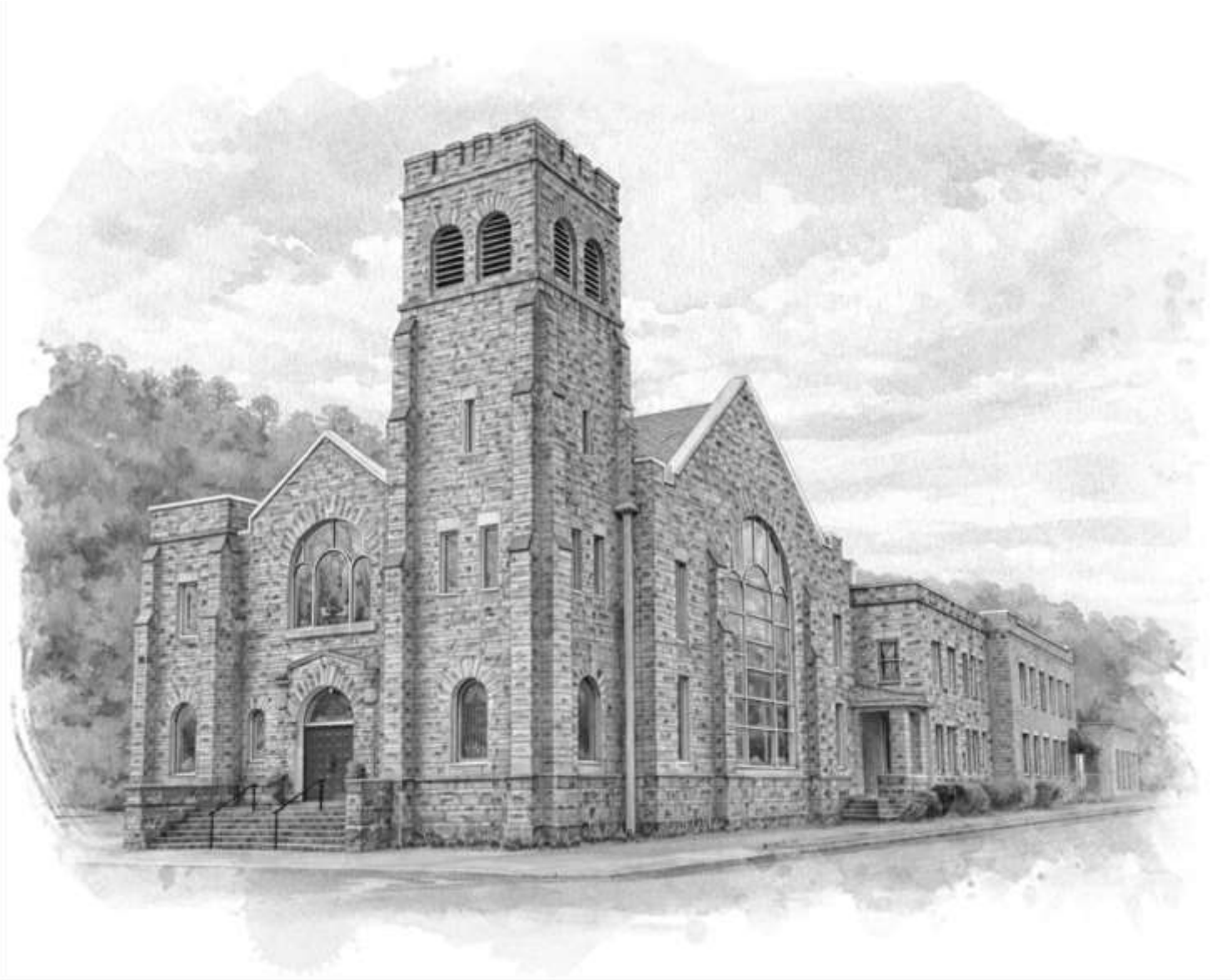
First Presbyterian Church

HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS

1876-2026



17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

Order of Worship

Prelude ..... *"Deck Thyself, My Soul with Gladness"* ..... Gerald Near

Welcome, Greetings and Announcements

Introit..... *"Come, Let Us Worship God"* ..... D. Kettring

Call to Worship .....Pat Edwards
Come! This is the house of God.
All are welcome to come and worship.
Those who woke early and those who slept late;
Those who come often, and those who don't.
Whether we are first or last or somewhere in between,
There is room for all of us in God's kingdom, and grace to go around.
Let's worship God together!

