



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

September 10, 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

It's absolutely essential that what we see in Christ is perfect righteousness, because he's supplying that righteousness on our behalf. All righteousness we will ever need is in the Son of God who took upon himself our flesh, our likeness, our human nature. —Thabiti Anyabwile

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Allegro from Concerto in B-Flat
Georg Telemann

WELCOME

†INTROIT

Festival Alleluia
James Chepponis

Refrain: Choir and Congregation*Solo: Alleluia! Refrain**Solo: O Lord, open our hearts to listen to the words of Your Son. Refrain**Solo: Your words, O Lord, give joy to my heart; Your teaching is light to my eyes. Refrain**Solo: Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. Refrain*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mallory Hammond (8:30)
Gage Arnold (11:00)

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

All: To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

All: He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion.

Leader: Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

*†OPENING HYMN 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
CORONATION

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Lauren Ross (8:30)
Harold Harr (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Psalm 118:8–26 (page 511)

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. ⁹ It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. ¹⁰ All nations surrounded me; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! ¹¹ They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! ¹² They surrounded me like bees; they went out like a fire among thorns; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! ¹³ I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the LORD helped me. ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. ¹⁵ Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly, ¹⁶ the right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!” ¹⁷ I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. ¹⁸ The LORD has disciplined me severely, but he has not given me over to death. ¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. ²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. ²³ This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success! ²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

This Is the Day
John Rutter

This is the day, the day which the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it. O praise the Lord of heaven: praise him in the height. Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host. Praise him sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light, let them praise the Name of the Lord; for he shall give his angels charge over thee: to keep thee in all thy ways. The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand: So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea it is even he that shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in: from this time forth, forevermore. He shall defend thee, under his wings. Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart, and put thou thy trust in the Lord.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Stuart Gordon (8:30)
Dr. Sandra Randleman (11:00)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Maria and Justin Robinette are presenting their daughter, Lucille Maria Robinette, for baptism.
Ruth Lusk, Assisting Elder

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

HYMN OF PREPARATION

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
KIRKPATRICK

5 'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, and to take him at his word;

9 just to rest up - on his pro-mise, and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

13 Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!

Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust him more!

SCRIPTURE READING | Hebrews 1:1–4 (page 1001)

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Look to Jesus

Dr. Ryan Moore

“... and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus ...”—Hebrews 12:1–2

OFFERTORY

Sing Praises Ye Faithful (from Cantata 172)

J.S. Bach

Sing praises ye faithful. Your voices attune ye sing praises ye faithful your voices attune ye. This season so joyous. The Lord in our souls now a temple desireth.

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.

COMMISSIONING OF DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TEAM (8:30)

Jim Cato

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 630

Fairest Lord Jesus
CRUSADERS' HYMN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen
Peter Lutkin

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in B Major, Op. 7
Marcel Dupré

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

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Sr. Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness*
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*
Gage Arnold – *Director of Youth Programming*
Mallory Hammond – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Chris Simonsen – *Baritone*
Patrick Kunkee – *Trumpet*
Alexander Blazek – *Trumpet*
Ali Gooding Hoffman – *Violin*
Craig Nelson – *String Bass*
Deanna Little – *Flute*
Austin Mellen – *Percussion*
Josh Hickman – *Timpani*
FPC Bell Choir

ACOLYTES

(8:30) Clara Deans, Elaine Morgan
(11:00) Andrew Gardner, Lamar Stanley Jr.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Clifton K. Meador by Ann Meador.

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.



SYMPATHIES

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of
Frances Leigh 'Fran' Ferguson.

MUSIC NOTES: *Festival Alleluia* Words and Music; James Chepponis © 1999 by Birnamwood Publications, a division of Morningstar Music Publishers, Inc., St. Louis, MO All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License A-#714895. *All hail the power of Jesus' name* / descant : Michael E Young © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. *This is the Day* by John Rutter © 2011 Oxford University Press All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License A-#714895. OneLicense.net License A-#714895. *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin © 1959, Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License A-#714895. COVER IMAGE: Christ in Glory, Russian (Novgorod?) Painter (late 15th century), Tempera on wood, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY.



