



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

August 20, 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

*“The central basis of Christian assurance is not how much our hearts are set on God,
but how unshakably his heart is set on us.”*

—Tim Keller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Prelude in G Major
Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME

†INTROIT

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP | based on Psalm 89:1–4

Dr. Sandra Randleman

Pastor: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

All: with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

Pastor: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

All: your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens,

Pastor: You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: ‘I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.’”

All: Praise the LORD! Great is our God!

*†OPENING HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
NICAEA

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Nahed Zehr (8:30)
Katie Cahill (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Jeremiah 33:19–26 (page 662)

¹⁹ The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: ²⁰ “Thus says the Lord: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time,

²¹ then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and my covenant with the Levitical priests my ministers. ²² As the host of heaven cannot be numbered and the sands of the sea cannot be measured, so I will multiply the offspring of David my

servant, and the Levitical priests who minister to me.”²³ The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: ²⁴ “Have you not observed that these people are saying, ‘The Lord has rejected the two clans that he chose’? Thus they have despised my people so that they are no longer a nation in their sight. ²⁵ Thus says the Lord: If I have not established my covenant with day and night and the fixed order of heaven and earth, ²⁶ then I will reject the offspring of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his offspring to rule over the offspring of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and will have mercy on them.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Stuart Gordon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal and merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name’s sake. Yet we have strayed from your way; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. As we remember the lavish gifts of your grace, we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with you, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

Glory Be to the Father
GLORIA PATRI

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.

*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

‡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 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
ST. COLUMBA

SCRIPTURE READING | Romans 11:1–6 (page 946)

¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? ³ “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.” ⁴ But what is God’s reply to him? “I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” ⁵ So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. ⁶ But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Inscrutable Grace

Dr. Ryan Moore

“For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” —Romans 11:29

OFFERTORY

Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord
David J. Evans, arr. Richard Shepherd

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here; come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground; be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around; he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned. How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light! Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place; he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace. No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him; be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

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.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00)

Whitney Akin, Will Akin, Sarah Benton, Rachel Blair, John Fuller, Whitney Fuller, Wynn Fuller, Ellie Richmond, Jack Richmond, Justin Robinette, Maria Catherine Robinette, Donna Westbrook

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.

*CLOSING HYMN 463

How Firm a Foundation
FOUNDATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen
Peter Lutkin

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Voluntary on 'Lift High the Cross'
Craig Phillips

* *Those who are able, please stand.*

† *Latecomers may be seated.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*

Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Senior Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness*

Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*

Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*

Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Samuel K. Welborn, Jr. by Sandy Welborn.

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.



WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

Hearing Assistance App Directions

Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest; Password: GreenRock-81. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select "First Pres Sanctuary." Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

Join us downstairs in Courtenay Hall between services for coffee and doughnuts.

To **livestream** worship and special events or view past services, visit youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville.

Children of all ages are invited to worship alongside their families and worship activity bags are provided at each entrance to the Sanctuary. **Young Children & Worship** meets in Grundy Hall in the Children's Ministry Wing for ages 4–6. Parents pick up at the door of Grundy Hall. After 8:30 a.m. worship, children can stay for the Education Hour. **Nursery care** for children ages 0–3 is available from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Check-in and pickup for nursery care are both located at the nursery entrance near Courtenay Lounge. The **Mother and Infant Quiet Room** is located in the Nursery Wing.

INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE CONNECTED?

If you are new to our community, we would love to get to know you and welcome you personally into the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!

*Stay informed about news and upcoming events by reading FPC's weekly Parish News email.
To subscribe, email communications@fpcnashville.org.*



Sunday, September 10 9:30 a.m. | Outside Sanctuary

Join the entire church family at our all-church kickoff as we reconnect after a busy summer! Our Kickoff Sunday is a time to gather as a church family for fellowship and learn ways to connect at FPC this fall. Our football-themed celebration kicks off outside the Sanctuary between morning worship services with fun for all ages. We will also listen to the musical talents of the Sam Levine Trio while enjoying a tasty pick-up breakfast. See you there!

Congratulations to Our Recent High School Graduates!

The class of 2023 is heading off to start their freshman year of college. If you'd like to reach out to any of them to pray, encourage, and cheer them on, please contact the Youth Ministry (gsheppard@fpcnashville.org), and we will put you in touch with that student. They will be attending the following colleges and universities this fall: Auburn University, Belmont University, Clemson University, Loyola University, Pepperdine University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, Rice University, Southern Methodist University, Texas Christian University, Texas Tech University, University of Charleston, University of Denver, University of Georgia, University of Kentucky, University of Mississippi, University of North Carolina, University of Southern California, University of Tennessee, Vanderbilt University, and Washington & Lee University.



ADULT EDUCATION

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering | Tuesday, September 12 | 10:30 a.m. | Courtenay Hall | \$15—All FPC women are invited to join us for the PW Fall Gathering, where we will launch our study of *Words of Life* by Adam Hamilton, followed by lunch and fellowship. Pastor Ryan Moore will teach on the first chapter of our study, and Linda Leathers Tullock will speak on the theme of Love God, Love People. You can purchase a copy of *Words of Life* at our church bookstore, BookMarks, or at the PW Fall Gathering. Make your reservations for the PW Fall Gathering online or in person with cash or check during the Education Hour on August 27 in Courtenay Hall. Contact presbyterianwomen@fpcnashville.org for more information.

Fall Communities of Belonging (COB) | September 10–November 19—COBs will align with the Sunday sermon text as we explore the book of Hebrews. The letter urges us to hold fast to our faith and hope in Christ, continually reminding us that Christ is above all. Join a COB for group discussion and connection as we grow in our faith and relationship with one another. Questions? Contact Julia Wilk (jwilk@fpcnashville.org.) Visit our Linktree page to sign up.

