

“Running the Race”

A red running track with white lane markings stretches from the bottom of the frame towards a bright sun on the horizon. The sun is low, creating a lens flare effect with rays of light radiating across the sky. The ground on either side of the track is green grass.

First Presbyterian Church
May 18, 2025

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 throughout the service 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 Room 106.
- Older children are encouraged to worship with their families, and children aged Kindergarten and younger are welcome (but never required!) to go to Room 106/107 for Children's Church after the Time for Young Disciples.
- 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.
- We use the following icons to include our early and non-readers in worship participation. We invite you to point these out to children you may worship with and help engage them in the worship service.



PRAYER



SPEAKING



BIBLE



MUSIC



COMMUNION



OFFERING



BAPTISM

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025
8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *Rejoice, the Lord is King* ARR. DAVID LOWE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

One: In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

Many: **We gather, alive to the Word of God.**

One: You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.

Many: **We listen, alive to the Word of God.**

One: You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

Many: **We watch and wait for the Word of God.**



*OPENING PRAYER



*HYMN 1 *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty* NICAEA

BLESSING FOR OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Our high school graduates are Ryann Katherine Bulger (Randolph School), John Randall Howard, III (Madison Academy), Yohannes Ellis Miller (James Clemens High School), Davis Ryan Parker (Madison Academy), and William Leverett Shaver (Huntsville High School)

CELEBRATING OUR VISION: UPDATE ON FPC'S BUILDING PROJECT



CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders your goal for humanity. Forgive our sins, we pray and give us a true repentance that leads to life for all creation. We pray in Jesus' name.

(Let us now continue our confession in silence.)

It has been said that the spiritual life is one of subtraction, not addition. The prelude is a time to mentally lay aside our worries, to-do lists, and other concerns and focus on the worship of God. May this service be a blessing to you and build you up for the work of being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

**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.

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

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

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Having confessed our sin, we remember the promises of God's redemption, and the claims God has on all human life. The assurance of God's forgiving grace is declared in the name of Jesus Christ. We accept God's forgiveness, confident that in dying to sin, God raises us to new life.



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God's promises are trustworthy and true; your sins are forgiven. Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may you always be known by your love.
Many: **Amen.**



*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 PEACE

One: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
Many: **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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

*(Following the Time for Young Disciples, children are invited
to join Kathy Gillmore in Room 106 for Children's Church.)*



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Those who are able,
please stand*



FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 40:25-31

To whom, then, will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted, but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

How Can I Keep From Singing

Westminster Ringers

ARR. SANDRA EITHUN



SECOND LESSON

HEBREWS 12:1-4

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary in your souls or lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God!**



PRAYER FOR THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Karl Kling

SILENT MEDITATION



*HYMN 846

Fight the Good Fight

DUKE STREET

There is a time of silent meditation after the sermon. During this time, you might ask yourself, "From what I've heard and experienced during worship today, what do I believe God wants me to do or be? Is God inviting me to change in any way?"

**Those who are able, please stand*

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



FOR ONLINE GIVING

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD



*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.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.



PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Westminster Ringers

ARR. KEVIN MCCHESENEY



*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 295

Go to the World

SINE NOMINE

SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

BLESSING THE MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA



*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: And as God's people say
Many: **Alleluia! Amen.**

**Those who are able,
please stand*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Now May the God of Peace

Chancel Choir

LLOYD LARSON

*And now may the God of peace
Who raise our Lord to life,
May He equip you with all you need
To do the will of Jesus Christ,
To Whom be the glory now and forevermore. Amen!*

*POSTLUDE

Sunshine in My Soul

ARR. HAROLD DECOU



2025 AIR Guatemala Mission Team

(Alliance for International Reforestation)

Guy Adams
Sheree Adams
Mitch Carroll
Patricia Hacker
Easton Kimbrough
Justin Lucas
Roy McCorkle
Ashley Thornton
David Young

The team will be planting trees and building cinder block stoves.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP:

The Rev. Dr. Karl Kling,
Transitional Senior
Pastor

Dr. Patricia Hacker,
Director of Music

Dr. Lois K. Lee,
Piano/Organ

Chancel Choir
Westminster Ringers

Liturgists:
8:30 am - Susie Conard
11:00 am - David Smith

Acolytes:
Charlie Thomas
George Thomas

Ushers:
8:30 am- Jodie & Chuck
Karr

11:00 am- Clinton
Wann, Patty Frierson,
Bo Lundy, Mary
Margaret Cofield

Sunday Morning Host:
Candice Dunaway &
Philip Williams

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

**Those who are
able, please stand*

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

Help Needed

We need your help with hosting the
North Alabama Presbytery.

