



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14, 2023
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

*“We live in an age when there is a false glare on the things
of time and a great mist over the things of eternity.”*

—J.C. Ryle

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Now Thank We All Our God
Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME

†INTROIT

(8:30) *Tell Out My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord*
WOODLANDS

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord: unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice!

(11:00) *All Things Bright and Beautiful*
Ruth Morris Gray

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. The purple headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning, that brightens up the sky. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them everyone. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell, how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

*CALL TO WORSHIP | Based on Psalm 36:5–9

Mallory Hammond

Pastor: O God, your constant love reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness extends to the skies.

All: Your righteousness towers like the mountains, your justice is deeper than the sea.

Pastor: All find protection under the shadow of your wings. We feast on the abundance you provide.

All: You are the source of all life, and in your light, we see light.

Pastor: O magnify the LORD with me.

All: Let us exalt God's name together!

*†OPENING HYMN 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
MIT FREUDEN ZART

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Malcolm Liles (8:30)
David Wilds (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 43:1–4 (page 603)

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. John Musgrave (8:30)

Gage Arnold (11:00)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconsistent, our obedience incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

To God Be the Glory

CROSBY | DOANE

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | 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.

Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

(8:30) Tara and John Thomas are presenting their daughter, Margaret Olivia Thomas, for baptism.

Joel Locke, Assisting Elder

(11:00) Elizabeth and Warren Beck are presenting their son, Settle Scott Beck, for baptism.

Hugh Tanner, Assisting Elder

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

*‡During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten
children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.*

HYMN OF PREPARATION 45

I To the Hills will Lift My Eyes
DUNDEE

SCRIPTURE READING | Acts 27:13–37 (page 936)

¹³ Now when the south wind blew gently, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to the shore. ¹⁴ But soon a tempestuous wind, called the northeaster, struck down from the land. ¹⁵ And when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along. ¹⁶ Running under the lee of a small island called Cauda, we managed with difficulty to secure the ship's boat. ¹⁷ After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird the ship. Then, fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis, they lowered the gear, and thus they were driven along. ¹⁸ Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to jettison the cargo. ¹⁹ And on the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. ²⁰ When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned. ²¹ Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul stood up among them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss. ²² Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. ²³ For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, ²⁴ and he said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.' ²⁵ So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told. ²⁶ But we must run aground on some island." ²⁷ When the fourteenth night had come, as we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors suspected that they were nearing land. ²⁸ So they took a sounding and found twenty fathoms. A little farther on they took a sounding again and found fifteen fathoms. ²⁹ And fearing that we might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern and prayed for day to come. ³⁰ And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea under pretense of laying out anchors from the bow, ³¹ Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved." ³² Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's boat and let it go. ³³ As day was about to dawn, Paul urged them all to take some food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having taken nothing. ³⁴ Therefore I urge you to take some food. For it will give you strength, for not a hair is to perish from the head of any of you." ³⁵ And when he had said these things, he took bread, and giving thanks to God in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat. ³⁶ Then they all were encouraged and ate some food themselves. ³⁷ (We were in all 276 persons in the ship.)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Peril at Sea

Dr. Ryan Moore

“Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship’s boat and let it go.” —Acts 27:32

OFFERTORY | Psalm 84:1–2, 4

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place
Johannes Brahms

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O LORD of Hosts. For my soul, it longeth, yea, fainteth for the courts of the LORD. My soul and body crieth out, yea, for the living God. Blest are they that dwell within thy house; they praise thy name ever more.

As you reflect on the Lord’s goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, or donating online at fpcnashville.org.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Dr. Sandra Randleman

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.

*CLOSING HYMN 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
FAITHFULNESS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior
ST. LEONARDS

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day, by his love and power controlling all I do and say. May the Word of God swell richly in my heart from hour to hour, so that all may see I triumph only thro’ his pow’r. May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything, that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing. May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win; and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata in G Major
Theodore Dubois

** Those who are able, please stand.
† Latecomers may be seated.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Gage Arnold – *Director of Youth Programming*
Mallory Hammond – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families*
(11:00) FPC Children's Choir – *Kelly Posey & Kevin Salter, Directors*
Caroline Cahill, Elyse Cahill, Caroline Kuck, Collins Leach, Julianna Mapangala,
Elizabeth Grace McInteer (Soloists); Alison Gooding Hoffman (Violin); Craig Nelson (String Bass)

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Allison and Dr. Benjamin F. Byrd, Jr. by their family.

MUSIC NOTES

All Things Bright and Beautiful #CGA1477 Music by Ruth Morris Gray- © Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (FAITHFULNESS) Thomas O Chisholm, William M Runyan Tune & Text: © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

COVER IMAGE

Paul is shipwrecked at Malta, 1750–1850, ceramics, earthenware, glaze, Museum Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, donating online at fpcnashville.org, or scan the QR code.



Mother's Day Celebration Today

9:00–11:00 a.m. | Courtenay Hall

Join us for a special Mother's Day celebration to honor all mothers. Come enjoy live music and "Sunday Tea" refreshments. All are invited, every age. A photographer will be available to capture a keepsake photo for your family. Mother's Day photos will be available for free at fpcnashville.smugmug.com by May 31. A direct link will be sent out in Parish News.

