



OCTOBER 12TH, 2025
18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD



Integrative Method of Worship

There are many styles of worship. At First Presbyterian, our worship style, generally, is a traditional reformed service with liturgy, confession and classic Christian hymnody. Even with our traditional emphasis, we believe that relevant worship in the 21st century provides space for congregants and visitors to do integrative spiritual work. By this, we mean that our daily experiences inform and affect our theology and vice versa. In worship at First Presbyterian, we are striving to integrate experience and theology so that we feel responsive and genuine in our faith as we live our daily lives. Worship planning is anchored and planned around the sermon or the sermon series. Series are planned to address any one of four areas: mission of the church, life of the church family, Biblical literacy and current relevant topics. We strive to be balanced and thoughtful in what is offered for your prayer and reflection. However, because integration and responsiveness are the goal, we will often address sensitive issues. Prayers and confessions are written by our pastor. Our children's Spirit Box time is the opportunity for children to have a choice and voice in worship. We welcome you, as you are, to each worship service at First Presbyterian. Integrative work is not easy. It is not always comfortable, but it is essential to a vital church. Please feel free to reach out to our pastor with your questions.

Statement of Mission

First Presbyterian Church of Waco, Texas, welcomes all as children of God through our worship, outreach, Christian education and congregational life events. By the liberating and compelling grace of God, and in accord with our Reformed theological heritage, we follow Jesus Christ's example by reaching out to seekers and those in need, nurturing disciples, honoring diversity and seeking to reconcile the world to God through ministries of justice and mercy.

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 for children on the wall of the Narthex. 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.

Childcare

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

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude: (8:30) *Sing Unto the Lord* Mark Hayes
(10:30) *What God Ordains is Always Good* Kellner

This chorale prelude was written in the early 1700's and based on a Lutheran hymn written in 1675.

+ Call to Worship

One: It's important to show up.

Many: We value our arrival to this place and to the spaces alongside our neighbors.

One: It is valuable to arrive.

Many: We believe in buried treasure, hidden in ordinary moments.

One: We show up; we arrive; we believe and seek to uncover God in Christ.

Many: Let us worship God. Amen.

+ Hymn #24 *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* HOLY MANNA

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

God of Wing and Prayer, we confess that sometimes our intents and our thoughts land flat. At times, we struggle to get the right energy off the ground. How we long to catch the lift of your Spirit. How we long to Participate in currents that uplift others. We long to be your energetic and thoughtful people. We offer each prayer into the strength of Christ. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #341 (10:30) *O God, Show Mercy to Us* 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

+ 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

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.

Scan and
register your
attendance.



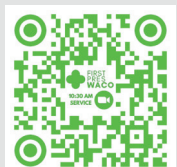
+ Please
rise in
body or in
spirit.

Scan the
QR code
to chat
with the
Zoom
room!

8:30 AM



10:30 AM



2026 Stewardship Speakers: (8:30) Shane and Malorie Montoya
(10:30) Bob and Sherry Cragen

Prayer of Illumination

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Judges 6:11-21 (pew Bible OT pg.223)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

In The Shadow of Your Wings

Leavitt

Gracious God be merciful, O my God be merciful. My soul is crying out to you. My only refuge Lord is you, God most high. In the shadow of your wings, my soul finds rest from deep distress. My heart hides there till this darkness passes by. I cry to God on high whose purpose is fulfilled for me. My soul finds love and truth in you.

No other place of safety Lord but you. In the shadow of your wings I hide, O my God most high.

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:41-50 (pew Bible NT pg.15)

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord. | **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

+ Gloria Patri #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: In the Wings: Energizing the Ground

Leslie King, D. Min.

+ Affirmation of Faith

We affirm the possibility of lift. The scriptures ground us historically and imaginatively. Grounding well is a part of flying well. The sacraments are an updraft from our groundedness. Our efforts are supported in sacred ways. God the Creator gently folds matter up and over, stretches long, and encapsulates life in perishable forms that are unforgettable...all creatures great and small. The Holy Spirit electric and vital - bridges the spaces and magnetically draws us toward each other and in so doing we are uplifted, seeing a bit more than before. The crucifixion reminds that we can launch from suffering to a profound posture, inexplicable and undeniable. We affirm the possibilities and actualities, lofting in from our God in Christ. Amen.

Offering (10:30)

Tis a Gift

Powell

+ 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) *Lamb of God*

Mark Hayes

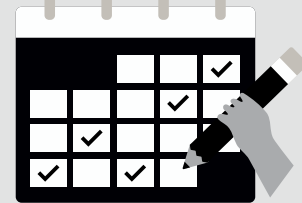
We are grateful for last week's giving of \$20,234.54.

Thank you to Michael Jacobson for his musical gift.

Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.



