



First Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026, 11AM



* Indicates that those who are able may stand

Bold type is spoken by the people.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY: Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

Dan Forrest

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Cade Arnold, Liturgist

ONE: To those who want to follow him, Jesus asks, "What are you seeking?"

ALL: Teacher, we do not seek worldly power, but a better way to live.

ONE: "What are you seeking?"

ALL: Teacher, we do not seek worldly wealth, nor the prizes of paradise, but simply to be with you.

ONE: "What are you seeking?"

**ALL: Teacher, we do not seek worldly praise or fame, only that you call us by name.
Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

#12

CALL TO & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE Like the early disciples, we are curious about this Jesus, this Son of God. We may be tempted to stay away, for we know we are not worthy of him. But Jesus does not care about worth, wealth and power. Jesus seeks those who would follow honestly, willing to face their failures in order to grow closer to God. In that spirit, let us turn to Christ, saying...

ALL: God of the ages, We do not always wait with patience. We do not always sing your praises. We do not always recognize your work in our lives. We would rather take the credit for ourselves. We would rather take the easy way out. We would rather step on others if it means more for ourselves. Forgive us for all the ways we forget you. Help us to delight to do your will. Help us to trust in you and return us to the path of righteousness.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*RESPONSE HYMN: Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

#575

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

ONE: The Lamb of God takes away the sins of the world. The Lamb of God takes away the sins of each and every one of us.

ALL: Christ has mercy on us, forgiving our sins. Alleluia!

***GLORIA PATRI**

#581

**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 Ory

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Isaiah 49:1-7

P.638

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

P.155

ONE: A new teaching, with authority!

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love

Gabriel Fauré

Lamb of God, what wondrous love, what wondrous love, O my soul,
Love, such love, that Thou shouldst die, that Thou, for me, shouldst die.
Lord of Grace, what matchless love, what matchless love, O my soul.
Son of God, Thou loving sacrifice, thou loving sacrifice for me.
Here, O Lord, am I, fearful, sinful one.
Guilty and condemned, Thy death is surely mine.
Cross of God, I would to turn away, yet Love it bids me stay, O my soul.
Can it be the very death I fear is that which draws me near, Lord, to Thee?

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON:

John 1:29-42

P.86

SERMON

Rev. Michael McLaughlin

***SERMON HYMN:**

Will You Come and Follow Me

#726

COMMUNAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Confession of 1967, 9.15

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

*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.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Elders: Ben Marsee, Donna Simpson

Deacons: Missy Moore, Liz Tompkins, Pat Wilhelm

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY:

Poco lento

César Franck

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:

O Jesus, I Have Promised

#724

*BENEDICTION

ONE: ...Alleluia!

ALL: Alleluia!

POSTLUDE:

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Gabriel Fauré

REGULAR WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY

- **Higher Grounds Café** – 9:30am-11am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Religion & Culture Class** – 9:30am-10:30am, in room 6.
- **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
- **Nursery** – 9:30am-12:15pm - Ages 5 and under.
- **Children's Church** - 11:15am, in Room 16.

WEDNESDAY

- **Wednesday Night Gathering** – Resumes 01/21/26. Dinner 5:15pm, Study of Psalms 6pm, Fellowship Hall.
- **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:

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:

June, Rebecca	01/03
Glasgow, Diane	01/05
Bellis, Charlene	01/07
Boles, Hannah	01/20
Bragg, Shanon	01/22

Samon, Jerry	01/22
Hayes, Ted	01/26
Wilhelm, Matthew	01/28
Pelren, Sarah	01/31

Website: www.firstprescookeville.org

Church Office: Tue.-Thur. 9:00am-3:00 pm

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