Logos Class Fall Study: What Is Marriage For? | Sundays, September 17–October 29 | 10:00–10:40 a.m. | Stanford Chapel—Dr. Stuart Gordon is offering a class for adults of every generation, “What Is Marriage For?” For over 30 years, Stuart has worked with young couples as they prepare to make their vows and has been persuaded that the church has one great gift to offer couples at any stage of their relationship: the question (and answer) of the purpose of marriage. Join him on Sunday mornings this fall to look at Bible texts with marriage imagery at the center, along with lessons for every marriage to be drawn from them. Contact Stuart Gordon for details (sgordon@fpcnashville.org).

Means of Grace Study | Thursday Evenings Starting September 7 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.—Join Dr. Stuart Gordon in studying weekly devotions following the liturgical calendar from *Means of Grace: A Year of Weekly Devotions* by Fleming Rutledge. Rutledge is a retired Episcopal priest and gifted preacher. Her profound insights will help you gain a clearer view of the living God present and acting in the story of redemption. You can purchase a copy at our church bookstore, BookMarks. Contact Stuart Gordon for details (sgordon@fpcnashville.org).

A Public Faith: Fall Study | Wednesdays and Fridays starting September 13 and 15 | 12:00 p.m.—This fall, Dr. Stuart Gordon will lead weekly discussions of Richard Haass’ little book, *The Bill of Obligations*. You’re invited to a conversation that welcomes folks from across the political spectrum, regardless of faith commitment. A Public Faith is the Rev. Gordon’s effort at encouraging Christians to engage in the public sphere in respectful, reasonable conversation with fellow citizens of various commitments. Groups will meet Wednesdays in Vance Hall and on Zoom and Fridays on Zoom only. Contact Stuart Gordon for details (sgordon@fpcnashville.org).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers Needed: Welcome Visitors as a Soccer Saint | Saturdays, August 19–October 7—Would you help us create a warm and welcoming atmosphere by volunteering as a Soccer Saint at one of our welcome tents on Saturday mornings during soccer season? Whether you are young, old or in between, it’s a great way to serve God’s people and spread joy. Your ministry of presence will be a blessing to our community. Visit our Linktree page to sign up.

MISSIONS

Supporting Maui Fire Relief Fund—In response to the tragic fire that has devastated Lahaina, the Missions Council and Coordinating Council have approved a \$10,000 donation for the Maui Fire Relief Fund. With the death toll of over 100 victims and extensive destruction, we recognize the urgent need for assistance. You may contribute, too, by sending checks to the church office designated for the Maui Fire Relief Fund—acting compassionately together, as our church always has, in aid to those in dire need.

Habitat Home Dedication | Sunday, August 27 | 2:30 p.m. The Village by the Creek (3447 Brick Church Pike)—Over two weekends in June, almost 60 volunteers from FPC came together to help Habitat for Humanity build a home for Latisha Burns and her sons. Latisha shared her story with the congregation in the spring. “I can’t wait to live in a brand-new home with new toilets, new everything!” Our FPC family is invited to celebrate the dedication of her new home next Sunday. Parking is available at the Bass Street Missionary Baptist Church (3447 Brick Church Pike). We hope you will join us in showing love and support to Latisha and her family. Thanks for making this life-changing experience happen!

Upcoming Mission Trips—We are planning several mission trips in the coming months, including two trips to Jamaica in 2024. Registration is open for an adult dental and construction team (February 3–10, 2024), and a multi-generational family trip for adults and children 12 and above is in the works (March 9–15, 2024). Please check the website for more details about these exciting opportunities or contact Missions (missions@fpcnashville.org) for more information.

UPCOMING PILGRIMAGE

FPC Sanctuary Choir Tour | England | July 21–29, 2024—The FPC Sanctuary Choir has been invited for summer Residency at England’s Wells Cathedral. The Residency includes supplying anthems and psalm settings for their nightly evening worship services as well as music for the Sunday service on July 28. In addition to the services at the Cathedral, short day excursions to parts of western UK are also scheduled. As with our past tours, we expect that 20-25 choir members will travel and FPC members and friends are also invited as space will allow. For more information, contact Daphne Garey (dgarey@fpcnashville.org).

PASTORAL STAFF & MINISTRY LEADERS



Dr. Ryan Moore
Pastor & Head of Staff



Dr. Stuart Gordon
*Senior Associate Pastor for
Christian Formation & Witness*



Dr. John Musgrave
Parish Associate



Dr. Sandra Randleman
*Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care &
Missions*



Dr. Raphael Bundage
Director of Music



Mallory Hammond
*Director of Ministry with
Children & Their Families*



Gage Arnold
Director of Youth Programming



Julia Wilk
*Connections and Engagement
Coordinator*



Dr. Bill Mott
*Director of Resource
Development*

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT

Stewardship & Endowment
Dr. Bill Mott at wmott@fpcnashville.org

Children & Families
Mallory Hammond at mhammond@fpcnashville.org

Youth Ministry
Gage Arnold at garnold@fpcnashville.org

Congregational Care
Rev. Sandra Randleman at srandleman@fpcnashville.org

Missions
Annette Crout at missions@fpcnashville.org

Music & Children's Choir
Daphne Garey at dgarey@fpcnashville.org

Membership and Engagment
Julia Wilk at jwilk@fpcnashville.org



TALK TO A PASTOR
Call 615-383-1815

The pastoral staff is here for you. Contact us if you would appreciate a pastoral visit/call, have pastoral care needs, would like to be on a prayer list, or if you are in the hospital. Prayer requests can be confidential and limited to the pastors.



STAY CONNECTED
*News, events, and church information
is sent weekly through the Parish News
email. To subscribe, email
communications@fpcnashville.org*