



A SERVICE OF INSTALLATION TO THE  
MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT  
**Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson**  
A WORSHIP SERVICE OF GRACE PRESBYTERY  
First Presbyterian Church of Richardson | May 31, 2026

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

## Gathering

PRELUDE

“Christian People, Raise Your Song”

Margaretha Christina de Jong  
Terry Metzger, Organ

\*PROCESSIONAL OF THE INSTALLATION COMMISSION AND MINISTER

“Come Christians Join to Sing”

Ruth Greer Handbell Choir, Becky Lormor, Director

MADRID

Arr. Matthew Compton

\*GREETING

Rev. Richard Culp

\*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

**Shout to God with loud songs of joy.**

For the Most High is awesome,

**A great sovereign over all the earth.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

**To sing praises to your name, O Most High.**

Royce Chancellor  
*Psalm 47:1-2 and Psalm 92:1*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE

\*HYMN | #327 “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Alice Hernandez

CONFESSION OF SIN | *Unison*

**Mighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people  
and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ.**

**We confess that we have not lived up to our calling.**

**We have been timid and frightened disciples,  
forgetful of your powerful presence  
and the strength of your Spirit among us.**

**O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways.**

**As you have chosen us, and claimed us in our baptisms,  
strengthen us anew to choose Christ's way in this world.**

**Give us your Holy Spirit, that each one in ministry  
may be provided with all the gifts of grace  
needed to fulfill our common calling;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

*a brief silence is kept*

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*GLORIA PATRI | #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANs

Pastor Alice and 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.*

## *The Word*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. David Watson

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

NRSV OT Pg. 672

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word  
**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 29

Karen Ebling

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word  
**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*Arr. Mack Wilberg*

Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director

Imperial Brass; Terry Metzger, Organ

*See Glory to God #366 for text reflection.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 1:1-11

Rev. Rebecca Chancellor Sicks

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word  
**Thanks be to God.**

NRSV NT Pg. 118

SERMON | "Is This the Time?"

\*HYMN | #450 “Be Thou My Vision”

*Arr. Sterling Procter*

# *The Service of Installation*

LITANY OF GIFTS | *Responsively*

*based on Romans 12:4-8, 11-13*

As in one body we have many parts and each part has its own function,  
so all of us together with Christ are one body, and we all belong to each other.

**We have different gifts according to the grace God has given us.**

If your gift is to hear God's Word,

**Speak it out in faith.**

If your gift is service,

**Live to serve others.**

If your gift is the heart of a teacher,

**Teach what is true.**

Let preachers preach with conviction, and givers give freely;

**Let officers work diligently for the people,  
and let those who serve the poor serve gladly.**

Let us not lack for enthusiasm, but be ardent in spirit,

**Serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, patient in suffering,  
constant in prayer, supporting one another, and welcoming all.**

STATEMENT ON THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH | *Responsively*

We are all called out by God to be the Church of Jesus Christ,  
a sign in the world today of the new life that God intends for all.

In our life together we are to display the new reality that sin is forgiven,  
reconciliation accomplished, and the dividing wall of hostility torn down.

As the living body of Christ, the church is called to proclaim  
the good news of salvation to present the claims of the gospel  
on people's lives and to demonstrate Christ's love in service to the world.

We are called to undertake this mission even at the risk of life, trusting God in all things.

In faith we embrace a new openness to what God is doing in our time,

a renewed obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ, and a new joy in our common worship and work.

Today we reclaim our historic calling and remember the great ends of the Church:

**The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;  
The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;  
The maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth;  
The promotion of social righteousness;  
And the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.**

The ministry of the church is shared by pastor and people,

so that all together may fulfill the mission to which we are called in Jesus Christ.

The particular responsibility of the ministry of the Word and Sacrament  
is to build up the church and serve the people of God

so that the Word may be rightly proclaimed and the sacraments rightly celebrated.

The call to this ministry has been extended by the congregation,  
accepted by the minister, and approved by the Presbytery.

Representing the one holy, catholic and apostolic Church,

Grace Presbytery, by means of this commission,

now installs her as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Richardson.

**We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ,  
and we celebrate God's call to our sister, to serve among us as pastor.**

*Profession of Faith*

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ, and accept him as your Lord and Savior,  
trusting in his grace and love?

**I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

**I will, with God's help.**

*The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Thanksgiving for Baptism*

## \*PRESENTATION OF THE PASTOR-ELECT

*Galatians 3:27, Ephesians 4:4*

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

In her baptism, Sarah was clothed with Christ  
and is now called by God through the voice of the church  
to enter upon the ministry in this place.

**We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ,  
and we celebrate this call of God to our sister, Sarah.**

## THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

*Questions of the Pastor-Elect*

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and head of the Church,  
and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

**I do.**

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit,  
the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal,  
and God's Word to you?

**I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith  
as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions  
of what Scripture leads us to believe and do,  
And will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

**I do and I will.**

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ,  
under the authority of Scripture, continually guided by our confessions?

**I will.**

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?  
Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them,  
subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

**I will.**

Will you, in your own life, seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors,  
and work for the reconciliation of the world?

