



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

*November 12, 2023*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



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

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## WORDS OF PREPARATION

*Jesus's command to follow him is a command to align our loves and longings with his—to want what God wants, to desire what God desires, to hunger and thirst after God and crave a world where he is all in all—a vision encapsulated by the shorthand “the kingdom of God.”*

—James K.A. Smith

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

*Prelude and Allemande from Suite in F*  
Arcangelo Corelli

WELCOME

†INTROIT

*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

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

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**All: Who made heaven and earth.**

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!**

\*†OPENING HYMN

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*  
AUSTRIAN HYMN

**Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode:  
on the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove;  
who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?  
grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.**

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**Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near:  
thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna which he gives them when they pray.**

**Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,  
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name:  
fading is the world's best pleasure, all it's boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.**

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Tom Smith (8:30)  
Ben Merrill (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Psalm 145:1–13 (page 524)

<sup>1</sup> I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. <sup>2</sup> Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. <sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. <sup>4</sup> One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. <sup>5</sup> On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. <sup>6</sup> They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. <sup>7</sup> They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. <sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. <sup>9</sup> The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. <sup>10</sup> All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you! <sup>11</sup> They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, <sup>12</sup> to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. <sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*  
AZMON

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!**

**To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.**



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\*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 (8:30)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Elizabeth and William Holets are presenting their daughter, Ruth Elizabeth Holets, for baptism.  
Hugh Tanner, Assisting Elder.

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

HYMN OF PREPARATION 442

*Just as I Am, Without One Plea*  
WOODWORTH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Hebrews 12:18–29 (page 1009)

<sup>18</sup> For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest  
<sup>19</sup> and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup> For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” <sup>21</sup> Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”  
<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. <sup>25</sup> See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup> This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our God is a consuming fire.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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SERMON

The Unshakeable Life

Dr. Ryan Moore

*"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken ..." — Hebrews 12:28*

OFFERTORY

*Do Not Be Afraid*  
Philip Stopford

Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name; you are mine. When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you; you will never sink beneath the waves. When the fire is burning all around you, you will never be consumed by the flames. Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name; you are mine. When the fear of loneliness is looming, then remember I am at your side. When you dwell in the exile of a stranger, remember you are precious in my eyes. Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name; you are mine. O my child, I am your Father, and I love you with a perfect love. Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name; you are mine.

*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](http://fpcnashville.org).*

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00)

K.C. Brewer, Haley and Drew Lonergan, Melinda and Doug McCrea, Joshua Pagonis, Cindy and Steve Richmond, Holly and Robert Rixie, and Berthe Tesi.

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 840

*When Peace Like a River*  
VILLE DU HAVRE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

*May the Mind of Christ*  
ST. LEONARDS

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day, by his love and pow'r controlling all I do and say. May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour, so that all may see I triumph only through his pow'r. May the peace of God my Father rule my life in ev'rything, 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

*Allegro from Concerto in A Minor, BWV 593*  
Johann Sebastian Bach

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

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## 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*  
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *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*

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in memory of June and Lewis Noland, by Nell Ann Crowe and Tom Noland.

## 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](http://fpcnashville.org), or scan the QR code.



MUSIC NOTES: *Tell Out My Soul* - CCLI Song # 27051, Timothy Dudley-Smith | Walter Gire, Words: 1962. Renewal 1990 Hope Publishing Company; Music: Public Domain, For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com), CCLI License # 1121456; *Do Not Be Afraid* by Philip W.J. Stopford © 2015 Birnamwood Publications A division of Morning Star Music Publishers. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net license #A-714895.  
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## FPC STAFF NEWS

*Several long-awaited staff positions have been filled at FPC, and we are happy to introduce these new faces! Please join us in welcoming Susan, Jen, and Charlotte.*



### **Susan Becker | Administrative Assistant for Worship Services (Part-Time)**

Susan will be responsible for ensuring the elements of worship are accounted for and executed professionally each week. Worship is at the heart of our church, so this job is critical to ensuring all our services are done with excellence. Susan has many years of experience in administrative and executive support roles, most recently with Lonnie Stout, Clerk of Session. She moved to Nashville about four years ago to be close to family and enjoys spending time with her grandchildren. We are so grateful to have Susan on staff! You can contact her at [sbecker@fpcnashville.org](mailto:sbecker@fpcnashville.org).



### **Jen Kutzner | Director of Recreation**

Jen is tasked with visioning, implementing, executing, and maintaining athletic and recreational ministry programs in a way that points to Jesus. She previously held a similar role at Highland Presbyterian Church in Lancaster, PA, as Director of Youth and Sports Ministry. Jen graduated from Messiah College with a Bachelor of Arts in Sport Management. She has lived in Nashville for a little more than four years. Play is essential to our work here at FPC, and we are excited to play and work with Jen! You can contact her at [jkutzner@fpcnashville.org](mailto:jkutzner@fpcnashville.org).



