

*The Service of Worship*

June 14, 2026

**Chimes**

**Prelude**

*Ho! Every One That Is Thirsty*  
Elsie Fetzer

arr. Cyril McLellan

**Greeting and Announcements**

**Introit**

*Shall We Gather at the River*  
Lindsey Jackson

arr. Gary Lanier

**\*Call to Worship and Opening Prayer** (responsive)

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

**They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.**

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;

**in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.**

The psalmist writes:

*As a deer longs for flowing streams,*

*so my soul longs for you, O God.*

*My soul thirsts for God,*

*for the living God.*

**Lead us, O God, beside still waters.**

**Restore our souls today;**

**refresh us in the waters of your grace.**

Let us be strengthened in our inner being with power through the Spirit  
as we are being rooted and grounded in love.

**Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Ho, All Who Thirst*

**#479**

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession** (responsive)

Mighty God, Rock of our salvation,  
you are the ground of our being  
and our sturdy foundation,  
but we confess:

**we lose our footing,  
our attention is scattered,  
we feel untethered and unsteady,  
we are agitated and overwhelmed.**

When we move through our days mindlessly,  
we forget You,  
we forget ourselves,  
we forget each other.

**Forgive us.**

**May we be anchored in the waters of grace,  
rooted and grounded in love,  
sturdy and steady enough to reach out  
in faithfulness.**

**Amen.**

**\*Declaration of Forgiveness** (responsive)

The one who formed you from the earth redeems and re-forms you.  
The one who called forth water with a word calls you beloved.  
I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,  
you are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*The Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*Response**

*Gloria Patri*

**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.**

*Jesus Loves the Little Children*  
**Jesus loves the little children,  
All the children of the world.  
Every color, shape, and size;  
All are precious in his eyes.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

**Prayer for Illumination** (responsive)

Spirit of the Living God,  
still us enough to hear.

**Quiet the noise within us  
and the noise around us,  
that in this word,  
in this moment,  
we might recognize you —  
already here, already speaking.  
Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

Mark 4:1, 35-41

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Deep River*  
Lindsey Jackson

arr. K.L. Phillips

**Scripture Reading**

John 21:1-14

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Grounding*

Rev. Michelle D. Witherspoon

**\*Hymn of Response**

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* (vv. 1 & 2)

**#182**

## **The Sacrament of Baptism and Welcome of New Members**

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**\*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed (unison)**

**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.**

PRAYER

BAPTISM AND ANOINTING

BLESSING AND WELCOME

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ,  
for we are all one in him. Amen.**

**\*Baptism Hymn**

*In Christ Called to Baptize (vv. 1, 3 & 4)*

**#297**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

**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.**

## Giving of Ourselves and Our Offerings – A Moment for Grateful Reflection

*Wade in the Water*  
Lindsey Jackson

arr. David McKeown

### \*The Doxology

**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.**

### \*Prayer of Dedication (responsive)

Almighty God,  
as water nourishes the earth and quenches thirst,  
your presence with us nourishes our spirits,  
and your generous provision sustains us.

**Receive the offerings of our life and labor.**

We give to you from what you have already given to us.

**Sanctify our gifts and our lives  
for your kingdom  
which is coming on earth.  
Amen.**

### \*Sending Hymn

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

#32

### \*Benediction

### \*Benediction Response

*I've Got Peace Like a River*  
Lindsey Jackson

arr. Gary Lanier

### \*Chimes

### Postlude

*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*  
Elsie Fetzer

arr. Lani Smith

*\*Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

### Worship Notes – Sources Used in Today's Liturgy

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: adapted from Jeremiah 17:7-8; Psalm 42:1-2; Psalm 23:2-3; Ephesians 3:16-17

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## Prayer Concerns June 14, 2026

### Military Personnel

Luke Brigham (Randy & Terry's son)  
Thomas Gage Snyder (Kim Schlup's son)

