



A Service for the Worship of God | September 14, 2025 |
10:45am
Fourteenth 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.....*Invention in D Minor*.....Richard Hudson

INTROIT.....*Amazing Grace – Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table*.....AMAZING GRACE

The Sanctuary Choir

COPELAND

Gwenyth Sell, soloist

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.
Look who gathers at Christ's table!
Here the stories that they bring.

Some are weeping; some are laughing;
Some have songs they want to sing.
Others ask why they're invited,
Burdened by the wrong they've done.
Christ insists they all are welcome.
There is room for everyone!

†CALL TO WORSHIP – based on Luke 15:1-10

Have you come here to grumble?

No! We are here to rejoice!

Oh. Are you lost?

No! We are found!

Okay, I see. Do you seek a welcome at this table?
Yes! We are here to let go of the past and begin fresh.
We are here to celebrate the joy of heaven.
We are here to feast with Christ, our Lord!

Wonderful! You are in the right place.
You are welcome here.
Let's worship God together.

†HYMN, No. 401.....*Here in This Place*.....GATHER US IN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of loving kindness, have mercy on us. According to your multitude of tender mercies, blot out our transgressions, thoroughly wash us from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. We know our transgressions, our sin, our evil done against you as we distort your love and corrupt your creation. From the first moment we could, we have worked to separate ourselves from your love. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach us wisdom, purge and clean our hearts, put your Spirit anew within us. Let us hear joy and gladness so that our ragged bones might rejoice with you.

(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence.)

RESPONSE, No. 576.....*Lord, Have Mercy*.....SINGAPURA

(A soloist will sing this first; congregation and choir will join the second time.)

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.	Lord, have mercy on us.

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. 462.....*I Love to Tell the Story*.....HANKEY

**I love to tell the story
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory,
Of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
Because I know 'tis true;**

**It satisfies my longings
As nothing else could do.
I love to tell the story;
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story
Of Jesus and his love.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING.....Psalm 98

Pew Bible, page 521 | Large Print, page 678

Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING.....1 Corinthians 1:10-25

Pew Bible, page 155 | Large Print, page 201

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON.....*When in times of foolishness*.....Rev. Kelly Updegraff Staples

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†**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.

†**HYMN No. 213**.....*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*.....RATHBUN

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP

MOMENT FOR MISSION.....Worship Ministry

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.....*All My Hope on God is Founded*.....Herbert Howells
The Sanctuary Choir

Quartet: Gwenyth Sell, Cambria Metzinger, Jeremy Do, Justin Ramm-Damron

All my hope on God is founded	Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;
Who will all my trust renew,	Deep thy wisdom, passing thought;
Who through change and chance will guide me,	Splendor, light, and life attend thee,
Only good and only true.	Beauty springing out of naught.
God unknown, God alone,	Evermore from thy store
Call my heart to be thine own.	Newborn worlds rise and adore.
Mortal pride and earthly glory,	Still from earth to God eternal
Sword and crown betray our trust;	Sacrifice of praise be done,
What with care and toil we fashion,	High above all praises praising
Tower and temple, fall to dust.	For the gift of God's own Son.
But thy power, hour by hour,	Christ doth call one and all:
Is my temple and my tower.	Ye who follow shall not fall.

†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.**

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

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE, No. 80.....*You Shall Go Out with Joy*.....THE TREES OF THE FIELD

You shall go out with joy	And all the trees of the field
And be led forth with peace;	Will clap their hands;
The mountains and the hills	The trees of the field
Will break forth before you;	Will clap their hands;
There'll be shouts of joy,	The trees of the field
And all the trees of the field	Will clap their hands
Will clap, will clap their hands.	While you go out with joy.

†**POSTLUDE**.....*Lift High the Cross*.....Paul Manz

† *Worshippers standing if able*

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Lankford Gill
by Mr. and Mrs. Duke Griffey, Mr. and Mrs. Al Ogden, Eloise, and Sam.*

Liturgist: Simone Hennessee

Worship Center: Anna Gnann, Brenda Nims

Ushers: Carole Mullen, Danny Mullen, David Richardson, Megan Conway, Calvin Head, Charles Grubb

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.

WORSHIP BAGS are available for children elementary age and younger. Inside each bag a variety of worship aids can be found to help children participate fully in worship, including bookmarks, children's bulletins, crayons, pencils, and more! Worship Bags can be found in the narthex and at the front entrances of the sanctuary. Please return them at the end of the service. Children's Bibles are also available for children's use during worship.

CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN WORSHIP! Childcare is provided if needed. The Infant and Toddler nursery is found in CE 106 & 108. Children ages 3 years and younger may go to the CE building for Extended Session, Room CE 103. A comfort and cry room is located on the same floor as the sanctuary, behind the gathering area, around the corner and down the hall from the elevators. The cry room is equipped with a speaker, so you will be able to hear the worship service while there.

WE WELCOME Rev. Kelly Updegraff Staples to our worship today. Kelly is a child of First Presbyterian Church, a graduate of Austin Seminary, and once refused to go to the nursery after the Time with Children, leading many leaders of the congregation on a lively chase around the room during the scripture reading. Kelly and Garrett live in Argyle, TX with their two children, Cory and Lindy.