LOOKING AHEAD

May 21 | Confirmation Sunday

June 6 | History, Politics, and Religion: The Virtue of Forbearance | 6:00 p.m.

June 14 | Blood Drive | 12:00–5:00 p.m.

July 25–27 | VBS | Starts at 5:00 p.m.

NEWS AND EVENTS

A Public Faith Summer Series | Wednesdays or Fridays (May 24–August 18) | 12:00 p.m. via Zoom—You're invited to join Dr. Stuart Gordon for lunchtime discussions on Richard Mouw's book *Uncommon Decency* this summer. We will discuss the theological basis for civility and communicating with people who disagree with us on the issues that matter most. Copies of the book are available at BookMarks. This class is held twice a week over Zoom. Join in on Wednesdays or Fridays. Contact Stuart Gordon for details (sgordon@fpcnashville.org).

Officer Nominations for Class of 2026—The Officer Nominating Committee seeks recommendations for members to serve as elders and deacons at FPC. Please prayerfully consider submitting a recommendation for this important and vital service for your church. To submit a recommendation, please complete an Officer Nomination Form found in the literature areas or online.

Find Graduation Gifts at BookMarks—BookMarks, our church bookstore, has a new selection of books from Logos Bookstore, plus some great gift items for graduation. Thistle Farms products are 10 percent off throughout the month of May to help you celebrate mothers and graduates. BookMarks is open every Sunday morning from 9:30 a.m. to noon and is located across from Courtenay Hall. Come check us out!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Palliative and Hospice Care with Alive Hospice | Tuesday, May 16 | 4:30–5:30 p.m. | Vance Hall—You're invited to join our Stephen Ministers for a presentation from representatives of Alive Hospice on the topic of "Palliative and Hospice Care." For more information, please contact Sandra Randleman (srandleman@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9502).

FIRST FRIENDS

FPC Book Club | May 16 | 2:30 p.m. | Church Library
You're invited to join the FPC Book Club on the third Tuesday of each month. Our upcoming books are *If I Were You* by Lynn Austin (May 16) and *The Sun Walks Down* by Fiona McFarlane (June 20). All books are available in the church bookstore.

Cheekwood Programs and Events with Shelby Brewer Thursday, May 18 | 1:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall | \$10

Join us for our next First Friends Luncheon and hear Shelby Brewer, Public Programs Coordinator, share the latest from Cheekwood. She will share the status of some of their popular activities and events, including touring the mansion, seasonal programming, and upcoming exhibits. In addition, you will hear about programming opportunities for adult education and more. Everybody loves Cheekwood—let's get updated! Make your reservations online at fpcnashville.org or by contacting Courtney Mott (cmott@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9551).

YOUTH

Youth Ministry Summer Programming—This summer is filled with ways for youth (rising 7th–12th graders) to play, serve, connect with one another, and worship God. Whether you're at home all summer, working, or only in town for a few weeks, find a spot to join the summer fun at FPC. For more information visit linktr.ee/fpcnashyouth or contact youth@fpcnashville.org.

MISSIONS

Upcoming FPC Mission Trips—FPC is committed to serving Christ around the world, and we are planning several mission trips in the coming months. Registration for our trips to the Dominican Republic (September 16–22) and Cuba (November 4–10) is open through July 14. Please check the website for more details about these exciting opportunities. We look forward to serving alongside you and growing in our faith together.

Summer Habitat Build | June 10–11 and June 17–18

There are 20 volunteer openings each date. No prior experience is necessary, and heavy lifting is not required. We may be working on various stages of the construction process, from framing to siding to finish work. Volunteers aged 16–17 may participate with adult supervision. Contact missions@fpcnashville.org for more information.



NSA Cantabile Choir

Tuesday, May 16 | 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church Music Department is hosting the Cantabile choir from Nashville School of the Arts. The NSA Cantabile Choir, directed by Trey Jacobs, will present their spring concert in the FPC Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 16. The concert is free and open to the public. Please join us as we welcome the Cantabile choir to First Presbyterian Church.

ASCENSION SERVICE

Thursday, May 18 | 12:00 p.m. | Sullivan Gardens



Rain location: Sanctuary

Join us for worship as we remember and celebrate the Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ after his resurrection on Easter. A harp will accompany this special worship service.

Immediately following the service, join us in Courtenay Hall for lunch. Stay and hear an update on Cheekwood programming and events at our First Friends Luncheon. Register for lunch (\$10) online or contact Courtney Mott (cmott@fpcnashville.org).

KIRKIN' FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 28 | 9:30 a.m. | Front Porch



Dr. David Renwick will be the guest preacher on Sunday, May 28 as we celebrate Kirkin' o' th' Tartan with a spectacular procession of bagpipes, drums, and traditional Scottish Highland dress. Join the entire church family at 9:30 a.m. for the Kirkin' Festival where we will enjoy food, play games, and enjoy the sounds of Scotland in front of the Sanctuary.