. These essential tenets are navigational tools that allow us to explore and understand our faith more fully. Lord, we confess that for centuries, our church has confessed its understanding and its transgressions. Give us the mindfulness to be guided by the lessons that precede us and to be willing to learn new lessons in our service to the church as the Scripture calls us to do so.**

Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #341 (10:30)	<i>O God, Show Mercy to Us</i>	THAXTED
O God, show mercy to us, and bless us with your grace; and cause to shine upon us the brightness of your face.		

Declaration of Grace & Sharing of the Peace of Christ

**We are grateful for last week's giving of \$19,769.75.**

**Thank you! In 2025 FPC collected \$2,387.40 for the Sudderth Fund. Please help us reach our goal of \$2,500.**

+ Invitation to Our Children (10:30) *"Christ Before Me"* St Patrick's Breastplate  
Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beside me,  
Christ within me, Christ in the face of those who love me.

Spirit Box (10:30) Miles Palm  
God be in my head. God be in my heart. God be on my left. God be on my right.  
God be beneath me. God be above me. God be in the faces of all who love me.

Prayer of Illumination

Epistle Scripture Reading: Galatians 3:10-14 (pew Bible NT pg.188)  
Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *We Walk By Faith* Dennis Johnson  
We walk by faith, and not by sight; No gracious words we hear From Him who spoke as  
none ne'er spoke, But we believe him near. We may not touch His hands and side,  
Nor follow where He trod; But in His promise we rejoice, And cry, "My Lord and God!"  
Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound, To call on you when you  
are near, And seek where you are found. That when our lives of faith are done, In  
realms of clearer light, We may behold you as you are, With full and endless sight.

+ Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:18-19 (pew Bible NT pg.18)  
Leader: The Gospel of our Lord. | **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

+ Gloria Patri Hymn #581 (10:30) *Glory Be to the Father* Gloria Patri  
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, amen.

Sermon: Trending with the Apostle Paul's Creator Culture: Rebranding Leslie King, D. Min.

+ Affirmation of Faith - page 35 of Hymnal Apostles' Creed  
This creed, spoken together, allows us to feel, summarily, the major  
movement of the gospel. Speaking it allows us to be cradled in the  
elements of the gospel that give us the most comfort. Equally, it allows us  
to ponder and wonder about elements that are more challenging to  
understand. Our recitation of it is not a call to uniformity and conformity.  
Rather, it is a call to continue to explore our mysterious gospel for the  
ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church.

Ordination and Installation of Officers and Laying on of Hands  
(refer to i.1 & i.2 on page 2)  
Formal question to Ruling Elders  
Formal question to Deacons  
Laying on of hands

Venmo  
can  
facilitate  
your  
offering or  
gift.



Thank you to  
April & Scott  
Wagner  
for hosting  
Coffee  
Fellowship.

Offering & Celebration of 2026 Stewardship (10:30)

*Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Thy Word*

Mark Harren

Walther

Leader: Will you follow these officers even as you pray for them?

**Congregation: We will.**

Leader: Then let us present our offering to the Lord.

+ Doxology #606 (10:30)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30) *Evening Snowfall*

Bober

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayers of the People

Balcony & Choir Congregants: Loving God, who is over all, we marvel at your  
broad view from the heights of life. We are ever grateful  
that your eye is upon the sparrow and upon the lily alike.  
Though you reside at the heights, you are never far away.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Left Side Sanctuary: We lift up to you those who have lost their way in life. Be  
with them in their wandering, loneliness and suffering. May  
their relationships and self understanding grow stronger.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Right Side Sanctuary: We remember those who are rejoicing and glad. Be their  
co-celebrant. In the midst of celebration, may there be  
humility and a right spirit for all people.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

One: You have heard from the balcony, the right and the left. Will you, officers  
of First Presbyterian, be listeners from the base of the cross loving all  
these neighbors and working for the reconciliation of the voices that come  
from the various corners of our world?

Officers: We will, and together we promise to further the peace unity and purity  
of the church as we serve Christ.

+ Charge & Benediction

**Officers: We will.**

Closing Response #769

*For Everyone Born*

FOR EVERYONE BORN

Postlude (8:30)  
(10:30)

*See Amid the Winter's Snow  
Now Thank We all our God*

Light  
Kaufmann

### Sanctuary Flowers

In honor of  
Edward Philmore Haltom, Sr.,  
Edward Philmore Haltom, Jr.,  
Leonard Christensen, and Lavinia  
C. Haltom.

Given by: Debbie Christensen



### Parlor Plants

In honor of our church staff  
and their dedication to FPC  
and its congregation.

Given by: John & Brenda  
Stephens

### Confession Comment:

Our denomination, Presbyterian Church USA, is a confessing church. To confess means that we are integrating our past with our future. We are accepting the knowledge of those who have gone before us and reconciling it to our circumstances. We are attentive to the mistakes and transgressions in our history and we are mindful toward more faithful behavior.

### If You Are New Here

Stop by our Welcome Center in the Narthex for information. When you are seated, please fill out the Welcome Folder you will find in the pew. After all in the pew have signed, pass it to the center aisle or use the QR code to sign in online.

