



**A Service for the Worship of God | Sunday, January 25, 2026 | 10:45am**

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us worship God.

#### CHIMES

**PRELUDE**.....*Sarabande*.....Edvard Grieg

**INTROIT**.....*The Lord Is My Light*.....Taizé community  
The Youth and Sanctuary Choirs

*The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:  
In God I trust; in God I trust.*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*based on Psalm 27:1, 4-9*

The Lord is our light and our salvation—whom shall we fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives—of whom shall we be afraid?**

One thing we seek, one thing we desire:  
**to dwell in the house of the Lord,**  
to behold the beauty of God,  
**and to seek God's presence all our days.**

In every season—in joy and in trouble, in confidence and in longing—  
**we lift our hearts to the Lord.**

Come, let us seek the face of God.

**Come, let us worship with trust and hope.**

† HYMN, No. 826.....*Lift High the Cross*.....CRUCIFER

## CALL TO CONFSSION

### PRAYER OF CONFSSION

Gracious God, we confess that we cling to our nets—to what feels familiar, secure, and safe. We resist change, we hesitate to trust your call, and we doubt that you could truly use us.

We focus on ourselves rather than on your kingdom.

We settle for comfort instead of courage.

We forget that you believe in us even when we struggle to believe in ourselves.

Turn us again, O God. Teach us to follow Christ with trust and joy, and shape our lives for your purposes in the world. Amen.

*(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence.)*

**RESPONSE, No. 475** ..... *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* ..... NETTLETON

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the Good News!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous! Thanks be to God!**

**† GLORIA PATRI** ..... *Glory Be to the Father* ..... MEINEKE

*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 OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Parents are invited to bring their children forward for a time with children.*

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

**A TIME WITH CHILDREN** ..... Lynace Veit

Children: God be with you as you stay.

**Congregation: God be with you as you go.**

*Children may exit at this time. Parents of children ages 3 years and younger may take their children to the CE building for Extended Session, Room CE 103. Children 4 years old through first grade may exit for Worship Center on the third floor, Room 322.*

**RESPONSE, No. 480** ..... *Take Me to the Water* ..... TAKE ME TO THE WATER

*I love Jesus. I love Jesus.*

*I love Jesus, yes, I do.*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST READING** ..... Isaiah 9:1-4

Pew Bible, page 600 | Large Print, page 780

*Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.***SECOND READING** ..... Matthew 4:12-23

Pew Bible, page 3 | Large Print, page 4

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****SERMON** ..... *The Call to Follow* ..... Rev. Brent Anderson**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL****† HYMN, No. 169** ..... *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* ..... REST**† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**    **A Brief Statement of Faith**

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

Moment for Mission ..... What is Legacy; What is Stewardship ..... Simone Hennessee

Moment for Mission – Kenya Medical Mission - Blessing

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS****ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER****Response:** Lord, in your mercy, hear our 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.

## PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth*

Justin Ramm-Damron, bass-baritone

George F. Handel

*For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
And gross darkness the people:  
But the Lord shall arise upon thee,  
And his glory shall be seen upon thee.  
And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,  
And kings to the brightness of thy rising.*

*The people that walked in darkness  
Have seen a great light:  
And they that  
In the land of the shadow of death,  
Upon them hath the light shined.*

### † DOXOLOGY, No. 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

### † PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

### † HYMN, No. 726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

### † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### † RESPONSE, No. 480

*Take Me to the Water*

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

*Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah.  
Glory hallelujah to be baptized.*

### † POSTLUDE

*Fugue in D Minor*

Felix Mendelssohn

† Please stand in body or in spirit.

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*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of D. Thomason.*

Ushers: Carole Mullen, Danny Mullen, David Richardson, Susan Lavergne, Charles Grubb  
Worship Center: Anna Gnann, Jane Sugar

## WORSHIP NOTES

**WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS.** This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance sheet.

**NEW MEMBERS:** We welcome into the fellowship of this congregation Denise Burnham and Cabot Clarke.



**WE WARMLY WELCOME CHILDREN** as a vital part of our worshiping community! We understand that every family is different, and we strive to support each one in the way that fits them best. Children are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary during worship, and we offer worship bags and children's Bibles to help engage them in meaningful ways. Worship Center, a Montessori-based approach to worship, is available for 4-year-olds -1st graders following the Time with Children. Childcare is offered in the CE building when needed. In addition, a comfort room is located on the same floor as the sanctuary, equipped with a speaker so you can listen to the service while caring for your child.