**I will.**

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

**I do.**

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

**I will.**

Will you be a faithful teaching elder, proclaiming the good news in Word and sacrament,  
teaching faith, and caring for people?

Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church,  
And in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**I will.**

### *Questions of the Congregation*

Margaret Rogers

Do we, the members of the church, accept Sarah as our pastor,  
chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?

**We do.**

Do we agree to pray for and to encourage her, to respect her decisions,  
and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

**We do.**

Do we promise to pay her fairly, and provide for her welfare as she works among us,  
to stand by her in trouble, and share her joy?

Will we listen to the word she preaches, welcome her pastoral care,  
and honor her authority as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord?

**We do and we will.**

### QUESTION OF THE COMMISSION

Do we, the members of this commission, acting on behalf of Grace Presbytery,  
promise, in reliance upon the grace of God, to support this pastor and this congregation  
with our prayers and our actions, to the end that their ministry together may be fruitful,  
strengthening the church of Jesus Christ, and bringing glory to God?

**We do.**

### PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

### DECLARATION *and* WELCOME

### CHARGE TO THE NEWLY INSTALLED PASTOR

Rev. Mitch Miller

### PRESENTATION OF A SYMBOL OF MINISTRY

Margaret Rogers

### CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION (*members of FPCR may stand*)

Rev. Lisa Perkins

### THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

Karen Ebling

### OFFERTORY

“The Gift of Love”

*Arr. Hal H. Hopson*

Sanctuary Choir and Ruth Greer Handbell Choir

\*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.*

## Sending

\*HYMN | #321 “The Church’s One Foundation”

Arr. Aaron David Miller

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

“Ode to Joy”

Arr. Paul Battles  
Imperial Brass

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION OF GRACE PRESBYTERY

Rev. Rebecca Chancellor Sicks, Teaching Elder at Northridge Presbyterian, Dallas  
Royce Chancellor, Ruling Elder at First Presbyterian, Fort Worth  
Rev. Richard Culp, Teaching Elder at St. Andrew Presbyterian, Denton  
Karen Ebling, Ruling Elder at Canyon Creek Presbyterian, Richardson  
Rev. Michele Goff, Teaching Elder, Grace Presbytery East Regional Ministry Associate  
Rev. Mitch Miller, Teaching Elder, Synod of the Sun Leader and Stated Clerk  
Rev. Lisa Perkins, Teaching Elder at Faithbridge Presbyterian, Frisco  
Margaret Rogers, Ruling Elder at First Presbyterian, Richardson

### OTHER WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Alice Hernandez, Teaching Elder at First Presbyterian, Richardson  
Rev. David Watson

### IMPERIAL BRASS

Glen Hummel, Trumpet; Tyler Moore, Trumpet; Susan Frazier, French Horn;  
Simon Willats, Trombone; Nathan Frazier, Tuba

*Additional instrumental and choral arrangements by Terry Metzger.*

*A special word of thanks to the St. Barnabas sanctuary choir and other vocalists of the professional DFW music community for joining the Sanctuary Choir of FPCR in joyful singing on this very special occasion!*

*Today's offering will be going to support Candidates and Inquirers under care of Grace Presbytery. This scholarship fund helps future Ministers of Word and Sacrament with expenses related to their education and ordination process.*



Dear Friends,

Thank you all for being here today and joining us for worship. I am particularly grateful for those from the Presbytery who are with us today. I am enjoying meeting new colleagues and reconnecting with old friends, including members of my own extended family, within this Presbytery. Coming back to Texas has in many ways felt like a homecoming. My first few months here have been filled with such warmth and welcome, which has only added to that feeling. My whole family is adjusting well to our new Texas life and making ourselves quite at home. Chance has made fast friends, and Sam already knows many of the best hiding spots in the church.

Something I knew about this congregation before I arrived and that has been affirmed is that this church is a family, and perhaps one of the reasons I have already felt at home here is that this community reminds me so much of the church I grew up in. St. James Presbyterian in Jenks, Oklahoma, was never the biggest, most powerful, or most influential church in the area, but we were a church that strove to be faithful in our call to discipleship and to follow where the Spirit led. It was there that I was taught the stories of the Bible, the tenets of our Reformed theology, and the songs and hymns of our faith, and I was also given space and permission to ask questions, to wrestle with my doubts, and to lean into the mysteries of God and faith. It was a community where I knew I was loved, where my gifts were recognized and nurtured, a community that genuinely cared about one another and exhibited joy in being and in working together. I recognize that same environment, that same driving force, of love and care, in this church.

It is with so much joy, a sense of responsibility, and a healthy dose of humility that I take on this great honor to be your pastor, your shepherd, your guide and fellow sojourner, and your friend. As we look to the future together, I am excited to enter into this shared ministry that God has prepared for us. I look forward to continuing to get to know each of you, building long-lasting relationships, and nurturing my own children's faith along with yours, and teaching them all about the love of God within this community. In a world where so many are searching for meaning and belonging, I look forward to continuing to create a place where all belong here, to expand our welcome in ever-widening circles, as together we strive to love and serve the Lord in all that we do.

Thanks be to God for bringing us together, and I pray that God will indeed bless our life and ministry for many years to come.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Sarah

