



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

October 22, 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

Therefore, prepare for action and serve God in fear and truth, leaving behind the empty and meaningless talk and the error for the crowd, and believing in the one who raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead and gave him glory and a throne at his right hand. To him all things in heaven and on earth were subjected, whom every breathing creature serves, who is coming as judge of the living and the dead.

—Polycarp of Smyrna

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Nocturne
Daniel E. Gawthrop

WELCOME AND MINUTE FOR MISSION (11:00)

Jake Higgins
Room In The Inn

†INTROIT

(8:30) *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*
Richard B. Colligan
arr. Sue Ellen Page

Oh Christ, surround me. God be the love to search and keep me. God be the prayer to move my voice. God be the strength to now uphold me. Oh Christ, surround me. Walking to hem my journey. Going ahead to light my way. And from beneath, above, and all ways, oh Christ, surround me. Christ in the eyes of all who see me. Christ in the ears that hear my voice. Christ in the hearts of all who know me. Oh Christ, surround me.

(11:00) *Tell Out My Soul*
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 Revelation 5:12–13

Gage Arnold (8:30)
Dr. Sandra Randleman (11:00)

Pastor: With the saint of all ages and the choir of angels, we say,

All: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

Pastor: Then every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, sang,

All: "To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever! Amen."

*†OPENING HYMN 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun
DUKE STREET

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Suzan Hindman (8:30)
Dr. John Crawford (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Psalm 27 (page 460)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ² When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. ⁴ One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. ⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. ⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. ⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! ⁸ You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." ⁹ Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! ¹⁰ For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in. ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. ¹² Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. ¹³ I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! ¹⁴ Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

The Lord Is My Light
Mary Frances Allitsen

The LORD is my light and my salvation. Whom then shall I fear. Whom then shall I fear. The LORD is the strength of my life. The LORD is the strength of my life. Of whom then shall I be afraid. Though a host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid. And though there 'rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him. For in the time of trouble, he shall hide me in his tabernacle. Yea in the secret places of his dwelling, shall he hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone. Of whom then shall I be afraid. The LORD is my Light.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in our daily lives. Our sins and shortcomings present us with a list of accusations, but we thank you that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver us from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us, everything that prevents us taking delight in you. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!
HYFRYDOL

**Jesus! What a friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.**

Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

***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

Polly and Rob Smith are presenting their son, Robert Lynn Smith IV, for baptism.
Chip Smith, Assisting Elder.

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

THE BAPTISM

SCRIPTURE READING | Hebrews 8:1–13 (page 1005)

¹ Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, ² a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. ³ For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. ⁴ Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. ⁵ They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” ⁶ But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. ⁷ For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second. ⁸ For he finds fault with them when he says: “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, ⁹ not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. ¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹¹ And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

¹² For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.” ¹³ In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

The End of Religion

Dr. Ryan Moore

... for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. —Hebrews 8:11

OFFERTORY

O How Amiable

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of Hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee. The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handy work. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

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 CUBA MISSION TEAM (8:30)

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 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
SOLID ROCK

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

I Will Lift Mine Eyes
Jake Runestad

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this day forth for evermore.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata Brevis
Daniel E. Gawthrop

* Those who are able, please stand.

† Latecomers may be seated.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Greg Thomas – *Tenor*
FPC Children's Chior

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Patricia Jorgenson by Trish Andrews, Kathy Brim, Jami Hill, Adrienne Knestrick and Liz McConnell.

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.



MUSIC NOTES: *Nocturne* by Daniel E. Gawthrop © 2005 Dunstan House (ASCAP) All rights reserved.; *God Be the Love* Words and Music by Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan Tune: © 2004 This Here Music admin. Augsburg Fortress Text: © 2004 This Here Music admin. Augsburg Fortress OneLicense.net License #A-714895.; *O How Amiable* by Ralph Vaughan Williams © 1940 Oxford University Press Renewed 1968. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-417895.; *Toccata Brevis* by Daniel E. Gawthrop © 1983 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-417895. COVER IMAGE: *Full-page miniature of Aaron pouring oil into the lighted lamps of the Tabernacle menorah*; Various workshops of St Omer (Artois) and Paris; Last quarter of 13th or first quarter of 14th century; France; <https://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/ILLUMIN.ASP?Size=mid&I1ID=44625>

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. Children ages 4-6 are invited to join **Young Children & Worship** following the Blessing of the Young Disciples. Parents pick up their child after worship at Grundy Hall, located in the Children's Ministry Wing. Following 8:30 a.m. worship, children of all ages are invited to stay for the Education Hour. Check-in and pickup for Nursery-Kindergarten is located in the Children's Ministry lobby, while Elementary is located in Oak Hill C-Wing. **Nursery care** for children ages 0-3 is available from 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 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.*



Pastor Appreciation Prayer Vigil | Wednesday, October 25
Come and go between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. or 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. | Sanctuary—October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and we have many reasons to be thankful for our pastoral team. On Wednesday, October 25, we will honor and uplift our pastors during a Pastor Appreciation Prayer Vigil. Offer prayers for our pastoral staff between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. or 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Come and go as you are able. In addition, there will be a basket to drop off a note of appreciation for the pastors.

