



**A Service for the Worship of God | September 7, 2025 |**  
**10:45am**  
*Thirteenth 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**.....*Flutes*.....Jean Langlais

**INTROIT**.....*How Happy Are the Saints of God*.....WAREHAM

The Sanctuary Choir

Jeremy Do, soloist

How happy are the saints of God  
Who do not heed the wicked way;  
Delighting in the holy Word  
They seek God's wisdom night and day.

Like deeply rooted trees,  
They stand beside an ever-flowing stream.  
Their fruit is plentiful and good;  
Their leaves are always growing green.

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or walk the sinners' path.

**Instead, may we delight in the laws of the Lord.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit and never withering.

**In all we do, we shall prosper.**

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**May we walk God's righteous path.**

Praise the Lord!

**The Lord's name be praised!**

†HYMN, No. 645.....*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*.....MIT FREUDEN ZART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Grace and Glory, you call us to lives of humility and sacrifice, honoring you and placing the needs of others before our own. Too often, though, we prioritize ourselves—our routines, our comfort, our desires. Forgive our selfishness and lead us in a new way. Take these dry bones and breathe into them life and spirit, that we may truly live as the body of Christ in and for the world. Sustain us in our Christ-led work, that, though we may waver, we may grow in discipleship each day, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*(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**.....Presentation of Bibles

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	It satisfies my longings
Of unseen things above,	As nothing else could do.
Of Jesus and his glory,	I love to tell the story;
Of Jesus and his love.	'Twill be my theme in glory
I love to tell the story,	To tell the old, old story
Because I know 'tis true;	Of Jesus and his love.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING.....Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Pew Bible, page 179 | Large Print, page 233  
*Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING.....Luke 14:25-33  
Pew Bible, page 73 | Large Print, page 94  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON.....*More Than Membership*.....Rev. Joshua P. Kerr

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death, and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

†HYMN No. 718.....*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*.....BOURBON

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHP

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY.....*A Simple Song*.....Leonard Bernstein  
Cambria Metzinger, mezzo-soprano

Sing God a simple song: <i>Lauda, Laude...</i>	<i>Lauda, Laude...</i> and walks in his ways.
Make it up as you go along: <i>Lauda, Laude...</i>	I will lift up my eyes to the hills
Sing like you like to sing.	From whence comes my help.
God loves all simple things,	I will lift up my voice to the Lord
For God is the simplest of all.	Singing <i>Lauda, Laude</i> .
I will sing the Lord a new song	For the Lord is my shade,
To praise him, to bless him, to bless the Lord.	Is the shade upon my right hand,
I will sing his praises while I live all of my days.	And the sun shall not smite me by day
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,	Nor the moon by night.
Blessed is the man who praises him.	<i>Lauda, Lauda, Laude...</i> all of my days.

†DOXOLOGY.....LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 15, *All Creatures of Our God and King*)

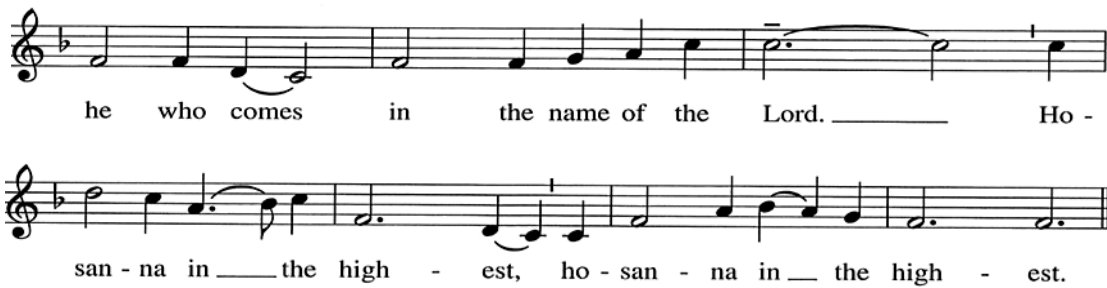
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

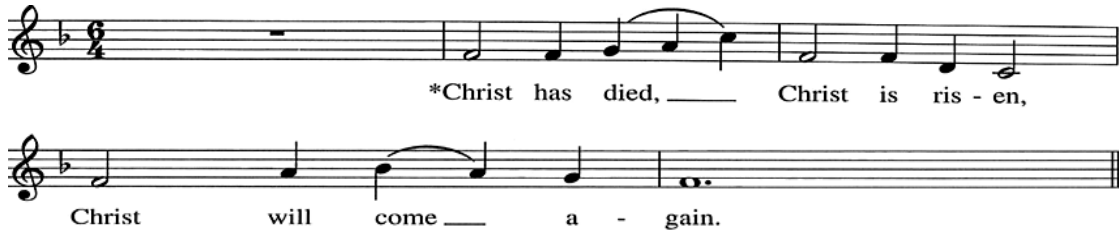
**Invitation**  
**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord’s Prayer**  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Man. I  
Man. II  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth \_\_\_ are  
full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in \_\_\_ the high - est. Bless - ed \_\_\_ is



*Remembering our Lord's self-giving love, we proclaim the mystery of faith:*



*...one God, now and forever. Amen.*



## 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.

## Words of Institution

## Communion of the People

## Closing Prayer

†HYMN, No. 297 .....*In Christ Called to Baptize*.....ST. DENIO

## †CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

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

**Will clap, will clap their hands.  
And all the trees of the field  
Will clap their hands;  
The trees of the field will clap their hands;  
The trees of the field will clap their hands  
While you go out with joy.**

