

WORSHIP



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | AUGUST 23, 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.

STICKY BREAKFAST!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

10 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

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.

RSVP by Friday, August 28.

Donations will be accepted for the meal.

Sticky RSVP!

Please fill out your sticky note with your name and the number of people in your party, and drop it in the offering plate!

We Gather Around the Word

WELCOME

Rev. Alice Hernandez

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Our Father Who Art In Heaven"

J.S. Bach

Terry Metzger, Organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Rev. Sarah Chancellor Watson

From the rising of the sun 'til its setting in the west,

God's holy name be praised.

On the lips of children, by babies carried on hips,

God's holy name be praised.

In the visions of the old and the dreaming of the young,

God's holy name be praised.

In the banquet hall of heaven and the forgotten corners of our hearts,

God's holy name be praised.

Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord.

Amen! We praise the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN | #81 "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

Loving Lord,
This is a day which You have made:
the night ended and the sun rose at Your command.
It is a gift, this new day,
a blessing filled with opportunities and overflowing with potential.
We should rejoice with all creation;
with the sun, moon, stars and the heavens.
And yet Lord, we must confess
that all too often we have rejected rather than rejoiced.
We are quick to grumble over what we imagine we lack
rather than give thanks for all we already have.
We calculate what we should have instead of counting our blessings
and all too often we spot problems before we see the potential;
focusing on failure rather than looking at what can be done.
We ask that You will forgive us
for all the times that we place ourselves before our neighbors;
when our desires are prioritised and the needs of others are ignored;
when our greed overrules our consciences
and we hoard our blessings instead of sharing freely with those around us.
Father, we pray that you will renew and refresh us;
shatter our hearts of stone and fill us with a love for all people;
reshape us into the people you would have us be.
Let us truly be Your people, Your followers.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

We know love and forgiveness because God first loved us
and has been calling out to us forever, "You are my beloved!"
May we respond to such abundant grace
with deep gratitude for God's unending forgiveness.
God loves me, heals me, strengthens me and calls me by name.
Through Jesus I am made whole! Thanks be to God!

*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

Romans 12:1-8

NRSV NT Pgs. 161-162

Matthew 16:13-20

NRSV NT Pg. 18

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Alice Hernandez

We Respond to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE | #683 “Lord of All Hopefulness”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

from The Confession of 1967 (Inclusive language added)

**The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus,
his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation,
his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death.
The teaching of apostles and prophets guides men and women in living this life,
and the Christian community nurtures and equips them for their ministries.
The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all
in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics.
But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices
when these same powers endanger human welfare.
Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose
rather than human schemes will finally prevail.
Life in Christ is life eternal.
The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God
will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death
and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.**

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

“Many Gifts”

Allen Pote

The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director

Terry Metzger, Piano

*Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice. Many reasons, on promise, many questions, one choice.
O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above. In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.
O God, remind us we are not alone. Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne.
Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand.
We are members of one family growing strong by joining hands.
Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul into the beauty of a rainbow.
Give us life, Lord. Make us whole.*

*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 | #716 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

J.S. Bach

Terry Metzger, Organ



A note from Terry about today's music:

Matthew 16:18 Upon this ~~rock~~ Bach I will build my church (music.) Over the course of the 1500-1600s chorales (hymns) became the foundation of protestant church music. A chorale prelude is an organ piece built around a chorale tune, and they are the cornerstone of organ literature. If you took away music based on hymn tunes music libraries would be suddenly bereft of most organ and choral works.

Last week I played a somber, strong-voiced setting of Our Father Who Art in Heaven by Bach, the most famous composer of chorale preludes. This week I'm playing a 2nd Bach setting of the tune that is more intimate. The hymn tune is in the soprano voice accompanied by a 4-note up and down motif passed among the other 3 voices. I'm also playing the familiar Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring which features lovely flowing interludes which pause for the chorale tune one phrase at a time. Jesu began as a choral movement in a Bach cantata but has been adapted for organ and many other instruments and ensembles due to its popularity. Enjoy!



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON
established 1870

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WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Sunday, August 23

Coffee Class: 9 am, A111

Present Word: 9 am, A109

Nursery: 9-11:30 am, CE Building

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

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

Monday, August 24

Faith Sharing: 1 pm, Library

Tuesday, August 25

Prayer Group: 8 am, Phone

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 10 am, Library

Pastor's Bible Study: 4 pm, Google Meet

Wednesday, August 26

Sometimers: 8-11 am

Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9 pm

Saturday, August 29

Taiwanese Ministry Bible Study: 2-4 pm, Library

Sunday, August 30 - Sticky Breakfast & Worship

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

Sticky Breakfast & Worship: 10 am, Fellowship Hall

**For the full events
calendar that includes
our Community Partners,
please scan the QR code.**



network
OF COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Thank you to the several volunteers who have begun picking up and dropping off our collected groceries at the Network! If you are interested in helping with this task, you can find a **sign-up sheet** by the collection baskets, near the church offices.



RSVP TODAY!

STICKY BREAKFAST!

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 | 10 AM



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!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

BINGO!

3rd Annual Bingo, Pizza, and Ice Cream Event with UDCC

11:30 AM
FELLOWSHIP HALL