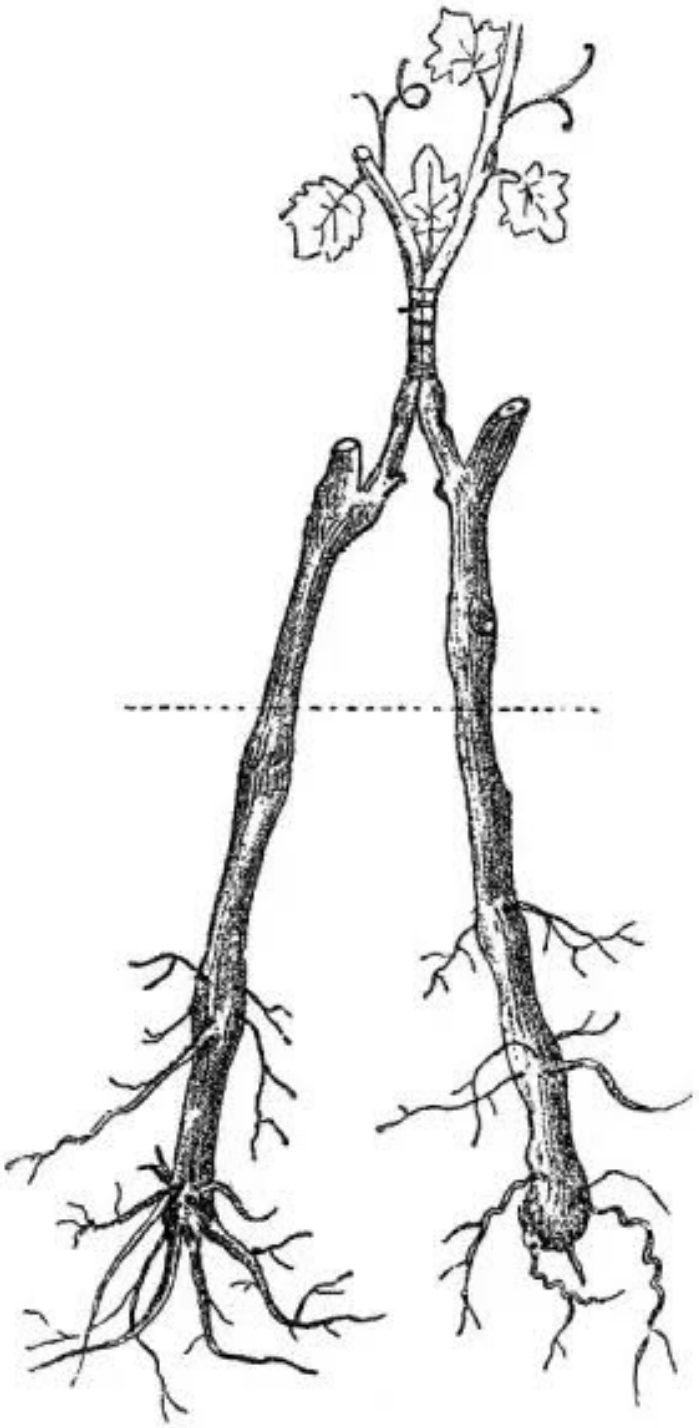
NOVEMBER 8, 2026
24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD

Credit: Grafting by Nastasic Print | https://tinyurl.com/4ejd5z9v

Integrative Method of Worship

At First Presbyterian, our worship style is a traditional Reformed service with liturgy, confession, and classic Christian hymnody. Even with our traditional emphasis, we believe worship should create 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. We strive to integrate experience and theology so that worship remains responsive to our daily lives. We plan worship around sermons and sermon series that address any one of four areas: the mission of the church, the life of the church, Biblical literacy, and current relevant topics. We strive to be balanced and thoughtful in what we offer. However, because integration and responsiveness are the goal, we will often address sensitive issues. Integrative worship is not always easy or comfortable, but it is essential to a vital church. Prayers and confessions are written by our pastoral staff. 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 and invite you to reach out to our pastors with your questions.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

During today's service, you will be invited to share the peace of Christ with one another. Some receive the peace quietly within the assembly, while others reach out, embrace, and speak. We honor all the ways that the Peace of Christ arrives to us in body and in spirit and invite you to express this peace in a way most befitting your needs today.

We desire for worship at First Presbyterian to be accessible for people of diverse needs and experiences. Thank you for your patience, advocacy, and prayers as we work to welcome all people as children of God.

