



A Service for the Worship of God | November 9, 2025 |
10:45am
Twenty Second 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.....*Duo*.....Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

INTROIT.....*I Waited Patiently for God*.....William Billings

Soloists: Jeremy Do, Cambria Metzinger, Justin Ramm-Damron

The Sanctuary Choir

I waited patiently for God,
For God to hear my prayer;
And God bent down to where I sank
And listened to me there.
God raised me from a miry pit,
From mud and sinking sand,
And set my feet upon a rock
Where I can firmly stand.

And on my lips a song was put,
A new song to the Lord.
Many will marvel open-eyed
And put their trust in God.
Great wonders you have done, O Lord,
All purposed for our good.
Unable every one to name,
I bow in gratitude.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

I waited patiently for the Lord; God inclined to me and heard my cry.

God lifted me out of the horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

God put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

Therefore, let us not hold back our lips, but declare God's righteousness and great deliverance.

Let us worship God!

†HYMN, No. 308.....*O God in Whom All Life Begins*.....NOEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we often overlook the small beginnings of your kingdom, doubting that something so tiny could grow into something so great. We have failed to nurture the seeds of faith you have planted in us, choosing instead the comfort of what we can see and control. Forgive us for our impatience and our lack of trust in your transforming power. Help us to see with the eyes of faith, believing that even the smallest act of love and generosity can bear fruit in your time, through Jesus Christ, our Lord who renews us to serve. 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

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. 852.....*When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*.....I'LL FLY AWAY

**We will rejoice with gladness. We will rejoice.
All our days we'll sing to God in praise. We will rejoice!**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING.....Isaiah 55

Pew Bible, page 644 | Large Print, page 838

Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.

GOSPEL READINGS.....Matthew 17:14-20

Pew Bible, page 18 | Large Print, page 23

Luke 13:18-19

Pew Bible, page 71 | Large Print, page 93

Luke 17:5-6

Pew Bible, page 75 | Large Print, page 97

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON.....*Really? A Mustard Seed?*.....Rev. Joshua Kerr

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - based on the *Heidelberg Catechism*

We believe in God the Father of all creation. We believe God upholds all of creation in his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures. We believe in God the Son and our deliverance. Jesus Christ's death delivers us from sin and through the will of God all things must work together for our salvation. We believe in God the Holy Spirit and our sanctification. The Holy Spirit assures us of eternal life, making us willing and ready to live for God. We believe that true faith is a sure knowledge of God revealed to us in scripture, and the wholehearted trust which God creates in us through the gospel: God has freely granted us forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness and salvation. These are the gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit. Amen.

†HYMN, No. 817.....*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*.....DUNLAP'S CREEK

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

OFFERTORY *We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed* **NEW BEGINNINGS**

The Sanctuary Choir

Sally Ann Morris

We plant a grain of mustard seed,
And in our faith we find
The proof of God is love, indeed,
Which blossoms from its kind.
Our actions, more than words,
Define how love's example feeds
A greater love, for love divine
Bursts forth from smallest seeds.
When stooped to lend a helping hand,
We find a touch that heals,

For love invested will expand
To bear the fruit love yields.
Make love our purpose, love our aim,
For love endures all things,
And choosing love our lives will claim
The peace forgiveness brings.
Our lives will be fulfilled and blessed
If through the seeds we've sown
And by the love that we profess
The love of Christ is known.

† **DOXOLOGY, No. 608** **PRAISE GOD (Hopson)**

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† **HYMN, No. 691** *Lord, When I Came into This Life* **LAND OF REST**

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

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

**Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,**

**The cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

† **POSTLUDE** *Plein Jeu* **François Couperin**

† *Worshippers standing if able*

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Vyvian S. Blanchard
by Gordon, Linda, Sara Blanchard, and Brandy Williams.*

Liturgist: April Carberry

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

Worship Center: Brenda Nims

Acolytes: Mac Buhler, Meade Dickson

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.

CONFESSIONAL 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 represents the Heidelberg Catechism. It features the colors *red* and *gold* as a tribute to Frederick III who ordered the writing of the Catechism. *The Crown of Thorns*, the *"German" Cross*, and *the Tablets* are symbols of Misery, Redemption, and Thankfulness. *The Two Lights and Fire* represent the Trinity with the Hebrew name of God on the left orb, the Greek monogram for Jesus on the right orb, and the flame standing for the Holy Spirit. Each week we will highlight a different banner and theological statement.

