

On Holy Ground



First Presbyterian Church
8:30 Gideon Blackburn House
11:00 Fellowship Hall
May 17, 2026

Welcome

to First Presbyterian Church of
Huntsville, Alabama

*We are a congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

Notes About Our Worship Bulletin:

- An asterisk denotes standing--in body or Spirit.
- Bold text means the congregation is invited to recite the text together.
- There are margin notes to increase understanding of the service.
- Children of all ages are a welcome blessing in worship! They are an important part of our church community, and we would love for them to stay for the whole service. Wiggles and giggles will not bother us; tears and fears remind us we're human. Ushers can provide you with worship notebooks to engage your children during worship.
- Nursery care is available anytime between 8:15 am and 12:00 pm for infants and toddlers in Youth Room of GBH as needed.
- All children are invited to come forward during *This Little Light of Mine* for a message and prayer.
- Children are welcome (but never required!) to go to Youth Room in GBH for Children's Church after the Time for Young Disciples. Parents may escort them, or Children's Ministry Assistants are available to walk with them.
- Members, having children worship is a gift and a sign of health and vitality for our church. Please welcome children and offer parents a smile of encouragement.

Want more information about the church?
Speak with an usher in the narthex, or visit our website at fpchsv.org,
or listen to sermons later in the week, at:



FOR APPLE



FOR ANDROID

WELCOME

May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter
8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *This Is My Father's World* Arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Karl Kling
Please sign in on the pew pads found at the end of each row and share those with your neighbor. We thank God for your presence this day!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus said, "All power and honor has been given to me."

People: We give Christ our worship and praise.

Leader: Jesus calls us to share his kindness with people everywhere.

People: We live out our baptisms by serving others in Christ's name.

All: Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN of Praise 10 *Sing Glory to the Name of God* LAST UNS ERFREUEN

BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Ephraim Cobb, Ella Douthit, Anne Fowlkes Schreeder,
Keaton Schroer, Harper Grace Watson

PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND BLESSING OF RECIPIENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of all people, hear our confession. Too often we disappoint you, hurt others, or fail to care for ourselves. We overlook your compassion and miss opportunities to see the needs that surround us. We fail to follow the path that leads to peace. Forgive our sin and help us to follow where you lead. We pray this in Christ's name, Amen.

(Let us now continue our confession in silence.)

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP:

Dr. Karl Kling,
Transitional Pastor

Patricia Hacker,
Director of Music

Many thanks to David Young for playing the piano today.

Chancel Choir

Liturgists:
8:30-
Bruce Peters

11:00-
Melissa Rowe

Ushers:
8:30 am-
Bo & Nancy Lundy

11:00 am-
Patty Frierson
Jim Slate

Video and Sound:
Tom Stroud
Dave Young
Maxwell R. Carter

**Those who are able, please stand*

KYRIE

Lord Have Mercy

Hal H. Hopson

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

7
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

13
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, God promises to take away our sin and renew our hearts through his love. Trusting in God's promises, receive the good news: In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Dr. Kling

Leader: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*(Take a moment to greet one another in the peace of Christ
and welcome those who are new to our church community)*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

All children are invited to come forward during
This Little Light of Mine for a message and prayer.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Following the Time for Young Disciples, children are invited to join Kathy Gillmore in the Youth Room in GBH basement for Children's Church. Infant and toddler care is available there as needed.

Having been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, the people are invited to share signs of reconciliation and the peace of Christ. In sharing the peace, we express the reconciliation, unity, and love that come only from God, and we open ourselves to the power of God's love to heal our brokenness and make us agents of that love in the world.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 5:17–21

¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A prayer for illumination may be offered before the reading and proclaiming of the scripture. This prayer seeks the illumination of the Holy Spirit and calls upon God to make us receptive to the life-giving Word, which comes to us through the scripture.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Christ Be with Me
Chancel Choir

Noel Rawsthorne

*Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to guide me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.*

*Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to guide me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.*

*Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in care of friend and stranger.*

*Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in care of friend and stranger.*

SECOND READING

Exodus 3:1-6 3:1-6

¹ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Dr. Kling

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN of DISCIPLESHIP 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE I AM LORD

We respond to God's word of forgiveness and love by affirming our faith, offering our resources, and singing our praise.

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (**unison**)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (**unison**)

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Sunshine and Joy Medley* Arr. Mark Hayes

*DOXOLOGY 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

*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.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

*HYMN of Sending 295 *Go to the World!* SINE NOMINE

SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Kling

Leader: And as God's people, we all say
People: Alleluia! Amen.