Opening Prayer .....Pat Edwards
God of wisdom, you teach us that the last are first and the first are last. Your understanding is sometimes so different than ours! Meet us in this place and teach us your wisdom and your power; give us joy to receive it fully and courage to live it boldly, through Jesus Christ, your Wisdom and Word. **Amen.**

* Hymn of Praise No. 464 ..... *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"* .....HYMN TO JOY

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)
Merciful God, you call us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. But often we ignore that wisdom. Instead of listening, we talk past one another. Instead of exercising patience, we become hotheaded and irritable. Instead of practicing kindness, we hand out judgment and malice. Forgive us of our sins so that, when we look in the mirror, we see the disciples you are calling us to be.

(A moment of silent personal confession)

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Glory to the Father (Gloria Patri) (Unison).....Hymn No. 579
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.

Prayer for Illumination.....Pat Edwards

First Scripture Reading .....Psalm 145:1-8 .....OT Page 581

Time with Young Disciples

Anthem..... *"O Worship the King"* .....Haydn/Stan Pethel

Second Scripture Reading.....Matthew 20:1-16.....NT Page 21

Sermon .....What Is Fair?.....Rev. Leslie Roper

* Hymn No. 276..... *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* .....FAITHFULNESS

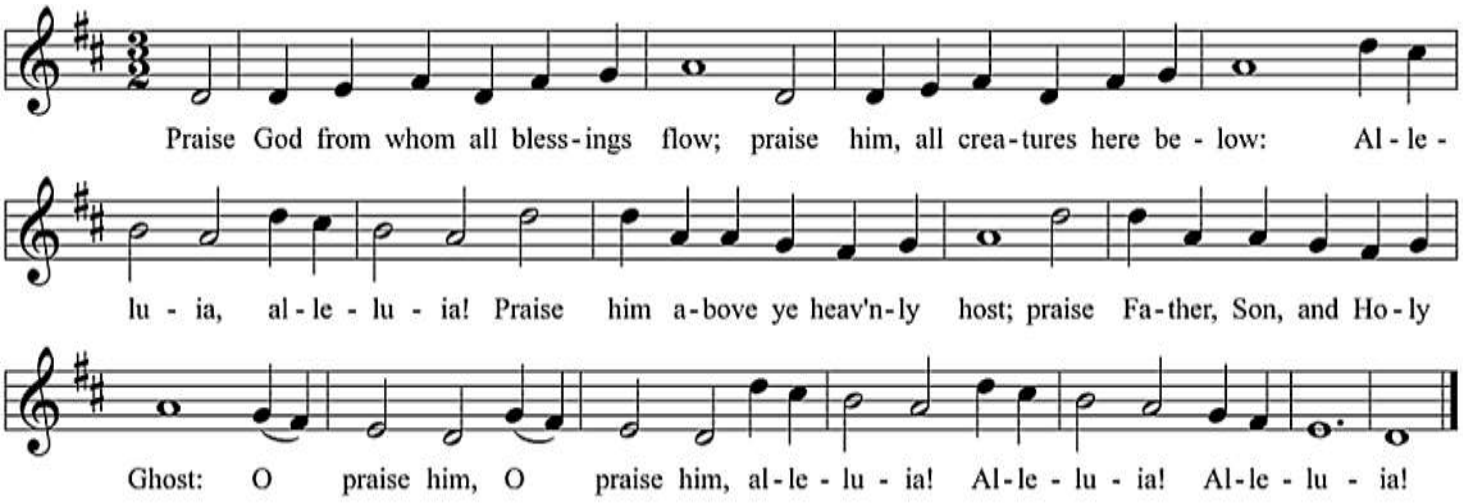
* Affirmation of Faith (Unison)-Apostle's Creed .....Pat Edwards

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 on 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.

Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings .....Pat Edwards

Offertory .....*"Meditation"*.....Paul F. Page

* Doxology – Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow .....LASST UNS ERFREUEN



* Prayer of Dedication .....Pat Edwards

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (Unison)..... Traditional, Hymnal Page 16

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.

* Closing Hymn No. 430..... *"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"* ..... DARWALL'S 148TH

* Charge & Benediction

Postlude....."*Joyful, Joyful"*..... Michael D. Costello

It is the practice of this congregation to sit back down for the postlude.
Please join us in enjoying a few moments of reflection as our service concludes.