WE WELCOME to the pulpit this morning Rev. Joshua Kerr, Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation serving churches in Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas. He joined the Presbyterian Foundation in February 2024 after serving as a pastor for 10 years in two Oklahoma churches. Rev. Kerr holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Rogers State University, Claremore, OK, and a Master of Divinity degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. His passion is helping churches navigate challenging transitions.

PRAYER LIST - FOR HEALING, PEACE, AND COMFORT:

Martha Fitch, Mary Ann Shaw, 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

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 9, 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 9

9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir – CE Building

9:30 a.m. – Children’s and Youth Sunday School

9:30 a.m. – All Adult Sunday School with Rev. Joshua Kerr - Chapel

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

Fall Festival – Following Worship in the Gym/Legacy Green

5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir – Choir Room

5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room

6:00 p.m. – Youth Group – 4th Floor Youth Room

MONDAY, November 10

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS

10:30 a.m. – Circle 7 – PW Suite

12:00 p.m. – AA

12:00 p.m. – Circle 5 – PW Suite

TUESDAY, November 11

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS

10:00 a.m. – Congregational Life – Conference Room

12:00 p.m. – Welcome Ministry – Conference Room

5:30 p.m. – PNC Meeting – Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, November 12

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS

1:00 p.m. – Caregivers Meeting – PW Suite

THURSDAY, November 13

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS

5:15 p.m. – Highland Blessing Dinner

6:15 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

FRIDAY, November 14

10:00 a.m. – Tower Art

12:00 p.m. – AA

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. – 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 – Friendsgiving Progressive Dinner - Gym

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

SMALL SEEDS
MOVE MOUNTAINS

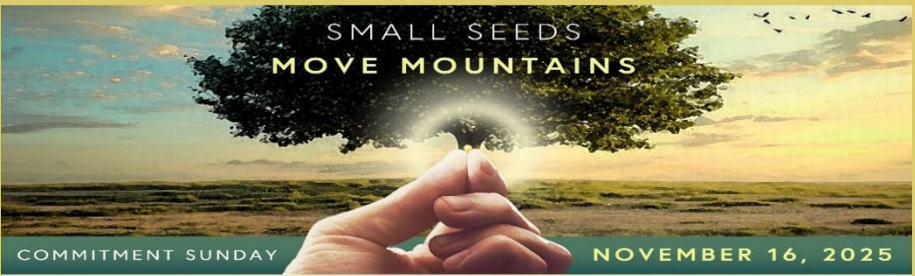
COMMITMENT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2025

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN,
we stand on the foundation of faith, service,
and community built by generations before us.

IT IS OUR TIME TO PLANT
SMALL SEEDS TO
MOVE MOUNTAINS TODAY!

MAKING AN ANNUAL PLEDGE
is a spiritual commitment to consistently
support the ministry of our church.

YOUR SMALL SEEDS
will provide future support for worship,
outreach, and discipleship programs
that help maintain our church as a place
of refuge and spiritual growth.




First Presbyterian Church Shreveport

FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, November 9th
after worship in the Gym & Legacy Green!

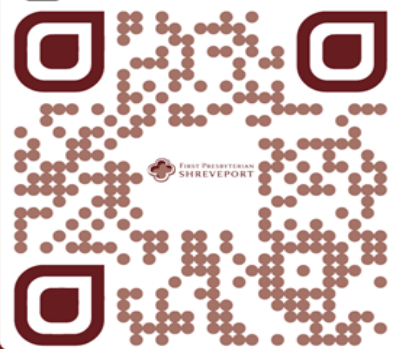
YARD GAMES ★ CAKEWALK ★ CRAFTS
MAC & CHEESE BAR ★ MISSION MARKETPLACE

Wear casual clothing to worship to be comfortable at
the festival! Bring a blanket too, if you want to picnic.

Cake donations can be dropped off
before worship in the gym.



Point camera at me



givelify Snap-To-Give™

**FALL
VIRTUAL
FOOD DRIVE**

Donate online in the month of November!

The Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana invites FPC to
shop online through their virtual food drive. With the
Food Bank's wholesale buying power and partnerships
with food suppliers, every dollar you donate provides
even more food for meals for our hungry neighbors.

proceeds benefit:



Food Bank of
Northwest Louisiana



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SHREVEPORT

**SCAN THE
QR CODE!**



<https://giving.myamplify.io/App/Form/20c9458b-e566-454f-8c16-7ddf0832f785>



FPDS invites all FPC families to attend ...

a very merry event...

Cocoa WITH Santa!

**Wednesday
Dec. 4th
4:30-6:30pm
FPC Gym**

**Cocoa, Treats
& Crafts,
Story Reading
and Santa
will visit!**

Wear your
favorite holiday
attire & bring the
whole family for a
Jolly Good Time!