*POSTLUDE *Rejoice, The Lord Is King!* Arr. John Carter

Scholarship Recipients

Undergraduate

Ephraim Cobb	St Olaf College
Sarah Cobb	Syracuse University
Ella Douthit	Samford University
George Douthit	University of Alabama
John Randall Howard	University of Alabama
Lucy Loflin	Wake Forest University
Davis Parker	Samford University
Ava Rawls	University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Anne Fowlkes Schreeder	Auburn University
Keaton Schroer	Washington and Lee University
Harper Grace Watson	Auburn University

Graduate

Audrey Rawls	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Margaret Stucky	University of Mississippi Medical Center Medical School

Worship Resources Adapted From:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Series, the Book of Common Worship, and Enterthebible.org
CCLI 1345744 One License: A-722711

Want to give your offering via credit card? Scan below.



FOR ONLINE GIVING

Sunday School Update

Youth and Children's Sunday school will be taking a break for the summer.

Be sure to join us when we resume on Rally Day!!

Children's Church & Nursery care is still available.

8:45am-9:30am/11:15am-12:00pm Children's Church
GBH Youth Room

8:15am-12:00pm Nursery care
GBH Basement

Adult Sunday School will continue.

9:30am-10:30am Charles Danner Seminar Class
GBH Living Room

9:45am-10:30am Faith & Life Class
Carriage House



THANK YOU RECEPTION FOR PASTOR KARL & SUSAN KLING

SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH, 12PM

CARRIAGE HOUSE & GBH GARDENS
LEMONADE & CAKE PROVIDED

Special Presbyterian Week at Camp Maranatha June 22-26, 2026



Overnight Camp for 5th-12th graders

Maranatha is partnering with Presbyterian (USA) churches in our presbytery and in the Birmingham area to all attend together and make this a great experience for the youth to build lasting friendships and strong churches.

Let Kathy Gillmore know if you are interested or if you have questions!

Register here!



Goodtimers 2.0



Meet the City Administrator of Huntsville,
John Hamilton &
enjoy a hosted tour of City Hall Chambers

Thursday May 21st at 2:00

City Hall
305 Fountain Circle



Scan QR Code or call the church office to register.

THIS WEEK AT FPCHSV

May 17, - May 24

Sunday, May 17, 2026

Senior Sunday
8:15am –12:00pm Nursery Room GBHB
8:30am –9:30am Worship Service GBH
8:45am –9:30am Children's Church GBH Youth room
9:30am –10:30am Charles Danner Seminar Class GBHLR
9:30am –10:30am Senior Breakfast CH
9:30am –10:30am Westminster Ringers JAH
10:30am –11:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal JAH
11:00am –12:00pm Worship Service FH
11:15am –12:00pm Children's Church GBH Youth Room
12:00pm-2:00pm PKC Lunch on the Square
12:15pm –1:15pm Deacon Meeting CH w/lunch
12:15pm –1:30pm Session Meeting/FH with lunch

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

10:00am –11:00am Church Staff Meeting GBHLR
5:30pm –8:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts GBH

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

7:00am –8:00am Men's Bible Study FH
1:30pm –3:00pm Prayer Shawl Group CH
7:00pm –8:30pm Chancel Choir Practice JAH

Thursday, May 21, 2026

11:00am –12:00pm Prayer Group GBHB
12:00pm –1:00pm Al-Anon CH

Friday, May 22, 2026

Church Office Closed

Sunday, May 24, 2026

8:15am –12:00pm Nursery Room GBHB
8:30am –9:30am Worship Service GBH
8:45am –9:30am Children's Church GBH Youth room
9:30am –10:30am Charles Danner Seminar Class GBHLR
9:30am –10:30am Westminster Ringers JAH
9:45am –10:30am Faith & Life Adult Class CH
10:30am –11:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal JAH
11:00am –12:00pm Worship Service GBH
11:15am –12:00pm Children's Church GBH Youth Room

Calendar Legend:

CH - Carriage House (GBH)	HR - Historical Room
FH - Fellowship Hall	JAH - John Allan Hall (GBH)
GBH - Gideon Blackburn House	GBHLR - Gideon Blackburn
GBHB - Gideon Blackburn House	House Living Room
Basement	

Due to space limitations during construction, we are currently not accepting flower donations. Any donations made since the beginning of the year will be used when we return to the sanctuary.

PRAYER LIST

Names added to the prayer list will be removed after *six weeks*.

Please take the bulletin home to add these names to your daily prayers.

Prayer requests should be emailed to Kristin Pepper, Administrative Assistant, at admin@fpchsv.org.