All Saints Service and Lunch | Wednesday, November 1
12:00 p.m. | Sanctuary | Lunch to Follow in Courtenay Hall—At noon on All Saints Day the church will offer a worship service with a time to remember and give thanks for the lives of the Christian saints who have gone before us, with a special mention of those church members we have lost since October 2023. All who wish to attend are encouraged to do so. A light lunch (donation-based) will follow in Courtenay Hall; if you plan to eat with us, please contact Lynn Elliott (lelliott@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9504) so we know how many to prepare for.

Upcoming Inquirers Class | Saturday, November 4 | 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Jones Session Room—If you are interested in membership or gaining a deeper understanding of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, we invite you to attend our Inquirers Class. It's also a good opportunity to meet other newcomers to the church, as well as pastors and staff. Attending the class does not obligate you to join the church. No matter where you are in your journey of faith—whether you are new to the Christian faith, seeking, questioning, or desire to become a member—you are invited to participate in our Inquirers Class. Lunch and childcare are provided. For more information, contact Julia Wilk (615-473-8742 or jwilk@fpcnashville.org). Register at linktr.ee/fpcnashville.

Stephen Ministry Training February 2024—A training class for serving as a Stephen Minister will begin in February 2024. Stephen Ministers offer confidential support to individuals going through challenging times. The most important resources are a compassionate heart, a listening ear, and a willingness to pray with and for the person receiving care. If you are interested in serving as a Stephen Minister, please contact Sandra Randleman (srandleman@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9502). Applications are due at the end of November.

STEWARDSHIP

Watch a Special Message from Cathryn Rolfe—Gratitude is a natural response to grace. We worship a generous God who has made clear his good will for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Because Christ gave himself up for us and all sinners, we gratefully respond to this blessing with worship and generosity. Please take a few minutes to view a special message from FPC member and elder, Cathryn Rolfe. Her testimony will be an encouragement as you consider your pledge for 2024. Visit linktr.ee/fpcnashville to watch.

YOUTH

Youth Prayer Partner Breakfast | Sunday, November 5
9:45 a.m. | Enrichment Center—The annual Youth Prayer Partner Breakfast will take place in the Enrichment Center on Sunday, November 5, during the Education Hour. We intentionally pair each of our youth with an adult in the church, and these prayer partners commit to praying for each other daily. The prayer partners will visit, eat together, and share prayer requests at this annual event led by the Director of Youth Programming, Gage Arnold. Adult prayer partners, please check your email, reach out to your assigned youth, and invite them to the breakfast. Parents, please encourage your child to respond to their prayer partner's invitation. All youth are invited to attend, regardless of the availability of their prayer partner. *P.S. We need volunteers to help with setup and greeting attendees. Visit linktr.ee/fpcnashville to sign up!*

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Christmas Pageant Sign-ups—A pageant will be presented at this year's family Christmas Eve Service! Both singing, speaking, and non-speaking roles are available. We will additionally have an older and younger choir for our pageant this year. We hope to have you join our fun!

Pageant Tryouts | Sunday, November 5 | 12:15–1:30 p.m.

If your child is interested in a speaking role or a singing solo, tryouts will be held in the Sanctuary on November 5 following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Parts are based on age, and we ask that those with speaking roles attend all four rehearsals. Visit linktr.ee/fpcnashville to sign up!

MISSIONS

Room In The Inn | Wednesdays through March—Every year from November through March, First Presbyterian Church provides shelter for men experiencing homelessness through Room In The Inn. There are a number of volunteer opportunities available this year: overnight hosts, van drivers, breakfast donors, lunch donors, and laundry volunteers. Room In The Inn takes its name from the Christmas story in Luke 2, a reminder that Jesus was laid in a manger because there was no room for him in the inn. Participating in this ministry is a beautiful way to serve Christ by serving the least of his brethren (Matthew 25:40). In addition, they regularly need clothing. Please consider donating new boxer shorts, undershirts, socks, gloves, stocking caps, and new or used men's coats and shoes. Contact Missions (missions@fpcnashville.org) for more information. Sign up at linktr.ee/fpcnashville.

MUSIC

Organ Recital by the American Guild of Organists Nashville Chapter | Monday, November 13 | 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary—Join us for an organ concert featuring members of the American Guild of Organists Nashville Chapter on Monday, November 13. Our organ was built by the Rudolf von Beckerath company (Hamburg, Germany) in 1974 and was renovated last year. The concert will include five organists presenting various organ music, including former FPC organist Nick Bergin.



Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat Today at 4 PM

By the Horse Barn • All Welcome!

**Activities begin at 4 PM, and festivities will culminate
with a costume contest and dinner at 5 PM.
There will be live music, horse rides, and more!**

PRAYERS FOR PEACE SERVICE

Wednesday, October 25 | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

Given the worldwide headlines, from war in Israel and Palestine, ongoing conflict in Ukraine, and earthquakes in Afghanistan, we know our world and community need prayer. We will set aside this time to gather together and pray for our family and world through song, silence, and the Word as we seek the Lord's surpassing peace.

The 5:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil for our pastoral staff previously scheduled for Wednesday is canceled, but the 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. vigils will still be in session.

LOOKING AHEAD

Nov. 11 | Moonlighters Big Band & Dance | 2:00 p.m.

Nov. 14 | History, Politics, and Religion | 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 15 | Blood Drive

Nov. 19 | Advent Wreath Workshop | 5:00 p.m.

Nov. 20 | Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing | 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 22 | Thanksgiving Eve Worship | 5:30 p.m.