



**AUGUST 24, 2025**  
**NEW BEGINNINGS SUNDAY**



Art Therapy at Southwestern College by Amy Hautman Bates

**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 is 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.

# Worship Service - August 24, 2025 - New Beginnings Sunday

## Greetings and Announcements

Prelude: (8:30) *All Hail, King Jesus with Majesty* Dave Moody  
(10:30) *Fanfare* Mallory  
St. Cecilia Bell Choir

## + Call to Worship

One: Beginning again.

**Many: We begin, again, from where we are.**

One: Beginning, again, within the magnetism of community.

**Many: We dial into each other and find direction in the celestial and in the changing of seasons.**

One: Beginning again, we draw forward the saints and welcome new arrivals.

**Many: Let us worship God.**

+ Hymn #371 *New Songs of Celebration Render* RENDEZ A DIEU

## Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

**God of Rock and Cornerstone, we confess that life can pile up. There can be so much stacked between us and against us. How we long to place what has piled up with intention. How we long to arrange piles into pillars that support and sustain your human community. How we long to honor boundaries while recognizing we share a fate with all of creation. Hear our confession and our longing as we pray into the strength of your grounded 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 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

## Moment for First Pres

Clara Harper & Austin Rue  
Christian Formation

## Spirit Box

Fruits of Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

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.

## Moment for First Pres

Susan Somerville  
Presbyterian Women

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





Prayer of Illumination

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Genesis 31: 43-55 (pew Bible OT pg.29)

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

**We are  
grateful for  
last  
week's  
giving of  
\$11,745.45.**

Anthem

*New Year*

John Rutter

*Turn your eyes to the light; cast away the works of darkness, let them go. Turn your face to the sun; feel the warmth, the hope of new beginnings with each new year.*

*The light was always there, if we could but see it; and warmth was in the air, if we'd known how to feel. New light, new hope, new year. Turn your ears to the sound; somewhere near, a voice is calling: hear the news. Turn your heart to the love; Christ is come to bring the world new life. The voice is always there, if the world will hear it; and love is always there if you search in your heart. New life and love and light and hope, this good new year.*

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:41-46 (pew Bible NT pg.25)

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: Courting Life: Triumph

Leslie King, D. Min.

+ Affirmation of Faith

We affirm our faith in **God's generations**. In God's generations there is emergence and loss. There is development and regression.

We affirm our faith in the **Body of Christ**. Within the body there are members who are more vulnerable. There are members who exert greater strength. Within the Body of Christ, the weak can be strong and the strong can be weak.

We affirm our faith in the **matrix of the Spirit**. Beyond biology and blood, there are soul mate connections strengthened by the Spirit. We affirm surges in the Spirit that connect us serendipitously. We affirm ebbs in the Spirit that create space in our relationships.

We affirm our faith in the sacraments of the **Lord's Baptism and Supper**. In the flow of water, the breaking of bread and the pouring of cup, we allow life to move through us. The sacraments impart essential elements of Christ, building our vitality.

We affirm our **faith in the scriptures**. The Bible's stories, wonderings and assertions help us to examine our judgements, kindle our awe, and find ways to tell our own story as an important extension of the churches history. Amen.

Offering (10:30)

*Awake, Awake to Love and Work*

Held

+ 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.

**Venmo can  
facilitate  
your  
offering or  
designated  
gift.**



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  
**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 #174

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

MADELINE

+ Charge & Benediction

+ Closing Response: (10:30) #795

Healer of Our Every Ill

Healer of Our Every Ill

Postlude: (8:30)

How Great the Wisdom and the Love

arr. Paul Cardell

(10:30)

Fanfare on "Doxology"

Bock

Sanctuary Flowers

In memory of Sarah & Randy  
Preddy.

Given by: B.G. Coulter



Parlor Plants

In honor of all the committee  
members who contribute their  
time and talents to FPC.

Given by: Susan & Chip  
Somerville

Thank you to  
Carolyn and  
Jim Maxwell  
for hosting  
Coffee  
Fellowship.

**Your 2025 Nominating Committee is seeking individuals to serve on Diaconate and Session. Consider nominating yourself or someone else using the QR code form. Feel free to reach out to LaRaine DuPuy, Wes Field, Charlie Stern, Charlie Olson, Jamie Jackson, or Charlotte Henderson with any questions.**

sign up here!



# UPCOMING THIS WEEK



**SUN**

**24**

## **New Beginnings Sunday**

**8:30 AM**

Worship Service - Hybrid

**9:15 AM**

New Beginnings Sunday Breakfast - Fellowship Hall

**10:30 AM**

Worship Service - Hybrid

**11:30 AM**

Coffee Fellowship

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**TUE**

**26**

**8:30 - 11:30 AM**

Meals on Wheels - For more information contact  
Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305

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**WED**

**27**

**12:00 PM**

Facilities Committee Meeting - Hybrid

**1:30 PM**

Worship Committee Meeting - Zoom

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**THU**

**28**

**8:30 - 11:30 AM**

Meals on Wheels - For more information contact  
Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305

**9:00 AM**

Classic Voice Ensemble - Choir Room

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**SUN**

**31**

**8:30 AM**

Worship Service - Hybrid

**9:15 AM**

Christian Formation Classes for all ages

**10:30 AM**

Worship Service - Hybrid

**11:30 AM**

Coffee Fellowship

# FIRST PRES NEWS

## OUR HYBRID HOUSE

Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate and will be focused on what it means to enrich 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 the 2nd Sunday each month at 5:00 PM.

**Our next meeting will be September 14<sup>th</sup>. This month's question will be, what is your favorite gift you've received & from when?**



### SEPTEMBER SERVICE SATURDAY

Service Saturday is September 6th with Habitat for Humanity. We'll be at a construction site, so expect some physical labor. Sign up on Realm or on the sheet in the narthex. This helps Habitat plan and ensures waivers are signed. Questions? Contact Taylor.



### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women is returning **September 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM**, meeting in Fellowship Hall or Zoom. Join us for Bible study and fellowship the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. Contact Co-Moderators Sherry Cragen (254-644-1019) or Susan Somerville (512-921-1732) for more information. We hope to see you there!

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Join us for the Ice Cream Social on September 7 at the church from 3:00 to 4:30 PM! Enjoy sweet treats, good company, and a fun afternoon of fellowship. Bring a friend!



### FIRST PRES CHURCH RETREAT

First Pres is heading back to Mo Ranch, November 7-9!

While the river is currently closed, all other activities are a go. Join us for a fun weekend of fellowship and relaxation. Space is limited—sign up by scanning the QR code before the **September 1 deadline**. Questions?

Contact Taylor Holleyman at [tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org](mailto:tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org) or 254-752-1665.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG](http://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)
Organizational Developer: Communities for Children & Youth	Jeremy Davis (jdavis@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	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](http://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