Church Members:

Harris Family
Stephens and Schroer families
Daughtry family and friends
Barbara Martin and Evelyn Hurdle families
Alice Gardner
Betty Loeb
Paula Weider
Stella Wilson
Sandra Stewart
Frances Byrd
Anne Whitfield
Bob Monroe
Ed Green
Becky Buckner
Alicia Beam
Charlie Watkins
Barbara (Bonny) Morris
Cay Lambert
Amelia Beimrohr

Friends and Family:

Rusty Skinner-Uncle of Lindsay & Thomas Birchfield
Kirby and Shelia Stevenson - friends of Peggy and Dave Galloway
Charles Johnson- friend of Bo and Nancy Lundy
Bettie Lewter - friend of Genie and Bob Miller
Roger Holliday- father of Hamilton Holliday
Mary Streecter
Sarah Hankins
Tate Grueling - friend of Harriet Bibb
Jan Thompson- sister of Gail Sparks
Tonya Carano- friend of Bruce & Janis Williams
Misty Short Anderson and family and friends
Maggie Day & Josie-cousins of George Harsh
Marlene Stark - mother of Lisa Everett
The Wilmer Family - friends of Katy Bryan
Melinda Thompson - daughter of Mary Edith Thompson
Rob Klouw & Katherine Randall - friends of Rachel Harrod
Chet Johnston - friend of Frederick Wessel
Family and friends of Maxwell Carter
Trusting in God's grace, we pray for our enemies.

Frances Kyser - friend of Tam Bevel & Judy Howard
Deborah Lamb - aunt of Kaitlyn Huaroto, sister of Pam Huaroto
Emily Loeb Locke - daughter of Betty Loeb
Nathan Harsh Brown Chitty - cousin of George Harsh
Bennie Jacks - friend of George & Eleanor Harsh
Emily Neely - daughter-in-law of Serena Neely
Marie Mitchell - mother of Libby Smith
Antony Leo - brother of Lori Smith
Charles Trainosky - grandson of Charlie Watkins
Grant Adams - brother of Glen Adams
David, Jessi, and Emma Grace Hill-friends of Davis Carter
Claudia Fahrner
Sam Eidt - friend of Betty and Ed Green
Patty Monnett- friend of Katy Bryan

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care:

Hoyt Harris (Brookdale)
Cay Lambert (Huntsville Health & Rehab)
Annewhite Fuller (Whitesburg Gardens)

Military & International:

Prayers for Haiti and our mission partners. This is a critical time as the civil unrest there may undermine all humanitarian work.
All those serving in the armed forces; particularly
LT Connor Howard, U.S. Navy Pilot

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2026!!



Ephraim McCray Cobb

is graduating from Huntsville High School where he has been a four year honor student, decorated cross country and track athlete, and an active member of student government. He takes great enjoyment from his work at Fleet Feet and volunteers as a new product tester for running shoe brands like Hoka and New Balance. He will attend St. Olaf College in Minnesota in the fall where he will be competing on the cross country and track teams while majoring in Economics and Kinesiology.



Ella Elizabeth Douthit

is a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church. She enjoyed participating in LOGOS and Vacation Bible School throughout elementary school. Ella is a proud Ann's Studio of Dance Company dancer. She will complete her 14th year of dance and her 10th year as an ASD Company dancer in June. She began attending Camp Skyline in Mentone, Alabama, at age nine and returned each summer for seven years. She looks forward to returning again as a counselor this summer. Ella will graduate from Huntsville High School on May 22nd and plans to attend Samford University this fall, where she has been accepted into the Moffett & Sanders School of Nursing.



Anne Fowlkes Schreeder

has been a part of First Presbyterian church all of her life-though she hasn't always lived in Huntsville. She attended First Friends preschool and has been an active youth member since moving back to Huntsville in 2017 . She cherishes the relationships she has made through this church. Her confirmation mentor and secret prayer partner, youth leaders and the members that have cheered, prayed and supported her throughout the years. Anne Fowlkes is graduating from Randolph on May 15th and will be attending Auburn University in the fall to pursue a degree in biomedicine.



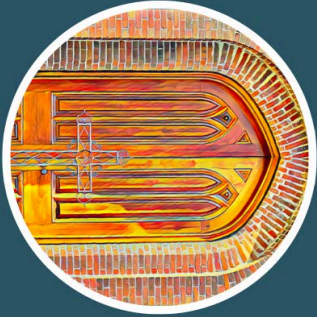
Keaton John Schroer

is a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church. Keaton has spent his years attending Sunday School and PYC, being an avid attendant with his siblings Hutton and Carsten. He is an honor student and member of the Cum Laude society at Randolph School. Keaton had spent his summers running cross country and representing the local American Legion baseball team. Keaton loves spending time with his friends and family, and always enjoys a good book by himself or studying countries for his next Model United Nations conference. He intends to pursue a double major in Government and History at the University of Washington and Lee. He will graduate from Randolph School on May 15th.



Harper Grace Watson

is a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church. She attended First Friends Preschool and enjoyed participating in Wednesday Night Live, VBS, and PYC. She will be graduating from Randolph School where she spent many years playing volleyball and was Homecoming Queen. Harper Grace will be attending Auburn University in the fall and plans to pursue a degree in business.



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

307 Gates Ave SE
Huntsville, AL 35801