



First Presbyterian Church

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026, 11:00 AM



* Indicates that those who are able may stand

Bold type is spoken by the people.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Finance

VOLUNTARY: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Thomas Hastings

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Andrew Heath, Liturgist

ONE: We sing aloud a song of thanksgiving

ALL: and recount all of God's wonderful deeds.

*OPENING HYMN: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

#403

CALL TO & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE We seek the will of God, but still find ourselves conformed to this world, instead of being transformed into God's image. Let us seek forgiveness for the ways we have turned away from justice and mercy, saying...

ALL: Sometimes it sounds too hard: deny ourselves, take up our crosses, lose our lives? Forgive us, Savior, but we'd rather you do it for us. Forgive us, Christ, but we are overwhelmed with what you ask of us. We long to see you come in glory, but fear the road we must take. Have mercy on our weakness. Be patient with our stumbling. Do not leave us behind, even when we are slow to follow, and lead us in your ways of peace.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*RESPONSE HYMN: Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

#575

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Christ does not abandon us, but died for us, was raised for us, and loves us still. This is the good news that prevails!

ALL: In Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we are forgiven!

*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. Michael McLaughlin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Exodus 3:1-15

P.48

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 12:9-21

P.151

ANTHEM: The Narrow Way

K. Lee Scott

Text: John Cennick, 1718-1755

Be near me, Lord, where'er I go; teach me what you would have me do.

Direct whate'er I think or say, and lead me in the narrow way.

Prevent me, lest I harbor pride, lest I in my own strength confide.

Show me my weakness; let me see I have my pow'r, my all in thee.

Assist and teach me how to pray; incline my nature to obey.

What you abhor, oh, let me flee, and only love what pleases thee.

Be near me, Lord, where'er I go; teach me what you would have me do;

Direct whate'er I think or say, and lead me in the narrow way.

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 16:21-28

P.17

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: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

#438

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;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

#306

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:

Psalm

Carl Hager

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:

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

#285

*BENEDICTION

ONE: ... Alleluia!

ALL: Amen!

POSTLUDE:

Trumpet Tune

Gordon Young

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

- **Wednesday Night Book Study** – Dinner 5:15pm, study 6pm, *Inspired*, by Rachel Held Evens, Led by Rev. Long.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study** – Dinner 5:15pm, study 6pm, Book of *Revelation*, Led by Rev. McLaughlin.
(Children’s church and nursery provided, 6pm.)
- **Choir Rehearsal** – 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary.

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,
Colleen Mestayer, Gabrielle Pate, Shelley
Wiley
2028: Missy Moore, Liz Tompkins, Pat Wilhelm

BIRTHDAYS:

Dore, Evangeline	09/04
Tompkins, Elizabeth	09/10
Mestayer, Colleen	09/12
McLaughlin, Michael	09/13
Reames, Tokuhito	09/17

Abbot, Al	09/20
Reames, Kanako	09/20
Vanatta, Bill	09/22
Williams, Amber	09/27
Fillers, Virginia	09/29

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 Dore’	Interim SoulSong Coordinator
Amy Ainsley.....	Office Administrator

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