



First Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025, 11:00 AM



* Indicates that those who are able may stand

Bold type is spoken by the people.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY:

Blessed Assurance

Gerald Near

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa McLaughlin, Liturgists

ONE: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God on high!

ALL: Praise God, sun and moon. Praise God, all you shining stars!

ONE: Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and ocean depths!

ALL: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, praise the Lord!

ONE: Kings and all peoples of the earth, princes and all rulers of the earth, praise the Lord!

ALL: Old and young together; all people praise the Lord!

ONE: Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN:

Let All Things Now Living

#37

CALL TO & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: Because we are loved, we are called to turn to God in humility. We fall short of who God calls us to be, but we are never forsaken. In faith and with confidence as beloved children, let us confess our sin to God, saying...

ALL: Holy God, you command us to love one another, yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace. You command us to care for all of creation, yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature through carelessness. You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way. Forgive us, O God. Guide us as we work toward a new heaven here on earth. Lead us to reconciliation and a vision for your beloved community, as we share your love with your people everywhere.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*RESPONSE HYMN:

Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

#575

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Believe the good news: Jesus loves us and forgives us and sets us free. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

ALL: Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

#581

**Glorify 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: Acts 11:1-18

P.122

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Revelation 21:1-6

P.244

ONE: These words are trustworthy and true.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: Thou Art the Vine

Andrew Carter

Thou art the vine, we are the branches and are thine;
Thou art the vine, and we are part in your design; Alleluia!
Thou art the root, and we the tendrils and the shoot;
Thou art the root, and we the tenders of the fruit; Alleluia!
God give us grace within this place
To grow anew in all things true; Alleluia.
Our voices raise in endless praise; Alleluia.
Thou art the vine; thou art the living bread and wine;
Thou art the vine; to sing your praise our hearts combine; Alleluia!
Thou art the life of ev'ry tree; come, Holy Lord, and spring in me; Alleluia.
May nature's voice with us rejoice: Alleluia.

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON John 13:31-35

P.102

SERMON

Rev. Michael McLaughlin

*SERMON HYMN: We Are One in the Spirit

#300

COMMUNAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Confession of 1967, 9.26

Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

*GREETINGS

After an exchange of Peace between the liturgist 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: ... God of new life,

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: Prelude, Op. 13, No 3

Alexander Scriabin

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: Help Us Accept Each Other

#754

*BENEDICTION

ONE: ...Alleluia!

ALL: Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Let All Things Now Living

Frank Stoldt

REGULAR WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY CALENDAR

- **Religion and Culture Class** – 9:30am-10:30am, in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- **Higher Grounds Café** – 9:30am-11am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Faithful Living Bible Study** – 9:45am-10:45am in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Adult Morning Bible Study.** 10am-10:45am, in the Library.
- **Nursery** – 9:30am-12:15pm - Ages 5 and under.
- **Children’s Church** - 11:15am, in Room 16

WEDNESDAY CALENDAR

- **Wednesday Night Gathering**– 5:15pm dinner, 6pm lesson/activities begin.
- **Choir Rehearsal** – 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary.

STAFF:

The Rev. Michael D. McLaughlin.....Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Katie Ory.....Dir. TTU PSA, Dir. Children & Youth Ministry
Paul Thurmond..... Director of Music
Virginia Fillers.....SoulSong Coordinator
Amy Ainsley.....Office Administrator

ELDERS:

2025: Dina Smith, Rick Woods
2026: Cade Arnold, Josh Doré
2027: Sidonie Sansom, Dee Tompkins

CLERK: Donna Simpson

DEACONS:

2025: Chris McCormick, Erica Scott
2026: Michelle Doré, Ron Ledbetter, Stacey Trent
2027: Kelly Appleton, Ann Hayes, Tony Lawson,
Colleen Mestayer, Gabrielle Pate, Shelley
Wiley

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| APPLETON, Kelly | 05/06 |
| HOLLAND, Kadence | 05/06 |
| MCCORMICK, Rachel | 05/08 |
| NEIL, Mary Ann | 05/09 |
| SCOTT, Trey | 05/12 |
| RUDICH DURYEE, Sylvia | 05/14 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| VANATTA, Jacquelyn | 05/14 |
| SMITH, Dina | 05/18 |
| HARRISON, Nathaniel | 05/24 |
| WILEY, Shelley | 05/25 |
| CARDINAL, Beverly | 05/27 |
| GILBERT, Kyzer | 05/30 |

Website: www.firstprescookeville.org

Church Office: Wed.-Fri. 9:00am-3:00 pm

Telephone: (931) 526-4424, E-Mail: office@firstprescookeville.org