Tuesday, June 10

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

New Wrap
Up Time

First Presbyterian Church

We have various needs from set
up, decorations, being a host,
providing refreshments, clean up,
to washing tablecloths.

Scan the QR code, check the
bulletin board or **CLICK HERE**
to see how you can help!



Vacation Bible School 2025

Water All Around the World

June 23 – 26

9:00 to Noon



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Who: Adults & youth entering 6th grade or older

What: Volunteer to help make this wonderful VBS
happen for the kids! You will be blessed, too,
with fun and fellowship.

How: Contact Kathy Gillmore to find just the right
volunteer position for you!

Email dce@fpchsv.org, or scan the QR code
below to volunteer.



As soon as key volunteer positions are filled the registration link
will be made available for parents and grandparents to register
their children and grandchildren (aged 4 years old by 9/1/2025
through entering 5th grade), and to share with friends!



VBS

Water All Around the World

June 23-26, 9:00-Noon

Welcome!



Please share link to invite your friends!

Children 4 yrs by 9/1/25 - entering 5th grade



First Presbyterian Church

307 Gates Ave SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

WE'RE

HIRING

The Church is seeking candidates
for a part-time administrative
assistant position. This position will
conduct various administrative
duties at First Presbyterian Church
and allows a flexible schedule.

Please direct all interested
candidates and inquiries to Ellen
DeAngelo at (256) 536-3354 or
Finance@fpchsv.org.

Congratulations! Class of 2025



Ryann Katherine Bulger

is graduating from the Randolph School, where she was a member of the Cum Laude Society, National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, an AP Scholar, and a Presidential Scholar Candidate. While at Randolph, she played volleyball, basketball, softball, and soccer.

She will attend The University of Alabama in the fall, having been awarded the Presidential Elite Scholarship and admitted into the McCollough Institute for Pre-Medical Scholars. She plans to major in Neuroscience and minor in Mathematics.



John Randall Howard, III

is graduating from Madison Academy, where he was Captain of the 2024-25 MA Basketball team that advanced to the Elite 8 for State. In addition, he was a member of the 2024 3A Track and Field State Champions, where his 400-relay team holds the state record. He has enjoyed volunteering at 305 8th Street supporting special needs adults, as well as the Harris Home, serving underprivileged children.

John Randall will attend The University of Alabama where he will pursue a degree in Business and a minor in Real Estate.



Yohannes Ellis Miller

is graduating from James Clemens High School in Madison, AL.

After graduation he will be exploring as much of the world as possible! He has been active in the FPC Youth Group for many years, and was a member of the 2022 FPC Confirmation Class.



Davis Ryan Parker

is graduating with Honors from Madison Academy. He is a member of the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta, as well as a recipient of the MA Student of Distinction award, and the President's List.

Davis plays centerfield and serves as Team Captain for the MA Varsity baseball team. He plans to attend Samford in the fall and major in Business.



William Leverett Shaver

is graduating from Huntsville High School where he is a member of The National Honor Society and Varsity Cross Country and Track Team.

William will be attending the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in the fall and studying civil engineering.

THIS WEEK AT FPCHSV

May 18 - May 25

Sunday, May 18, 2025

8:15 am - 12:00 pm Nursery RM 106
8:30 - 9:30 am Worship Service SAN
8:45 - 9:30 am Children's Church RM 106/107
9:30 - 10:30 am Sunday School

- Peepers (Preschool) RM 108/109
- Godly Play (K & 1st grade) RM 009
- Holy Moly (2nd & 3rd grade) RM 010
- Connect (4th & 4th grade) RM 012
- LEAD Youth GBH
- Charles Danner Seminar Class RM 207
- Faith & Life Sunday School JAH

9:30 - 10:30 am Graduation Breakfast CH
9:30 - 10:25 am Adult Handbell Rehearsal BR
10:30 - 11:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR
11:00 am Worship Service/ High School Seniors & Mission Blessings SAN
11:15 am - 12:00 pm Children's Church RM 106/107
12:00 - 2:00 pm PKC Orienting Event
12:15 - 1:15 pm Nominating Committee Meeting RM 104