### **Charlotte Schierbaum | Ministry Assistant for Congregational Care**

Charlotte has returned to staff as a full-time Ministry Assistant for Congregational Care. In her new role, she will provide administrative support to Sandra Randleman, the Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and other caregiving ministries of the church. She will also continue supporting New Officer Training, which she has been handling on a part-time contract basis since August. We are grateful to have Charlotte on board to serve the church in this way. You can contact her at [cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org](mailto:cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org).

**History, Politics, and Religion: A Discussion with Dr. Nahed Zehr on the Palestinian-Israel Conflict | Tuesday, November 14 | 6:00–7:00 p.m. | Gathering Place** — Due to events in Israel, this month's meeting of *History, Politics, and Religion* will go off schedule. Dr. Nahed Zehr, FPC member and former executive director of Faith & Culture Center, will join us to discuss the issues raised by the war between Israel and Hamas. Our time will be divided into three portions: a conversation with Nahed, your questions to her, and a closing time of prayer. The class occurs in the Gathering Place. Enter by the Hospitality Center Entrance or by the Gathering Place Entrance. Childcare is provided upon request. To register for childcare, contact Stuart Gordon ([sgordon@fpcnashville.org](mailto:sgordon@fpcnashville.org)).

**Calling all Volunteer Bakers and Cooks!** — We need your help stocking the Manna Freezer and supporting those in need of a meal or sweet treat. If you're passionate about cooking or baking and want to make a difference, this is a wonderful opportunity to get involved. We currently need baked goods and soups packed in servings for two. For more details on becoming a contributor, contact Denise Bellardo ([balletdenise@icloud.com](mailto:balletdenise@icloud.com) or 615-351-3273).

### STEWARDSHIP

**2024 Stewardship Update** — Since we first celebrated the launch of Stewardship 2024, 282 households have pledged over \$2.6 million toward our goal of \$4.1 million—thank you! We are profoundly grateful and rejoice at the impact of your pledge commitment. If you still need to make your pledge, please submit it by mid-December so we can financially prepare for the next year of ministry. Visit [linktr.ee/fpcnashville](https://linktr.ee/fpcnashville) to make your pledge.

### 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. 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.

### MISSIONS

**Christmas Toy Drive | Collecting gifts November 12–December 3** — This Advent, FPC will be holding a Christmas gift drive for children in need, infants through age 12. Collection boxes will be in the narthex and the lobby of the administrative wing. Toys should be new and unwrapped.

**Eight Slots Left for the November Blood Drive Wednesday, November 15 | 12:00–5:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall** — The American Red Cross is experiencing a national blood shortage. Donors of all blood types are urgently needed, and there is an emergency need for type O blood donors to ensure patients across the country continue receiving critical medical care. We have eight slots left to fill at our blood drive on Wednesday, November 15, and we need your help! Sign up at [linktr.ee/fpcnashville](https://linktr.ee/fpcnashville) and save lives in our community.

**Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing | Monday, November 20 | 3:30 p.m. | Enrichment Center** — Our annual Rise Against Hunger event is perfect for families, with opportunities for anyone ages 2–102! Help us pack over 20,000 meals to be delivered to partners around the world. To date, First Presbyterian Church members and Oak Hill School friends have held 16 events and packed 289,104 meals, the size of a full shipping container!

**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](mailto:missions@fpcnashville.org)) for more information.

### LOOKING AHEAD

Nov. 22–24 | Thanksgiving Holiday | Church Office Closed  
Dec. 3 | Christmas Ceilidh & Tree Lighting | 4:30 p.m.



VISIT [LINKTR.EE/FPCNASHVILLE](https://linktr.ee/fpcnashville)  
TO REGISTER OR LEARN MORE

# Upcoming Events

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NOV  
19  
5:00 p.m.

## Family Advent Workshop

*Courtenay Hall | Cost: \$15 per family*

Join us for a Family Advent Workshop. We'll talk about the significance of the Advent season as families make Advent wreaths they can use together at home. We hope these wreaths will be a sweet tool that families can use for several years to come! Dinner is included; register at [linktr.ee/fpcnashville](http://linktr.ee/fpcnashville).

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NOV  
19  
9:30 a.m.

## Thanksgiving Breakfast

*Courtenay Hall*

Join our FPC church family for a Thanksgiving breakfast between services. Enjoy good food and fellowship provided by a cast of characters flipping pancakes. See you there!

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NOV  
22  
5:30 p.m.

## Thanksgiving Eve Service

*Stanford Chapel*

Before celebrating Thanksgiving this year, please join us on Thanksgiving Eve to worship God and give thanks as a congregation for his bounteous goodness and providential care.

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NOV  
24  
11:00 a.m.

## All-Church Thanksgiving Flag Football

*Front Lawn*

In town over the Thanksgiving holiday? Football fans of all ages are invited to play pick-up flag football together on Friday, November 24. Spectators and cheerleaders are encouraged to cheer players on as they compete on the front lawn, weather permitting.

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