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 (ask an usher for assistance)

- Large-print hymnal
- Hearing enhancement device
- Magnifying sheets
- Worship bags & fidget toys for children in the Narthex. Parental discretion is recommended with these items, please. Please return the bag and fidgets 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. in room S202.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude (8:30) *I Stand All Amazed* Deford
(10:30) *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* Miller
(Text can be found on Hymn #716)

+ Please rise in body or in spirit.

+ Call to Worship:
One: Unity upon the surface of things requires careful work at the ground of our being.
Many: We have been grafted into Christ.
One: Right vulnerability is ground zero for our growth.
Many: We have been grafted into Christ and Abba the Father. Amen.

+ Hymn #720 *Jesus Calls Us* GALILEE

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration
God of the felled tree and the sanded wood, we confess our constructions. We have constructed landscapes, homes, social circles. How we long that your Spirit might infuse all that we have built. That we might have the privilege of living fully into one construction and the courage to build up another. We offer this prayer into your mystery and holiness. 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 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 (8:30)
(10:30)
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.

Stewardship Message Austin Ingalls

Scan and register your attendance,

or please sign in on the pad located in the pew.

We are grateful for last week's giving of $7,909.

Prayer of Illumination

Epistle Scripture Reading: Romans 11: 18-21 (pew Bible NT pg. 161)

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

Anthem (10:30) *Prayer for Peace* Cherwein

O God of love, O King of peace, make wars throughout the world to cease; the wrath of nations now restrain. Give peace, O God, give peace again. Remember, Lord, thy works of old, the wonders that thy people told; remember not our sins dark stain. O God, give peace again! Whom shall we trust but thee, O Lord? Where rest but in thy faithful word? None ever called on thee in vain. Give peace, O God, give peace again!

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 13: 1-9 (pew Bible NT pg. 13)

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: The Tangle: Grafting Leslie King D.Min.

+ Hymn #714 V.2 *God of the Fertile Fields* ITALIAN HYMN

+ Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed (Page 35 of Hymnal)

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.

Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.

Offering (10:30) *Siciliana (from Concerto No. 5)* Handel

Thank you for passing the plate across each aisle, symbolizing our shared responsibility and opportunity.

+ 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) *Is Your All on the Altar* Summers

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.

+ Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

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.

+ Hymn #726 *Will You Come and Follow Me* KELVINGROVE

+ Charge & Benediction

Postlude (8:30) *For the Beauty of the Earth* Renfrow

(10:30) *Let All Things Now Living* Langlois

Hanging of the Greens will immediately follow 10:30 service on November 22nd.

Sanctuary Flowers

In honor of our parents - Dr. B.E. and Mary Sloan Latimer and Charles and Virginia Breese.

Given by: Mike & Lory Latimer

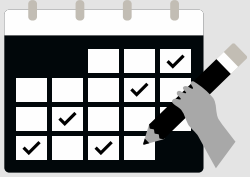


Parlor Plants

In gratitude for the shared fellowship and gifts of my beloved First Presbyterian family.

Given by: Sarah Lieber

UPCOMING THIS WEEK



SUN 8

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:30 a.m.	Worship Service - Hybrid
9:15 a.m.	Christian Formation - Hybrid
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service - Hybrid
5:00 p.m.	Our Hybrid House - Zoom
7:00 p.m.	Young Adults Group - Moody Library

MON 9

1:00 p.m.	Presbyterian Women Meeting (Hybrid)

TUE 10

6:00 p.m.	Faith on Tap

WED 11

5:30 p.m.	Grief, Loss, and Planning - Family Matters Classroom
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Youth Programming
6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice

THU 12

8:00 a.m.	Personnel Committee Meeting
6:30 p.m.	Open Table

FRI 13

6:00 p.m.	Reel Spirituality

SUN 15

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY AND STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.	Worship Service - Hybrid
9:15 a.m.	Christian Formation - Hybrid
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service - Hybrid
11:30 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
7:00 p.m.	Young Adults Group

FIRST PRES NEWS

OUR HYBRID HOUSE

Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate, focused on enriching our environment for hybrid worship and Zoom 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 on November 8th at 5:00 p.m. We will play a game of First Pres history (notes and website checks will be allowed).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH

Youth are invited to join us each week for Wednesday Night Programming from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This Wednesday the conversation will continue over "Language of Belonging!" We'll meet in the Youth Suite at 6 p.m., then we'll have pizza, treats, and study hall at 7 p.m.
Bring a friend for fellowship and fun together! Contact Malorie Montoya for more information or questions: dcf@firstpreswaco.org

GRIEF, LOSS, & PLANNING

November 11th from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Led by Leslie King, Taylor Holleyman, and Dr. Helen Harris. Scan the QR code to register to attend or sign up on Realm.