5:00 - 7:00 pm PYC Offsite w/bus
5:30 - 6:30 pm Session Meeting FH

Monday, May 19, 2025

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Teacher Workday
4:30 - 6:00 pm PW Evening Circle CH
5:30 - 6:30 pm Mission & Evangelism Meeting RM 104

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

10:00 - 11:00 am Staff Meeting RM 104
6:00 - 7:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 70 GBH
7:00 - 8:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 70 GBH

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

7:00 - 8:00 am Men's Bible Study FH
1:30 - 3:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry LIB
6:45 - 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR

Thursday, May 22, 2025

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Prayer Group LIB/Zoom
12:00 - 1:00 pm Al-Anon GBH
3:00 - 7:00 pm Greene Street Market
5:30 - 7:30 pm Maranatha Board Meeting RM 104

Friday, May 23, 2025

Office Closed

Sunday, May 25, 2025

8:15 am - 12:00 pm Nursery RM 106
8:30 - 9:30 am Worship Service SAN
8:45 - 9:30 am Children's Church RM 106/107
9:30 - 10:30 am Sunday School

- Peepers (Preschool) RM 108/109
- Combined Sunday School FH
- LEAD Youth GBH
- Charles Danner Seminar Class RM 207
- Faith & Life Sunday School Class JAH

9:30 - 10:25 am Adult Handbell Rehearsal BR
10:30 - 11:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR
11:00 am Worship Service SAN
11:15 am - 12:00 pm Children's Church RM 106/107

Calendar Legend:

BR - Bell Room	GBH - Gideon Blackburn House
CH - Carriage House (GBH)	HR - Historical Room
CR - Choir Room	JAH - John Allan Hall (GBH)
FH - Fellowship Hall	SAN - Sanctuary

PRAYER LIST

New prayer requests are in bold print.

In case of a pastoral emergency, you may contact Dr. Kling at seniorpastor@fpchsv.org.

In order to conserve paper and printing costs, 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 Isabel Evans, Administrative Assistant, at admin@fpchsv.org.

Church Members:

Anne Whitfield
Bob Monroe
Mindy Nettles
Peggy Galloway
Betty Thompson
Richard McElveen
Ed Green
Maxwell R. Carter and family
Becky Buckner
Alicia Beam
Paul Buxton
Janice Fowler
Frances Byrd
Charlie Watkins
Ted Buckner
Ted Paludan
Barbara (Bonny) Morris
Cay Lambert

Friends and Family:

Paige Olmo - daughter of Paula Weider

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
Patricia Edmondson - friend of Bruce & Janis Williams
Family of Mike Galant - friends of Maxwell R. Carter
David Barnes - friend of Maxwell R. Carter
Elsa de Ramirez - mother of Patricia Hacker
John Kirk & family - friends of Marian Bevel
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
Vickie Boone - friend of Nancy Lundy
Mr. Bookout - friend of Ron & Lisa Stephens
Jared Cantrell - cousin of Maxwell R. Carter
Mr. Wade - friend of Ron & Lisa Stephens
Nathan Harsh Brown Chitty - cousin of George Harsh
Jean Hindman - friend of George & Eleanor Harsh
Bennie Jacks - friend of George & Eleanor Harsh
Jay & Geoff Murdock - family of Mark Huaroto
Emily Neely - daughter-in-law of Serena Neely
Katie Little Pickle - great niece of Dave & Peggy Galloway
Nancy Neely Harris - sister of Mary Margaret Cofield
Mike & Linda Davis - parents of Joseph Davis
Fred Applegate - friend of Katy Bryan
Marie Mitchell - mother of Libby Smith
Edward Smith - father of Bob Frank Smith
Antony Leo - brother of Lori Smith
Charles Trainosky - grandson of Charlie Watkins
Grant Adams - brother of Glen Adams
The Zapototskyi Family - FPC's sponsored Ukrainian family

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care:

Marlyn and Hoyt Harris (Brookdale)
Cay Lambert (Huntsville Health & Rehab)
Chuck Hooker (Floyd E. Tut Fann State Veteran's Home)
Annewhite Fuller (Whitesburg Gardens)
Kathleen Perry (Valley View)

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



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

307 Gates Ave SE
Huntsville, AL 35801