Today! 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!

P.S. Stop by the welcome table to pick up a 2023 Directory for your household!



NEWS

2023 Directories Available—The new 2023 printed directories are now available. Stop by the welcome table at Kickoff Sunday to pick up a copy for your household.

Congregational Meeting | September 17 | Following both Worship Services—A congregational meeting will be held next Sunday, following both worship services, for the purpose of voting on a slate of new officer candidates presented by the Officer Nominating Committee, and for the purpose of conferring the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus to the Rev. Dr. Todd B. Jones.

Guest Preacher Next Week: Rev. Dr. Todd B. Jones—Next week, we will welcome our former pastor back to FPC as our guest preacher. We hope you will join us for this special service and a reception during the Education Hour. A congregational meeting will be held following both worship services to confer the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus to Rev. Dr. Jones.

2024 Stewardship—Stewardship packets are in the mail! Be on the lookout this week for your 2024 stewardship brochure and pledge card. Our theme shares the all-important message to *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*. Your pledge puts our mission to work and truly calls us to know Christ and to make Him known. Gratitude is our response to the grace poured out for each of us. Thank you!

ADULT EDUCATION

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.

History, Politics, and Religion | Tuesday, September 12 6:00–7:00 p.m. | Gathering Place | In-person and via Zoom—Dr. Stuart Gordon's monthly class, History, Politics, and Religion, returns on Tuesday, September 12. This class and discussion's goal is to help improve our ability to engage differences and enhance our witness as Christian citizens. We will look at Philip Gorski's *American Covenant: A History of Civil Religion from the Puritans to the Present* and spend time in shared reflection on a portion of Romans 12—studying what it looks like for the body of Christ to bear witness to God. Each meeting will provide the opportunity to practice around tables the kind of conversation that grows skills in humility, searching for truth, and covenant love. 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' 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. Groups will meet Wednesdays in Vance Hall and on Zoom and Fridays on Zoom only. Contact Stuart Gordon for details (sgordon@fpcnashville.org).

Midweek Lunch & Study with Ryan Moore | Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. | Jones Session Room—All are invited to a weekly Bible study and lunch with Dr. Ryan Moore. This fall, Ryan will be taking a deeper dive into Hebrews. Kim will be serving a light lunch (cost: donation). Please let us know if you would like lunch so we know how many to prepare for (615-298-9504 or lelliott@fpcnashville.org).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Welcome Visitors as a Soccer Saint | Saturdays, through 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.

TEAM Volunteers Needed | 10:00–11:00 a.m. (Wednesdays and Thursdays) and 2:00–3:00 p.m. (Wednesdays and Fridays)—TEAM (Therapeutic Equine Assistance Method) at FPC is our therapeutic horseback riding program. We are currently looking for volunteers to serve as horse leaders from 10:00–11:00 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and from 2:00–3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays. Volunteers will assist with lessons, grooming, and tacking activities. Prior horse experience is preferred but is not required. Contact Curt Stacy (cstacy@fpcnashville.org) for more information.

MISSIONS

Red Cross Blood Drive | Wednesday, September 13 | 12:00–5:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall—Help save lives in our community by giving the gift of life by donating blood next Wednesday during our September blood drive. We have several slots available throughout the day. Sign up on our website or contact missions@fpcnashville.org.

Upcoming Mission Trips—FPC is committed to serving Christ around the world, and we are planning several mission trips in the coming months. Please check the website for more details about these exciting opportunities or contact Missions (missions@fpcnashville.org) for more information.

LOOKING AHEAD

First Friends Luncheon | Thursday, September 21
Stewardship Sunday | Sunday, September 24
Crud Day | Sunday, September 24

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 Engagement
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.



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is sent weekly through the Parish News
email. To subscribe, email
communications@fpcnashville.org*