REEL SPIRITUALITY?

Join us for Reel Spirituality at Pinewood Public House on November 13th at 6:00 p.m. This month's movie will be *A Real Pain* (2024). Available to stream on Amazon Prime.

2223 Austin Ave Suite D, Waco, TX 76701

FPC PENDANT FOR SALE

Wondering what special gift you can give your favorite Presbyterian for Christmas or any other special occasion? Presbyterian Women here at FPC have a unique and meaningful idea for you! A pendant that was designed for FPC's 150th anniversary is available again! It is a pewter replica of the stained glass cross and crown that is above the chancel and has become a logo for our congregation. It is being cast by jeweler/designer Jim Morris in two sizes 34mm tall ($95) and 38mm tall ($105) and can be ordered to be worn as a necklace or as a pocket piece to be carried in a pocket. **PW will be taking orders October 23-November 10, with distribution by December 15.** Payment can be made through Realm, Venmo, check (payable to FPC), or cash. A preview of the pendant will be on display in the Narthex.

Questions? Contact Susan Somerville or Sherry Cragen, Co-Moderators, Presbyterian Women



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Stewardship Sunday is November 15, at 8:30 and 10:30. We will present our stewardship cards. The session will then crunch the numbers for a solid 2027 budget. This, coupled with your energy and intelligence, fills our journey with possibilities to serve God and neighbor.

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)
Director of Christian Formation	Malorie Montoya (dcf@firstpreswaco.org)
Office Assistant	Kyle Plaskett (officeassist@firstpreswaco.org)
Social Work Intern	Kirk Evetts (kevetts@firstpreswaco.org)
Chancel Choir Director	Austin Ingalls (chancelchoir@firstpreswaco.org)
Handbell Choir Director	Amy Goodman, Ph. D (amy_goodman@baylor.edu)
Organist	Becky Ward, M.M. (wardbecky372@gmail.com)
Pianist (8:30 a.m. service)	Trisha Anderson (trishaanderson0926@gmail.com)
Nursery Coordinator	Chelley Breemes (bigcatz2000@yahoo.com)
Parish Associate for Theology & Ethics	Dr. Neil Messer (Neil_Messer@baylor.edu)
Church Historian	Katelyn Jaynes, Ph. D (kljaynes204@gmail.com)
Parish Associate for Gerontology	Jim Ellor, D. Min. Ph. D, H.R. (james_ellor@baylor.edu)
Streaming Team	Ben Bruton, James Karney, Amanda Lassetter, Thomas Munn, Adam Redmer
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, Charles Stern
Forman Fund	David Smith, Phil Hering, Cathy McPhee, Patsy Norman
Presbyterian Women	Susan Somerville, Sherry Cragen, Meg Parrish, and Peggy Graham
Sanctuary Guild	Sharon Stern, Michael Muehlenbein
Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

Session Committee Members

Administration Committee	Lyndon Olson, Roane Lacy, Mike Morrison
Christian Formation Committee	Shannon Field, Anita Karney
Congregational Life Committee	Ryan Joyner, Marsha Alvarado, Kathryn Delk
Facilities Committee	Hunter Harren, Mark Anderson, Christine Miller, James Hill, Bob Cragen
Finance Committee	Donna Black, Phil Hering, Chip Somerville
Outreach Committee	Lenore Wright, Sam Parler, Brenda Stephens
Personnel Committee	Chuck Weaver, Todd Ehlers
Worship Committee	Esther Lee, Meredith Palm

Diaconate Committee Members

Diaconate Moderator	Bricker Bruner
Diaconate Vice Moderator	Melanie Cook
Diaconate Secretary	Christine Huston
Agape Committee	All Deacons
Our Hybrid House	Jeremy Mercer, Dave Reagan, Jen Ferretter, Avery Kerley, Marilyn Harren, Zdzislaw Wieckowski
Power of the Pen	Katie Valenzuela, Scott Wagner, Melanie Cook, Helen Harris, Peggy Graham
Prayer Committee	Drew Risinger, Toni Percivill, John Jovicich, Kathy Jones
Stork Committee	Mike McPhee, Jerry Barrett, Kevin Bartley
Ushering Coordinator	Wes Field