

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 21, 2023 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

Week of May 21- Prayers of the People

- Family of Rachel Elizabeth Silver
- Deb Hardie
- Gene Dawson and Family
- Jennifer Edinger
- Frances Hasty
- Paul Butler
- Greg Graupmann
- Lane Pittman
- Robert Norfleet
- Emily Bond
- Monica Manley

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Jean Byers
8 David Culpepper
12 Yolanda Faas
12 Charlie McCormick
18 Elizabeth Turner
20 Corey McCormick
21 Bob Graupmann
26 Diana Taylor
30 Scott Taylor
31 Monica Manley

Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list. Welcome!

Prelude "Morning" arr. Young

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

We may not know the time or the place,
But we know that God is restoring the world.
We may not see the risen Christ before us,
But we know his spirit rests on us.
We may not know what God is doing next,
But we come together in faith, excited to discover it!

Hymn 403 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

Scripture tells us that our sufferings are known to Christ, that we can cast all our anxiety on Jesus, who restores, supports, strengthens and establishes us. Knowing this, let us come to God in a spirit of openness.

Christ our Savior, as you ascended, you left the work to us. You called us to keep the movement going, to witness to the ends of the earth, to pray, to heal, to glorify you through our thoughts, words and deeds, to show the world a glimpse of the goodness you have given us. We have fallen short of this call. We have hidden ourselves in fear, sought our own comfort, and resigned ourselves to the status quo. Forgive us, and strengthen us to do your will, that we may be signs of your coming reign.

Assurance of God's Grace

Listen to this prayer: "Protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one." This is the prayer that Christ prayed on our behalf. This tenderness and care for us shows us who Jesus is – the one who hears our prayers, responding to our longing for forgiveness with mercy.

Thanks be to God; praise be to Christ; glory be to the Holy Spirit.

Response "Gloria Patri" Hymn 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, amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "Hark, I Hear the Harp's Eternal" arr. Ellingboe

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

Prayers of the People
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.

Time with Children

Hymn 667 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

First Lesson 1 Peter 4: 12-14, 5: 6-11

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kinds of sufferings.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Second Lesson Acts 1: 6-14

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the

sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.

Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Sermon "Looking Up" Dr. Steve Frazier

Hymn 462 "I Love to Tell the Story"

Benediction

Congregational Response "Jesus, Be with Us"

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day
to follow the Gospel and live as we pray.
Send us your Spirit and show us your way
Jesus be with us today.

Where there is hunger and thirst in the land,
scatter the systems of greed.
Jesus be with us, make use of our hands.
Lift up your people in need.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Peace of Christ be with you.
And also, with you.
Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Please join us in the Courtyard Lobby for refreshments after worship!



We are in the process of updating our online directory. If you have any information you would like added, removed, or changed, please send an email to g.goodrich1203@gmail.com, with a subject heading reading "Directory Changes" by June 18th. Thank you for your help on this ongoing project!

Hark, I Hear the Harp's Eternal

Hark, I hear the harp's eternal ringing on the farther shore. As I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar. Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah to the great I AM! And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day, passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away. Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah to the great I AM! Souls have crossed before me, saintly to that land of perfect rest; and I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest. Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah to the great I AM!