### Presbytery of Plains & Peaks

Sterling, First Presbyterian Church

### Those with Special Needs or Concerns

Grace Ann Albright Family	Rose Neblett
Joe Baran (in-law of Ted & Penny Propst)	Dirk Nye and Regine Bendelow (Jackie Barton's step-father & mother)
Jackie Barton	Jeni Porter (In-law of Blackburns)
John Bennett (Neblett's grandson)	David Prince (Tanna's brother)
Tye Bennett (Neblett's grandson)	Emma Rich (Granddaughter of Gary & Kay Rich)
Clark Bernhardt	Gary Rich
Norm Blackburn	Cadie, Hailey, and Austen Rose (Jason Rose family)
Brenda Boeff	Leslie Rudolph (sister of Mike Tyson)
Randy Brigham	Betty Scharf
Leah Burt (friend of Judy Routhph)	Linda Schoyer (Sister of Connie Sue Clark)
CEDEPCA (Protestant Ministry in Guatemala)	John Seffens (friend of Mike Tyson)
Cooperating Ministry	Darrell Smith and family
Sally Craig (friend of Jackie Reynolds)	Montelle Smith
Dylan Cranwell — Peace Corps	Jim Stegman
Taylor Cranwell	Becky Stieb, Justin & Torin (friends of Michelle Hawkins)
Jeanne Crouch & Family	The family of Sharon Treacy (mother of Laura Guenzi)
Dave & Marsha Davis	Amy & Byron Uhrich (Jill Vollmer's parents)
Sarah Davis	Under the Umbrella
Andrew DeSouza (Michelle Hawkins' son)	Robert Vance (Michelle White's dad)
Gary Espinosa (Arden Fennell's family)	Laurie Weskamp Wagner (Jeff's sister)
Family Resource Center	Jeff Weskamp
Carolee Goldsmith (mother of Brandon Eaton)	Michelle Wilson (friend of David Chrisp)
Meredith Goodwin (friend of Propsts)	
Mike Hawkins (Michelle Hawkins' brother)	
Highlands Camp	
Sonja Holden (friend of Arden Fennell)	
Dennis Kaan	
Robert Koehler (friend of Laura Guenzi)	
Debby Korrey (Delinda's & Darla's sister)	
Delinda Korrey McDowell	
Jim Leh	

#### Prayer List Updates:

Do you have an update on anyone listed on our church prayer list? We'd love to hear the good news of recovery, healing, and answered prayer. If you have a joy to report, let us know!

***Announcements—June 14, 2026***

*We invite you to join us in our work and worship at First Presbyterian Church.*

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**At a Glance**

June 14	10:30	Worship Service
	11:30	Fellowship Coffee with Birthday Celebration
June 15	12:00	Finance
June 16	5:00	Zumba
	6:00	Session
June 18	4:30	Zumba
June 21	10:30	Worship Service
	11:30	Fellowship Lunch

**Church Office hours:** Mon/Wed/Fri: 9:00 am—Noon; and Tues/Thurs: 1:00-4:00 pm

**Food Pantry Items:** Throughout the month of June we are collecting: Chunky Soup with pop-tops and Crackers. You may bring your donations to the church and put them under the table outside the church office, or in the box in the elevator vestibule.

**Tithes & Offerings:** Thank you... your support makes mission & ministry possible.  
Donate online at [tinyurl.com/FPCPayPal](https://tinyurl.com/FPCPayPal) or [tinyurl.com/FPCSterlingGive](https://tinyurl.com/FPCSterlingGive)



# First Presbyterian Church

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130 South 4th Street | Sterling, CO 80751 | 970-522-2708  
www.firstpressterling.org

## *Church Staff*

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Pastor	Rev. Michelle D. Witherspoon
Music Coordinator/Organist	Elsie Fetzer
Choir Director	Darla Korrey Gertner
Bell Choir Director	Lindsey Jackson
Office Administrator	Rashell Fritzler
Bookkeeper	Karlee Manuello
Property Manager	Janet Kloberdanz

## *Serving Today*

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Liturgists	Michelle D. Witherspoon, preacher Jerri Spear, liturgist
Acolyte/Bible Bearer	Sheldon's
Ushers	Laura Guenzi, Jane Robinson, Leila Hutt
Children's Moment	Jackie Barton
AV	Jeff Christenson & Alex Hicks (Sound), Pam Trimble (Slides)
Offering Count	Bev Cumming
Fellowship Coffee	Membership/Stewardship
Bulletin Delivery	Jackie Barton