† *Worshippers standing if able*

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*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Ivy H. Frierson  
by her children and grandchildren.*

Liturgist: Charles Grubb

Worship Center: Melanie Rogers, Brenda Nims

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

### **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** 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, Charlotte Sonnenfeld,  
Phillip Ponder, Gordon Blanchard, Rocky Laha

*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

**WEEKLY LINK – WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 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 7**

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  
5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir – Choir Room  
5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room  
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group – Dakota’s Baby Shower – Piper Moritz’ Home

**MONDAY, September 8**

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, September 9**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS  
12:00 p.m. – Welcome Ministry – Conference Room  
5:15 p.m. – PNC Meeting – Conference Room

**WEDNESDAY, September 10**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. - FPDS  
1:00 p.m. – Caregivers Meeting – PW Suite  
1:30 p.m. – Card Ministry – Room 244  
6:00 p.m. – University of FPC – *“Strings Attached”* with the Shreveport Symphony - Chapel

**THURSDAY, September 11**

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

**FRIDAY, September 12**

10:00 a.m. – Tower Art  
12:00 p.m. – AA  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Worship Center Training – Media Room

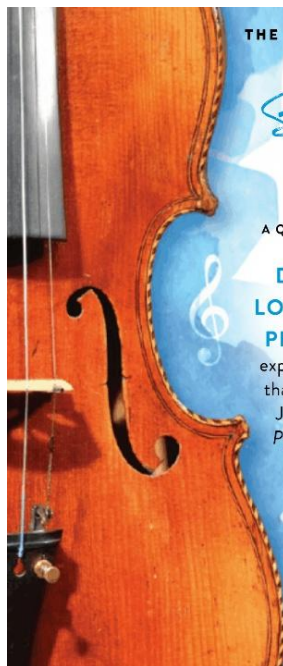
**SATURDAY, September 13**

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Worship Center Training – Media Room

**SUNDAY, September 14**


9:15 a.m. – Children’s Choir Rehearsal – 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 Service – Media Room  
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



THE UNIVERSITY OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
presents a musical evening

*Strings Attached*

WITH THE  SHREVEPORT SYMPHONY

A QUARTET OF OBOE, VIOLIN, VIOLA, AND CELLO

**DATE & TIME:** Sept 10 @ 6:00pm  
**LOCATION:** First Presbyterian Chapel  
**PROGRAM:** SSO musicians showcase the expressive blend of oboe and strings in a program that journeys from the elegance of Mozart and J.C. Bach to the charm of Fauré, the fire of *Por una Cabeza*, and the symphonic sweep of Brahms, Prokofiev, and Mendelssohn.

This concert is free and open to the public!  
First Presbyterian Church is located at  
900 Jordan Street, Shreveport.


318.222.0604  
fpcshreveport.org



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



**MIDDAY PRAYER SERVICE**

DUE TO STAFFING CONSTRAINTS, THE MIDDAY PRAYER SERVICE WILL NOT RETURN THIS FALL. PLEASE KNOW WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE ON THE PRAYER LIST AND INVITE MEMBERS TO PRAY AS WELL.




**Rise**  
AGAINST HUNGER  
food • community • sustainability

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.




**SMALL SEEDS  
MOVE MOUNTAINS**

**MOMENT FOR MISSION  
ADULT MINISTRY**

**COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS ON  
NOVEMBER 16, 2025**

“Small seeds help the Adult Ministry move mountains through diverse educational opportunities to our members and the local community, engaging heart, mind, and soul through these activities:

Sunday School classes weekly • University of FPC • Adult Day Trip Outings  
Winter Lecture Series • Intergenerational Events in the summer  
Quarterly FPC Book Club • Faith on Tap • Theological Education Sunday.”

-Piper Moritz | Adult Education Ministry Moderator

**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



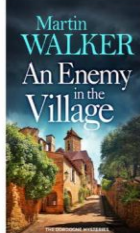
**COST \$10** includes ticket, popcorn & drink.  
**SEATING IS LIMITED!** Contact First Presbyterian at 318.222.0604 for ticket information.  
**CALL TO RESERVE** your seat(s) and pay at the door at the event.

**AUGUST 2025 BOOK CLUB**

Meet on Thursday, August 28th  
12noon-1:00pm  
at First Presbyterian Church  
900 Jordan Street, Shreveport

Discussion Leader: Pam Peak

Our August Book Selection:  
**AN ENEMY IN THE VILLAGE**  
by author Martin Walker



**THE PRESBYTERIAN BOOK CLUB 2025**

**An Enemy in the Village**, the very latest crime novel in the Bruno, Chief of Police series by Martin Walker, is our August book club selection. Walker was educated at Oxford University and went on to become an Editor in Chief Emeritus at UPI (United Press International) and an international correspondent. He is a renowned writer, and the Bruno, Chief of Police series is his most popular of creations. The series features one main protagonist character known as Benoit Courreges who was nicknamed Bruno by his friends and workmates. Bruno is a municipal policeman in a small French village popularized by café rituals and eating traditions. This latest novel should be spellbinding!

**About Speaker Pam Peak:** a University of Nebraska grad who then got an M.Ed. at Centenary College. Pam taught high school English for 42 years, retiring from Magnet High School. She is member of St. Mark's Cathedral, where she has led a Bible study called Reading Between the Lines for 32 years.

**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