### These May Help During the Service

If you would like a large-print hymnal or hearing enhancement device, please ask an usher. We also have worship bags & fidget toys for children in the Narthex "parental discretion with these items please". Please return the bag after the service.

### If You Are in Need of Prayer

You will find prayer cards in the back of the pew. You may place them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. Your prayers are confidential unless you request otherwise.

### Childcare

Childcare is available from 8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. Contact the church office at (254) 752-1665 for more information.

# FIRST PRES NEWS

## OUR HYBRID HOUSE

Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate, focusing on enriching our environment for hybrid worship and meetings. We are particularly interested in your opinions and experiences if you are a non-local participant of First Presbyterian. Look for our Hybrid House meetings on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 5:00 P.M.



### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS LINE UP

- January 21 – Martin Museum of Art with Mack Gingles
  - January 28 – Youth Sunday Workshop
  - February 4 – Cha & Chats
- Events begins at 6:00 p.m.  
Pizza served from 7:00–8:00 p.m.



### JANUARY READING CHALLENGE

Join the energy of our Neurodiversity Cohort! As part of our participation in the Neurodiversity Grant, we are charged to lead congregational education. We hope to make it fun and engaging. We invite you to read *Next Level: A Hymn in Gratitude for Neurodiversity*, a children's book available in the narthex. After you've read it, please sign your name to show your participation. Let's build awareness and celebrate neurodiversity together at FPC!



### ART SHOW

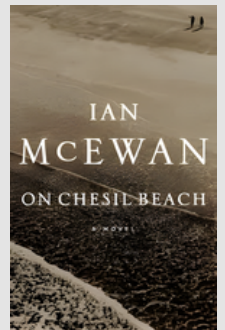
We are excited to host the Bill and Judy Franklin Art Show again in 2026 and invite artists of all ages and experience levels to participate. Please submit pieces to the church office by February 13. Artwork will be on display from February 22 to March 22. Special thanks to Esther Lee and Ben McNamee for leading this event.



### FIRST PRES READING GROUP

Join us for the First Pres Reading Group as we discuss *On Chesil Beach* by Ian McEwan. We'll meet at Mike & Nancy Morrison's home on January 20 at 6:30 p.m.

3416 Carondolet Blvd  
Waco, TX 76710



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG)  
OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @FIRSTPRESWACO



# UPCOMING THIS WEEK

## **Sunday, January 18: Ordination Sunday**

8:30 A.M. - Worship Service - Hybrid  
9:15 A.M. - Christian Formation Classes for all ages  
10:30 A.M. - Worship Service - Hybrid  
11:30 A.M. - Coffee Fellowship

## **Monday, January 19 MLK Day**

5:30 P.M. - Session Meeting - Hybrid

## **Tuesday, January 20**

6:30 P.M. First Pres Book Club

**3416 Carondolet Blvd**

**Waco, TX 76710**

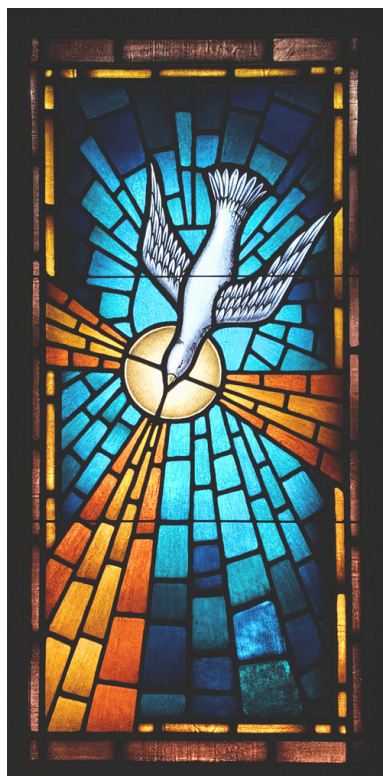
## **Wednesday, January 21**

9:30 A.M. - Jesus and John Wayne Book Review  
6:00 P.M. - In the Wings Youth Programming  
6:00 P.M. - Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 P.M. - Choir Rehearsal

## **Sunday, January 25**

8:30 A.M. - Worship Service - Hybrid  
9:15 A.M. - Christian Formation Classes for all ages  
10:30 A.M. - Worship Service - Hybrid  
11:30 A.M. - Coffee Fellowship

**With gratitude for those who serve.**



### **NEW DEACONS**

**Melanie Cook**  
**Marilyn Harren**  
**Mike McPhee**  
**Jeremy Mercer**  
**Drew Risinger**  
**Toni Percivill**  
**Katie Valenzuela**  
**Scott Wagner**

### **NEW ELDERS**

**Marsha Alvarado**  
**Donna Black**  
**Kathryn Delk**  
**Hunter Harren**  
**Ryan Joyner**  
**Roane Lacy**  
**Chuck Weaver**  
**Lenore Wright**



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN**  
Church of Waco

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WACO, TEXAS**

1100 Austin Ave. - Waco, TX 76701 - 254.752.1665 - [www.firstpreswaco.org](http://www.firstpreswaco.org)

Church Office Hours: 9:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 4:00

Sunday Services 8:30 AM (Weekly Communion) and 10:30 AM (Morning Worship)

Pastor - Leslie King

