

WORSHIP



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | SEPTEMBER 20, 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

“Oh, How Blest Are You”

Healey Willan

Terry Metzger, Organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Dianne Long, Liturgist

Whether we embrace God's call in our lives or try to avoid it,

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Whether we are longtimers or latecomers in the life of faith,

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or bring hardship,

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

We praise God's name forever and ever!

*OPENING HYMN | #634 “To God Be the Glory”

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

**God of abundant goodness, we confess that we want your grace for ourselves
but often wish punishment or exclusion on others.**

We judge the efforts and motives of others while ignoring the faults of our own.

Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us.

Forgive us, we pray, when we are petty even in the presence of your generosity.

Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by you.

May we ask once again for your mercy?

Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another?

We pray in the name of Christ Jesus, by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving, grace beyond our ability to earn it.

God has granted us the privilege of believing in Christ;

therefore we will live as grateful and forgiven people!

Thanks be to God!

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

*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

Philippians 1:21-30

NRSV NT Pgs. 196-197

Matthew 20:1-16

NRSV NT Pgs. 21-22

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

We Respond to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE | #654 “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

The Apostle’s Creed

**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.**

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

MINUTE FOR MISSION | Tango Charities Feed the City

Robin Smith

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Rain Down"

John Carter

The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director

Terry Metzger, Piano

*Rain down your love on your people, rain down your love, God of Life.
Faithful and true is the word of our God. All of God's works are so worthy of trust.
God's mercy falls on the just and the right. Full of God's love is the earth.
We who revere and find hope in our God live in the kindness and joy of God's wing.
God will protect us from darkness and death; God will not leave us to starve.
God of creation, we long for your truth; you are the water of life for our thirst.
Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you.*

*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 | #724 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"A Grateful Heart"

Franklin Ritter

Terry Metzger, Organ



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON
established 1870

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Richardson, TX 75081
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God is at work in You

Stewardship 2027

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

STEWARDSHIP SEASON

BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27