



900 Jordan Street | Shreveport LA 71101
318.222.0604 | fpcshreveport.org



**A Service for the Worship of God | November 16, 2025 |
10:45am
Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God.

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHIMES

PRELUDE.....*Prelude in Classic Style*.....Gordon Young

INTROIT.....*Sing, Praise, and Bless the Lord*.....LAUDATE DOMINUM
The Youth and Sanctuary Choirs
Gwenyth Sell, descant

Sing, praise, and bless the Lord. Peoples! Nations! Alleluia!
Sing, praise, and bless the Lord. Peoples! Nations! Alleluia!
Praise the Lord, all you nations,
Praise God all you peoples. Alleluia!
Strong is God's love and mercy, always faithful forever. Alleluia!
Let everything living give praise to the Lord.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God,
let us sing, praise, and bless the Lord!
With joyful hearts, we come to worship and give thanks.

God has been faithful - guiding us, providing for us,
and filling our lives with grace.
**We bring our gratitude and our gifts,
offering ourselves in love and service.**

Today we renew our commitment –
to follow Christ, to share His love, and to live as His people.
**With open hands and willing hearts,
we dedicate all that we are to God's glory.**

Let every act of giving and every song of praise
be a reflection of our love for the Lord.

Let us praise and bless the Lord!

†HYMN, No. 367 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

CALL TO CONFESSiON

PRAYER OF CONFESSiON

Creator God, you promise life within every seed, hope within every sorrow, and resurrection beyond every death. Yet we confess that we often fail to trust your hidden work among us. We grow impatient when growth is slow, doubtful when the future is unclear, and fearful when change takes root in ways we cannot control. Too often we see only the bulb and not the flower, the winter and not the spring. Forgive us for losing sight of your promise that new life is already stirring. Renew our faith to trust what we cannot yet see, to nurture the small beginnings of grace, and to wait with hope for the fullness of your new creation. Through Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, we pray. Amen.

(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence.)

RESPONSE, No. 771 *What Is the World Like* NEW WORLD
(A soloist will sing this first; the congregation and choir will join the second time.)

**What is the world like when God's will is done?
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
Roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
This is how God moves us each to believe.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* 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

Greet one another saying: "The peace of Christ be with you."
Respond by saying: "And also with you."

THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Quinn Margaret Chun, daughter of Mary Kathryn and Arnold Chun
Child of the Church: Elizabeth Kacos
Elder: Betty Henderson
Presentation

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles' 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.

Prayer
Baptism
Welcome

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. 547*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*.....AR HYD Y NOS
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

**"Go, my children, with my blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
You are my own.**

**In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
You are my own."**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING.....Ezekiel 17:22-24

Pew Bible, page 737 | Large Print, page 959
Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING.....Matthew 13:31-33, 44-45

Pew Bible, page 14 | Large Print, page 17
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON.....*Unrevealed Until Its Season*.....Rev. Lynace Veit

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN, No. 250.....*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*.....PROMISE

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP

MOMENT FOR MISSION.....Stewardship

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

OFFERTORY.....*The Kingdom of God*.....Conway A. Bolt, Jr.
The Sanctuary Choir

The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed.	To sell the things you had;
It starts out being small,	Yes! The kingdom of God is like a lovely pearl.
But soon grows strong and tall;	The kingdom of God is like a bit of yeast.
Yes! The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed.	But mix it in some dough,
The kingdom of God is like a lovely pearl.	And the dough begins to grow.
To own it you'd be glad,	So! The kingdom of God is like a bit of yeast.

†DOXOLOGY.....TALLIS' CANON

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 675, *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night*)

**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.**

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN, No. 714.....*God of the Fertile Fields*.....ITALIAN HYMN
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE, No. 804.....*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*.....MARIAN

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!	The cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!	Rejoice! Rejoice!
Your festal banner wave on high,	Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

†POSTLUDE.....*Improvisation on OLD HUNDREDTH*.....
Louis Vierne/Hollice S. Watson

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martha and Lon Heuer, and Virginia and Ed Henderson by their family.

THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT
Mary Ann Shaw – November 11, 2025

We express sincere sympathy to Mary Jane and Charles Lowder and their family in the death of her mother and Bob Neff in the death of his sister, and we rejoice with them in the assurance of resurrection.

Liturgist: Carranza Pryor

Ushers: Mary Bush, Dick Bush, Al Ogden, Patti Shelton, Simone Hennessee, Mary Anne Selber

Worship Center: Anna Gnann

Acolytes: Caroline and David Guy

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.

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.

CONFESSORIAL BANNERS visually represent key theological statements from the Book of Confessions, a foundational document of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Each banner symbolizes a specific confession, capturing its historical context and theological themes through color, imagery, and design. This morning's banner for the Apostles' Creed features *an anchor cross* - a reminder of security in Christ, *a fish* - an early symbol of the Christian faith, *a chalice* - representing the Lord's Supper, and *an upside-down cross* - a reminder of Peter the apostle who, in legend, is said to have been crucified upside down because he thought himself unworthy of a death like Jesus. Each week we will highlight a different banner and theological statement.

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, Phillip Ponder,

Rocky Laha, Vernon Chance, Claudia Engi

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

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

CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP:

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 McAteer.....	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:

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SECURITY OFFICERS:

Corp. Srederick Matthews 230-3628
Ofc. Troy Jackson 453-3908

WEEKLY LINK – WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 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, November 16

9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir – CE Building
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School
10:45 a.m. – Commitment Sunday 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. – 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 – Friendsgiving Progressive Dinner – Gym

MONDAY, November 17

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
12:00 p.m. – AA

TUESDAY, November 18

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
11:00 a.m. – FPDS Advisory Board Meeting – CE Building
5:30 p.m. – PNC Meeting – Conference Room
5:30 p.m. – Outreach Meeting – PW Suite

WEDNESDAY, November 19

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
5:30 p.m. – Church Facilities Meeting – Conference Room

THURSDAY, November 20

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

FRIDAY, November 21

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

SUNDAY, November 23

10:45 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service - In-Person - Sanctuary and also Live Streamed on the Website: <https://www.fpcshreveport.org> and First Presbyterian Facebook Page

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



Dear Friends,

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus describes the Kingdom of Heaven as a mustard seed—something so small we would hardly think to notice, but growing to something that provides shelter and shade. Jesus always affirms the small—the two cents of a widow, the contributions of children, and faith the size of—what else? a mustard seed!

Small things can grow to have outsize impact—whether a prayer, an act of service, or a gift.

Faith is tested at all times and in many unforeseen and unpredictable ways. But faith is where our power—or rather where the power of the Holy Spirit—can be found within us. And what clearer expression of our faith is there than our giving our gifts to God? What time is more reflective of that faith than when we are called to commit and re-commit our time, talent, and treasure to the body of Christ and all those blessed by it? Like a mustard seed, our faith, placed in the glorious and benevolent hands of our Savior, will grow and multiply to make an impact on our community and world that we cannot fathom. So let God use you, use us, to save lives and build bridges and restore relationships and heal and feed. In other words, watch our gifts—our faith—move mountains!

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

Delbert Chumley, Adrienne Frierson, Simone Hennessee, Susan Lavergne, Carranza Pryor, and Patti Shelton



LET'S GET READY!
ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
Sunday, November 30th at 9:30am in the gym



All ages are welcome to join us as we get ready to kickoff the season of Advent!

Please come for a light breakfast, followed by wreath and ornament making. Advent calendars, books, and devotionals will be available to take home as well.



