

WORSHIP



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | AUGUST 16, 2026

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

At First Presbyterian Church of Richardson, we believe that God's love is for everyone—without exception. We welcome all people to worship, serve, and grow with us, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, marital status, or economic circumstance. We affirm the worth and dignity of every person as a beloved child of God, created in God's image. As a church rooted in God's grace, we seek to live with open hearts and open minds. We commit to being a safe and affirming space for all, especially those who have been hurt or excluded by the church in the past. In our worship, our leadership, our fellowship, and our service—we welcome you. We see you. We honor your full humanity. You are welcome here. You are not alone. You are loved.

We Gather Around the Word

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Chorale and Improvisation”

Ovid Young

Terry Metzger, Organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Paddy Nichols, Liturgist
from Psalm 67

Let the nations be glad and sing with joy,

For God guides us all with justice and equity.

Let the people praise God, for how we have been blessed;

Come let us worship and offer all honour and praise.

*OPENING HYMN | #749 “Come! Live in the Light!”

CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

**Welcoming and Holy God, you make all things new,
justice and right relations have their source in you,
love and peace come from you.**

We confess that we have not lived as you have taught us.

Too often we want grace for ourselves and harsh punishment for others.

**Forgive us for having too narrow a view of your grace
and your work of reconciliation in the world and in us.**

**Forgive us those times we have not welcomed others into our community;
and those times we have avoided others because of our fear and prejudices.**

Forgive us the ways we have judged people unfairly.

Forgive us when we withhold forgiveness and believe others as irredeemable.

**Reveal to us your ways, and show us how to see your goodness
in those who seem different from us and even in those who have harmed us.**

We praise you for your love

**which is great enough to embrace the universe,
yet close enough to enter our hearts.**

Surprise us with your grace

and embolden us to be a people who reflect your big reconciling love in the world.

Amen.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

While it is true that we have all sinned,
it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ.
To all who humbly seek the mercy of God,
I say, be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.
Thanks be to God. Amen!

*GLORIA PATRI | #581 "Glory Be to the Father"

*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.*

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANS

Pastor Sarah

Children of all ages are welcome to join us up front for a brief children's lesson. Children between the ages of 0-kindergarten are then welcome to go to the nursery following the lesson, or return to their seats.

We Proclaim the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 133:1-3

NRSV OT Pg. 575

Genesis 45:1-15

NRSV OT Pg. 42

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

We Respond to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE | #756 "O God of Every Nation"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

from The Confession of 1967 (Inclusive language added)

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.
But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people.
The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator
who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.
Out of Israel God in due time raised up Jesus.
His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God.
He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel,
the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity.
He gave history its meaning and direction
and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *and* THE LORD'S PRAYER | *Unison*

**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.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Mark Miller

The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director

Terry Metzger, Piano

For text reflection, see Glory to God 687.

*DOXOLOGY | #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*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. Amen.*

We Are Sent Out to Bear the Word in the World

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN | #772 "Live into Hope"

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Our Father Who Art in Heaven"

J.S. Bach

Terry Metzger, Organ



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON
established 1870

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WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Sunday, August 16

Coffee Class: 9 am, A111

Present Word: 9 am, A109

Discover FPCR Class: 9 am, Library

Nursery: 9-11:30 am, CE Building

Children's Sunday School: 9-10:15 am

Worship: 10:30 am, In-Person & Online

Book Club: 5 pm, Library

Monday, August 17

Mission Ministry Team Meeting: 1:30 pm, A109

Tuesday, August 18

Prayer Group: 8 am, Phone

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 10 am, Library

Staff Meeting and Lunch: 12 pm, Conference Room; Library

Pastor's Bible Study: 4 pm, Google Meet

Wednesday, August 19

Sometimers: 8-11 am

Wednesday Night Live: 6-8 pm, Fellowship Hall

Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9 pm

Thursday, August 20

Art Therapy: 10 am, A109

Saturday, August 22

Taiwanese Ministry Bible Study: 2-4 pm, Library

Sunday, August 23

Coffee Class: 9 am, A111

Present Word: 9 am, A109

Children's Sunday School: 9-10:15 am, CE Building

Nursery: 9-11:30 am, CE Building

Worship: 10:30 am, In-Person & Online

For the full events

calendar that includes
our Community Partners,
please scan the QR code.



Give Your Pill Bottles a Second Life!

In developing countries, medicines are often dispensed into hands, cloths, leaves, or other available containers. Matthew 25 Ministries accepts donations of clean, empty, capped plastic pill bottles to help doctors, hospitals, and clinics distribute medications safely and hygienically.

By donating your empty pill bottles, you can help:

1. Provide safe containers for distributing medications to people in need.
2. Keep thousands of pill bottles out of landfills.
3. Support Matthew 25 Ministries by recycling eligible pill bottles, with proceeds helping fund their programs.

How to Donate

Please place your empty, capped prescription and over-the-counter pill bottles in the basket in the Welcome Center.

Labels are okay! Our Earth Care Team will ensure the bottles are properly cleaned and left unlabeled before shipping

Thank you for helping protect our environment while making a difference in communities around the world!



SHOW YOU CARE, WITH UNDERWEAR!

Support Terrace Elementary in the upcoming school year! Sizes requested are 3 or 3T, 4 or 4T, 5 and 6. Please place your donations in the basket provided in the Welcome Center.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Monthly Dinner & Fellowship

Dinner will be served from 6-7 PM. Reservations are required!



All are welcome!

RSVP in the Friendship Pads. Suggested Donation: \$5/Adult.

SAVE THE DATE!

STICKY BREAKFAST!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 | 10 AM

Join us for breakfast AND worship in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 30, and learn about all the ways you can get involved with your church this fall!

Breakfast will begin at 10 am, and worship will follow at the normal 10:30 am start time.