UPCOMING THIS WEEK



SUN

12

8:30 AM
9:15 AM
10:30 AM
11:30 AM
5:00 PM

Worship Service - Hybrid
Christian Formation Classes for all ages
Worship Service - Hybrid
Coffee Fellowship
Our Hybrid House - Zoom

MON

13

1:00 PM
5:30 PM

Presbyterian Women - Hybrid
Outreach Committee - Hybrid

TUE

14

8:30 - 11:30 AM
12:00 PM
6:00 PM

Meals on Wheels - For more information contact
Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305
Israel Palestine Class - Hybrid
Faith on Tap - One Day Bar
618 Columbus Ave STE B, Waco, TX 76701

WED

15

6:00 PM
6:00 PM
7:00 PM

St. Cecilia Bell Choir Practice - Sanctuary
Mid Week Programming - Youth
Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
(Final day for youth Bulletin Art Contest)

THU

16

8:30 - 11:30 AM
9:00 AM
12:00 PM

Meals on Wheels - For more information contact
Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305
Classic Voice Ensemble - Choir Room
Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom

SUN

19

Children's & Sudderth Sunday

8:30 AM
9:15 AM
10:30 AM
11:30 AM

Worship Service - Hybrid
Christian Formation Classes for all ages
Worship Service - Hybrid
Congregational Meeting - Hybrid

 **JOIN NOW**



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 PM.

Our next meeting will be today October 12th. October's question will be "Who is your favorite character in the Bible and why?"



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY YOUTH ART CONTEST

We're inviting all children or youth to submit original artwork for our Children's Sunday bulletin cover! Please create your art on standard white printer paper (8.5x11 - no lined paper, please). All entries are due by October 15th. Please turn art work into the church office. We can't wait to see your creativity shine!

FAITH ON TAP

Join us for Faith on Tap, Tuesday, October 14th at 6:00 PM. Faith on Tap is a social way to wind down the day, and is a great way to have meaningful conversation and meet new connections.



INTO THE HEART WEDNESDAYS

Join us Wednesday night at 6:00 PM for our Into the Heart Series.

- This Week: *Into the Heart, History, and A.I.*
- October 22: *Into the Heart - Cha Community Dumping.*
- October 29: *Into the Heart - Halloween for the Homebound.*

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us for Men's Breakfast Friday, October 17th at 7:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Men's Breakfast is a great way to kick off your Friday morning with a warm breakfast and conversation over a new topic every month.



OPEN TABLE DESSERT

We are excited to sponsor Open Table, a college ministry and chapel option at Baylor University. Open Table meets each Thursday to enjoy a meal and conversations about faith. If you would like to sponsor dessert for one of their Thursday gatherings please sign-up here:



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG
OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @FIRSTPRESWACO



Staff

Pastor	Leslie King, D. Min. (lking@firstpreswaco.org)
Director of Congregational Life	Taylor Holleyman, Ph.D (tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org)
Operations Manager	Shane Montoya, MBA (office@firstpreswaco.org)
Communication & Design Specialist	Evan Cole (ecole@firstpreswaco.org)
Social Work Intern	Peighton Pulley (peightonp@firstpreswaco.org)
Chancel Choir Director	Austin Ingalls (chancelchoir@firstpreswaco.org)
Handbell Director	Amy Goodman, Ph. D (amy_goodman@baylor.edu)
Organist	Becky Ward, M.M. (vward@hotmail.com)
Pianist (8:30 am service)	Trisha Anderson (trishaanderson0926@gmail.com)
Nursery Coordinator	Chelley Breemes (bigcatz2000@yahoo.com)
Church Historian	Katelyn Jaynes, Ph. D (kljaynes204@gmail.com)
Parish Assoc. for Gerontology	Jim Ellor, D. Min. Ph. D, H.R. (james_ellor@baylor.edu)
Streaming Team	Sondra Dubowsky, James Karney, Amanda Lassetter, Thomas Munn, Adam Redmer, Mike Vale
Custodian	Adriana Goytortu

Organizational Officers

Clerk of Session	Ken Kuhns
Church Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer	Mark Harren, Donna Black
First Presbyterian Church Foundation	President - Chuck Weaver, Carr DuPuy, Carol Miller, Malorie Montoya, Charles Stern
Forman Fund	David Smith, Phil Hering, Cathy McPhee, Patsy Norman, Bob Grayson
Presbyterian Women	Susan Sommerville, Sherry Cragen, Mary Lynn Klingman and Sue Young
Sanctuary Guild	Sherry Cragen, Leigh Marcus
Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

Session Committee Members

Administration Committee	Charlie Olson, Mike Morrison
Christian Formation Committee	Jamie Jackson, Shannon Field, Anita Karney
Congregational Life Committee	Sharon Stern
Facilities Committee	Mark Anderson, Christine Miller, James Hill, Bob Cragen
Finance Committee	Phil Hering, Chip Somerville, Lyndon Olson
Outreach Committee	Sam Parler, Brenda Stephens, Matthew Malavanti
Personnel Committee	Mike Harper, Todd Ehlers, Elouise Frazier
Worship Committee	Jamie Delk, Meredith Palm

Diaconate Committee Members

Diaconate Moderator/Vice Moderator	Malorie Montoya, Bricker Bruner
Diaconate Secretary	Bricker Bruner, Kitty Huneke
Agape Committee	All Deacons
Our Hybrid House	Helen Harris, Christine Dennis, Dave Reagan, Jen Ferretter, Avery Kerley, Cynthia Perry, Zdzislaw Wieckowski, George Ahrens
Power of the Pen	Helen Harris, Peggy Graham, Michelle Plaskett, Parker Adamson
Prayer Committee	Sarah Davis, Toni Percivill, John Jovicich, Kathy Jones
Stork Committee	Drew Risinger, Jerry Barrett, Kevin Bartley
Ushering Coordinator	Wes Field

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WACO, TEXAS

1100 Austin Ave. - Waco, TX 76701 - 254.752.1665 - www.firstpreswaco.org

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

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

Pastor - Leslie King