### PRAYER LIST - FOR HEALING, PEACE, AND COMFORT:

Martha Fitch, Joy Young, Zama Dexter, Jean and Jerry Sayres, Jean Mendenhall,  
Leigh Taylor, Erika Asseff, Stephen Roberts, Josh Kilpatrick, Susie Nunnally,  
Ken Copeland, Lorna Rodman, Michael Avery, Vernon Chance, Claudia Engi, Jan Melton

*Please keep the church staff updated on those who are listed.*

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Mary Blackman and family, family of Marilyn Gallagher, Mary Anne Selber,  
Anne Jenkins and family, Peggy Guilbert and family, Marilyn Madison and family,  
Glenn Jackson, family of Jean Carroll, Amy Bowman and family, Susan Lavergne and family,  
Brian Carberry and family, Mary Bush and family, Mary Jane Lowder and family,  
Bob Neff and family, Pam Naifeh and family

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERVING:

Ryan Markham, U.S. Navy; Jennifer Markham, U.S. Navy;  
Reed Markham, U.S. Army; Evan Akers, U.S. Army; Josh Freidel, U.S. Navy;  
Evan Richey, U.S. Navy; James Giddens, U.S. Army

### CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP:

Rev. Brent Anderson	Transitional Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Lynace Pabst Veit	Pastor for Children and Family Ministries
Dr. Hollice S. Watson	Organist/Choir Director
Dakota Dunn	Youth Director
Ginger Garfield	Church Administrator
Kathy Booth	Director of First Presbyterian Day School
Susan W. Abney	Communications Director
Jan Melton	Church Librarian
Tanna McAtee	Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard	Staff Secretary
Jeff A. McKenzie	Sexton/Maintenance Coordinator
Sheri Rowell	Kitchen Coordinator
Jacob Dickson	Pastoral Care Coordinator

### SESSION MINISTRY MODERATORS:

Calvin Head	Administration
Gene Hodgson	Church Facilities
Simone Hennessee	Stewardship
Karen Day	Congregational Life
Anne Jenkins	Welcome Ministry
Piper Moritz	Adult Ministries
Brett McCulloch	Youth Ministry
April Carberry	Children's Ministries
Brandy Williams	Worship Ministry
Amy Bowman	Outreach Ministry
Robin Jones	Clerk of Session

### DEACON, PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN & STOER MODERATORS:

Mary Bush	Board of Deacons
Ann Morell	Presbyterian Women
Liz LaBorde	Stoer Committee

### IN OUR OUTREACH CENTER:

Kelli Todd, Director	Volunteers for Youth Justice/CASA
Youth Outreach Services – Jewell House	

**WEEKLY LINK – WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 2025**  
**THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

**CURRENT OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**  
**Friday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**SUNDAY, January 25**

9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir – CE Building  
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. –Worship Service – In-Person - Sanctuary and also Live Streamed on the Website:  
<https://www.fpcshreveport.org> and First Presbyterian Facebook Page  
5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir – Choir Room  
5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room  
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group – Fourth Floor Youth Space

**MONDAY, January 26**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS  
12:00 p.m. - AA  
5:30 p.m. – Trustees Meeting – Conference Room

**TUESDAY, January 27**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS  
12:00 p.m. – University Meeting – Conference Room  
5:30 p.m. – PNC Meeting – PW Suite

**WEDNESDAY, January 28**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS  
1:00 p.m. – Caregivers Meeting – PW Suite  
2:45 p.m. – Senior Health Initiative Meeting – PW Suite  
6:00 p.m. – Session Meeting – Session Room

**THURSDAY, January 29**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS  
6:15 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

**FRIDAY, January 30**

10:00 a.m. – Tower Art  
12:00 p.m. - AA

**SUNDAY, February 1**

9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir – CE Building  
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. –Worship Service – In-Person – Sanctuary and also Live Streamed on the Website:  
<https://www.fpcshreveport.org> and First Presbyterian Facebook Page  
Legacy Giving Congregational Luncheon – After Worship in the Gym  
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Club 345 - Gym  
5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir – Choir Room  
5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room  
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group – Fourth Floor Youth Space

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



### *Legacy Luncheon* Please Save the Date

**Sunday, February 1, 2026**  
after worship in the Gymnasium



### *Men's Prayer Breakfast* Friday, February 6, 2026

**Please RSVP by February 3<sup>rd</sup>.**



### *A Congregational Conversation*

**A PNC hosted lunch and conversation**  
**Sunday, February 8, 2026**  
after worship for everyone who considers themselves a part of the FPC Community