*Congregation Standing (Please remain seated if standing is uncomfortable.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Sanctuary Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Patricia and Paul Mills in honor of their son Jereme's birthday.

Today is "Birthday Sunday" where we will honor our members and friends celebrating birthdays in the month of September. Following worship, we invite members, friends and guests to the Fellowship Hall for Birthday Cake. Please join us!

The Church Office will be closed this Friday, September 25, due to vacation. Please plan accordingly.

The Next Presbyterian Women's 5th Wednesday Night Out will be Wednesday, September 30, 5:30 p.m. We will meet at AI Sushi and Grill (1609 Albert Pike Rd., Suite J) next to Walmart in the strip center. They do not serve just sushi. They have hibachi, tempura, ramen noodle dishes, grilled chicken salad, and most importantly – fried cheesecake and green tea ice cream. We will have our own room that can accommodate up to 30 people. Please sign up if you plan to attend. A sign-up sheet is hanging on the "Sign-Up Board" located in the Fellowship Hall right outside the kitchen. By signing up, this ensures enough tables and serving staff to make for an enjoyable evening.

Welcome Visitors! Please take a moment to fill out the visitor information card, located in the pew in front of you. Please drop them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. We'd love to get to know you better! After Worship, join us for a time of fellowship and beverages in the Fellowship Hall. There, you'll find the Welcome Center, with more information about our church!

Children are always welcome in worship at First Presbyterian Church. Older children are encouraged to participate in worship and are welcome to pick up pre-packed activities on the table in the back of the sanctuary just for them. A nursery is available upstairs for children under 5. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

Save your Quarters for the Heifer Project! The quarter tube is located just inside the sanctuary doors near the steps leading into the sanctuary.

Save your Dimes! All dimes put into the offering plates go to the Vera Lloyd Home to purchase Bibles. "Make a joyful noise to the Lord."

Prayer Requests: Anyone who wants prayer from the Prayer Chain should email or call Jamie Williams, jsar43@gmail.com / 276-2852 or Patricia Mills, paulpatmills@yahoo.com / 545-5250 with your request. You may also email the Church Office office@firstpreshotsprings.org. A request can be for yourself, a family member, or a family friend. *You may ask that the request be kept confidential. Only the Prayer Chain members will be notified and they will also be told to keep it confidential.*



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 1 Lesa Henning Elaine Muzny David Thayer **September 3** Helen Bumpas **September 4** James Black Donna Brooks **September 5** Steve DeMott	**September 7** Kricket Lines-Robinson Kelly Simpson **September 12** Susan Cooper **September 18** Jamie Randall **September 19** Miriam Murthy	**September 23** Bruce Simpson **September 24** Rachel Garner **September 25** Sumner Bishop Shane Hardin **September 27** Edward King



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 1 Julie and Jacob Mills Patricia and Paul Mills



We are so very lucky to have a congregation that is willing to invest in our graduating seniors each year. Each month on the 3rd Sunday, members celebrating their birthdays that month are encouraged to make a special "Birthday Blessing" to our scholarship fund. We have been so blessed in the past to be able to contribute to the continuing education of our Youth. We hope that you will consider this month to give in honor of your birthday.



Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Office Lunch Hour:
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 20 – Birthday Sunday
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Birthday Cake in the Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. Handbells
5:30 p.m. Spa City Youth

Monday, September 21
9:00 a.m. Bargain Box Marking
12:00 p.m. PW Coordinating Team Meeting

Wednesday, September 23
10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
12:00 p.m. Bargain Box Open until 3:00 p.m.
12:00 p.m. Food Pantry Open until 2:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m. Session Meeting

Friday, September 25 – Church Office Closed

Sunday, September 27
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Handbells

Please remember to recycle your bulletins by placing them in the blue recycle container in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

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Instagram: firstpreshs

Worship Leadership

The Rev. Leslie Roper, Pastor ..... revroper@gmail.com
Ms. Deleen Davidson, Choir Director 504.382.3804
Dr. Ian Aipperspach, Organist and Handbell Director

Church Staff

Ms. Tammy Abel, Office Administrator ..... office@firstpreshotsprings.org
Ms. Jessica Rowton, Financial Administrator ..... bookkeeper@firstpreshotsprings.org
Mr. Randall Pierce, Sexton

Church Officers

Clerk of Session (Vacant)
Mr. James Matheney, Treasurer
Ms. Helen Bumpas, Moderator, Presbyterian Women
Ms. Jackie Edwards, Moderator, Board of Deacons