Today's liturgy was originally written by Walter Canter.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Elizabeth and Paul Martin on welcoming Clinton Rigby Martin to the world on Thursday, September 4, 2025. Proud grandparents are Joan and Owen Rigby.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Anna and Kade McCoy of Lake Charles, LA on welcoming Brooks Michael McCoy to the world on Wednesday, September 10, 2025. Proud grandparents are Reba and Dean Baker.

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, Charlotte Sonnenfeld,
Phillip Ponder, Gordon Blanchard, Rocky Laha, Vernon Chance

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

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Mary Blackman and family, Cheryl Marshall and family, Patti Shelton and family,
family and friends of Bettye Leslie, Cindy and Les Morgan and family, Bill Sniffen 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

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
John Frierson, Jr.....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 SEPTEMBER 14, 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, September 14

9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir – CE Building
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School
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
Volunteer Training for Youth after Worship
5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir – Choir Room
5:00 p.m. – Club 345 - Gym
5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Youth Group – 4th Floor Youth Room

MONDAY, September 15

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

TUESDAY, September 16

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
5:15 p.m. – PNC Meeting – Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, September 17

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

THURSDAY, September 18

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

FRIDAY, September 19

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

SUNDAY, September 21

9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir Rehearsal – CE Building
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School - Chapel
10:45 a.m. – Theological Education Sunday Worship Service with Guest Preacher Dr. Donghyun Jeong – In-Person - Sanctuary and also Live Streamed on the Website: <https://www.fpcshreveport.org> and First Presbyterian Facebook Page
Rise Up Against Hunger Meal Packing Event and Lunch
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 Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



SMALL SEEDS
MOVE MOUNTAINS

MOMENT FOR MISSION
WORSHIP MINISTRY

COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS ON
NOVEMBER 16, 2025

“The Worship Ministry prioritizes worship as the heart of our life as a community and nurtures opportunities for all to encounter and experience the living God. Your small seeds have moved mountains through baptisms, memorial services, communion, midday prayer services, guest ministers, and seasons of the church such as Advent, Christmas, Easter, Lent, Youth Sunday, Children’s Sabbath, and many more.”

-Brandy Williams | Worship Ministry Moderator

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025



We Welcome:
Dr. Donghyun Jeong
Assistant Professor of New Testament
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

9:30am | Sunday School in the Chapel
10:45am | guest preaching at the
Worship service in the Sanctuary
Reading Paul with the Scillitan Martyrs
1 Timothy 2:1-7

After Worship | Rise Up Against Hunger
meal packing event & lunch



Rise
AGAINST HUNGER
food • community • sustainability

MEAL PACKING EVENT
SUNDAY, SEPT 21 ST
IN THE GYM

We invite everyone at FPC - families, adults, children and youth - to come together for a light lunch and a Meal-Packaging Event

Sept 21st in the gym after worship!

As a volunteer, you'll work side-by-side with friends and family to package meals. Volunteers of all ages & abilities welcome! Contributions will be accepted for cost of lunch.




Club 345 is a fellowship group for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. We meet monthly on Sundays 5:00-6:00pm in the Gym for a shared dinner & fun!

Save Our Fall 2025 Dates:
Sept 14 • Oct 19
Oct 25 & 26 • Nov 16





the University
of First Presbyterian

WITH INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED MEXICAN PIANIST

Dr. Astrid Morales Torres

WEDNESDAY, OCT 8 | 6:00PM

LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

PROGRAM: Astrid Morales Torres's extraordinary performances have been appreciated by audiences around the world, including the U.S., Europe, Mexico and Latin America. In her intensive career as a soloist, she is an advocate of Latin American music and active performer of Mexican music. She will be performing several works from her primary field as well as related works from Copland, Bolcom and Gershwin that she has performed with symphony orchestras across the U.S. and Mexico. We invite you to read about her extensive credentials and talent on her website: ASTRIDMORALESTORRES.COM

PERFORMANCE IS FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
900 JORDAN STREET | SHREVEPORT
318.222.0604 | FPCSHREVEPORT.ORG






photo credit:
Richard Rayno Photography

the University
of First Presbyterian

**PRESENTS OUR 2025
SUMMER MOVIE SERIES**

We invite all to attend our
**3 SUMMER FILMS
WITH MUSIC THEMES**

Wednesday, June 11 | 6:00pm
IMMORTAL BELOVED

Wednesday, July 9 | 6:00pm
A STAR IS BORN (2018)

Sunday, August 17 | 4:00 pm
CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

All 3 Films will be @
the Robinson Film Center
617 Texas Street | Shreveport

SPEAKER: JEFF HENDRICKS
Professor of American Literature
and Film Studies at
Centenary College
will provide a
brief introduction



COST \$10 includes ticket, popcorn & drink.
SEATING IS LIMITED! Contact First Presbyterian at 318.222.0604 for ticket information.
CALL TO RESERVE your seat(s) and pay at the door at the event.



SAVE THE DATES!

**FPC YOUTH
SUMMER TRIPS 2025**

July 6-10, 2025
Mo Junior High Jubilee
for Middle School Youth

July 19-26, 2025
Montreat Conference
for Senior High Youth

Questions?
Contact Dakota at:
DDunn@fpcshreveport.com



