First Presbyterian Church

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 08, 2026, 11:00 AM

* Indicates that those who are able may stand **Bold type is spoken by the people.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY: Steal Away *Harry T. Burleigh*
Beatrice Bartlett, soprano

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Cade Arnold, Liturgist*

ONE: The Lord is coming. Whom you will serve?
ALL: As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.
ONE: What has God done for you?
ALL: Wondrous works. Unforgettable deeds. Strength in the wilderness; paths of liberation!
ONE: Say more.
ALL: We'll never stop telling our story. The next generation will hear it. Children not yet born will know it.
ONE: Hope in God, whose story will never end.
ALL: Forever we will praise our faithful helper and deliverer!

*OPENING HYMN: Rejoice, The Lord Is King! **#363**

CALL TO & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE Our God is a God of glorious deeds, of wondrous works. Our hope is in God. But we do not always keep God's commandments. Let us confess our sins before our merciful and mighty God, saying...

ALL: Everlasting God, we say we want to see you, we say we want to know you, we say we want to serve you, but we also do not want to put in the work. We do not want to prepare for your coming by working for your kin-dom on this earth. We do not keep alert for signs of you among us, so we schedule you in for an hour or so on Sundays. Forgive us. Inspire us to put our faith to action. Surprise us with your presence so we might learn to always be ready for you to arrive.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*RESPONSE HYMN: Lord Have Mercy Upon Us **#575**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: All who seek God will rejoice and be glad. We proclaim that God is great because of this good news: we are forgiven! Be at peace.

*GLORIA PATRI **#581**

ALL: 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!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES *Rev. Katie Long*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 **P.205**

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 **P.193**

ANTHEM: Be Thou My Vision *Dan Forrest*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my True Word,
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
Riches I heed not, nor men's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always.
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.
High King of heave, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns Sun.
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 25:1-13 **P.26**

ONE: Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Rev. Michael McLaughlin*

*SERMON HYMN: Soon and Very Soon **#384**

COMMUNAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The 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.

*GREETINGS

After an exchange of Peace between the Pastor and the Congregation, we encourage you to greet one another. The Greetings will conclude with the first verse of *Blest Be the Tie That Binds.*

ONE: …The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
ALL: And also with you.
ONE: Let us pass the peace…

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; #306
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ONE: … Lord, in your mercy,
ALL: hear our prayer.

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.

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY: Andante con moto *Léon Boëllmann*

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY **#606**

ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN: Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine! **#839**

*BENEDICTION

ONE: … Alleluia!
ALL: Amen!

POSTLUDE: Rejoice, The Lord Is King! *Alfred V. Fedak*

REGULAR WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY

- **Higher Grounds Café** – 9:30am-11am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Religion & Culture Class** – 9:30am-10:30am, in room 6.
- **Nursery** – 9:30am-12:15pm - Ages 5 and under.
- **Children's Sunday School –** 9:45am in Room 16
- **Faithful Living Class** 10am-10:45am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Adult Morning Bible Study** – 10am-10:45am, in the Library
- **Worship Service** – 11am, in the Sanctuary
- **Children's Church** - 11:15am, in Fellowship Hall.

WEDNESDAY

- **Choir Rehearsal** – 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary.
- **Wednesday Night Dinner** – Nov. 11 & 18. 5:15pm dinner and 6pm activities.

ELDERS:

2026: Cade Arnold, Josh Doré
2027: Sidonie Sansom, Dee Tompkins
2028: Ben Marsee, Donna Simpson
CLERK: Chris McCormick

DEACONS:

2026: Michelle Doré, Ron Ledbetter, Stacey Trent
2027: Kelly Appleton, Ann Hayes, Tony Lawson, Gabrielle Pate, Shelley Wiley
2028: Missy Moore, Pat Wilhelm

BIRTHDAYS:

Holland, Chelsea	11/04
Simpson, Donna	11/06
Turner, Gail	11/06
Ainsley, Amy	11/12
Ory, John	11/17
Swim, Bill	11/18
Curtis, Kevin	11/20
Hayes, Ron	11/23
Massa, Carrie	11/23
Moore, Lucy	11/28

STAFF:

The Rev. Michael D. McLaughlin……...Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Katie Long……..Dir. TTU PSA, Community Life Minister
Paul Thurmond…… Director of Music
Michelle Doré ……..Interim SoulSong Coordinator
Amy Ainsley…….Office Administrator

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