



WELCOME
THANKS FOR JOINING US

MARCH 15, 2026 | 9:30 AM
Contemporary Worship



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**
CHURCH OF FORT LAUDERDALE

OUR MISSION **CREATES SPACES**
OF CHRIST-CENTERED CONNECTION
AND INSPIRES PEOPLE OF ALL AGES
TO EXPLORE FAITH IN OPEN AND HONEST WAYS,
CULTIVATING POSSIBILITIES
FOR GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION

401 Southeast 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
www.firstpres.cc | (954) 462-6200

PRAYER FOR THE PREPARATION OF WORSHIP

God who holds all things together, as we gather in a world that feels fractured and uncertain, gather our scattered hearts. Draw us into your presence, steady us in your mercy, and center us again in Jesus Christ, who stands in the space between heaven and earth for us. In this hour of worship, hold us fast and make us one. Amen.

WELCOME

Jonny Barahona

*SONG

Holy Spirit

*There's nothing worth more
That will ever come close
No thing can compare
You're our living hope, Your Presence*

*I've tasted and seen of
The sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free
And my shame is undone, Your Presence, Lord*

*Holy Spirit You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere
Your glory God is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord*

*There's nothing worth more
That will ever come close
No thing can compare
You're our living hope, Your Presence*

*I've tasted and seen of
The sweetest of loves
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Giving Online is easy, [Click Here](#)

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*Let us become more aware of Your Presence
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness*

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COMMUNITY LIFE

Jon Bock

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Reconciling God, we confess how quickly we draw lines and build walls. We avoid those who unsettle us. We cling to inherited divisions. We prefer distance over vulnerability. Break down the dividing walls we have constructed. Give us courage to meet you and one another at the well, and make us participants in your reconciling work. Amen.

***SONGS**

Who You Say I Am

*Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me*

*Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am*

Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes he died for me

Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am

I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am

I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am
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I'm a child of God, Yes I am

Made For More

I know who I am 'cause I know who You are,
the cross of salvation was only the start
Now I am chosen, free and forgiven, I have a future and it's worth the living

'Cause I wasn't made to be tending a grave, I was called by name

*Born and raised back to life again, I was made for more
So why would I make a bed in my shame,
when a fountain of grace is running my way
I know I am Yours, and I was made for more*

*I know who I am 'cause I know who You are,
the cross of salvation was only the start
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when a fountain of grace is running my way
I know I am Yours, and I was made for more*

*Hallelujah, You called out my name, so I'll sing out Your praise
Hallelujah, You buried my past, I'm not going back*

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CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Nicholas B. Merchant and Debbie Hime

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Ellen and Chuck Whiteman

***SONG**

Psalm 116

PRAYER OF DEDICATION & ILLUMINATION

Rev. Merchant

THE MESSAGE

*The God Who Holds Us Together
(5) The Cross Between*

*SONG

Establish The Work Of Our Hands

*If You don't build it, we labor in vain
Without Your Spirit, we stand with no strength
I know my life is passing away
But the works of Your hands
Are what will remain
Let the favor of the Lord
Rest upon us*

*O Lord, establish the work of our hands
O Lord, establish the work of our hands*

*Teach us to number the length of our days
Pour out Your power, we'll pour out Your praise
Teach us to run, to finish the race
For only what's done in love will remain
Let the favor of the Lord
Rest upon us*

*O Lord, establish the work of our hands
O Lord, establish the work of our hands*

*O Lord, establish the work of our hands
O Lord, establish the work of our hands*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*

*O Lord, establish the work of our hands
O Lord, establish the work of our hands*

CHARGE & BLESSING

Rev. Merchant

**please stand if you are able*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Flowers are Dedicated in loving memory of Fred Slayter, who passed away on March 2nd, given by the Cathedral Choir. Today's music sung by the choir, as well as the organ postlude, is in recognition of Fred's nearly 60 years of singing in the choir.

Flower Availability: April 12th & 26th. If you would like to dedicate flowers for the Communion table or a rose-bud in celebration of a newborn, please contact Michelle Shev at michelles@firstpres.cc.

UPDATES & UPCOMING EVENTS AT FIRST PRES

ALPHA - HAPPENING NOW!

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Do you have questions about your faith? There's a place for you at the table! Come to Alpha and ask any questions you may have in a safe and supportive setting. Dinner at 6:00 pm, with the sessions to follow in the Neumann Center Library. [CLICK HERE](#) to register now or visit the church app. For more information, contact Mona Petersen at monap@firstpres.cc.

Third Serve Sunday - TODAY!

10:45 am, Family Campus

Join our Young Adult Ministry today after the 9:30 am service at the Family Campus for a fun morning of brunch, pickleball, and connection. All are welcome! For more info contact Jon Bock at jonb@firstpres.cc.

Adult Activity Center (AAC) for Seniors

Thursday, March 19th, 11:00 am, Fellowship Hall

Elvis is in the building! Join AAC for a fantastic performance by Elvis impersonator, Dan Cunningham where you will hear all your favorite Elvis hits! Bring a friend and don't miss this extra special and FUN event! Menu offering is baked ziti with sausage. RSVP online now by [CLICKING HERE](#) or visiting the First Pres app or website. Or RSVP by 10:00 am on March 9th to Ellen Whiteman at 954-598-9312 or ellenw@firstpres.cc.

March Parents Night Out

Friday, March 20th, 5:30 - 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Plan a date night and leave the childcare to us! Kids Prek3-5th grade will enjoy crafts, games, a movie, and pizza while playing with their friends. [CLICK HERE](#) or visit our church mobile app to RSVP by Wednesday, March 18th.

March Habitat Build Day

Saturday, March 21st

Join us for our monthly Habitat for Humanity Build Day! Email Kathy Craven for more information and to register at wrcrv@aol.com.

Cathedral Choir: Spring Concert

Sunday, March 22nd, 4:00 pm, Sanctuary

Join us for an inspiring afternoon of music as our Cathedral Choir presents *Love Beyond Compare*. This special concert promises to uplift the spirit and invite listeners into a meaningful musical journey. It will be an afternoon not to be missed! Admission is free.

Easter Egg Hunt - Eggs Needed!

Saturday, April 4th, 11:00 am, Colee Hammock Park

You can never have too many eggs! Filled eggs are needed for our annual Easter egg hunt. You can place them in the basket at the entrance of the Neumann Center or drop them off at the front desk. Please, no chocolate or peanuts. Thank you for helping make this event extra fun for our kids!

BOGO and PASS Mission

Looking for a simple way to make a difference? Join our new BOGO & PASS (Purchase and Support Someone) mission and help local families facing food insecurity. When you spot a great deal or BOGO at the grocery store, purchase one for your family and pass one along to a neighbor in need by dropping off your non-perishable items to church and place them in the collection carts located at the back of the Sanctuary or the Neumann Center lobby. All donations will support Sister Robin Street Market, which gives to dozens of local families. It's a small act of generosity that creates a big impact. Purchase. Pass. Support someone.

Ways To Give

At First Pres, your tithes and donations help create spaces of Christ-centered connection. Did you know you can give to the church in many ways? Use our Church App, available in your mobile app store, give on the church website, firstpres.cc, where you can schedule a one-time or recurring donation, or you can also mail your offering to the church office. Thank you for your support of our ministries. If you have any questions, please call our main church office at 954-462-6200.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 am Contemporary Worship - Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary

Livestream Sunday Worship - Online

Both services are streamed live, so you can worship with us from wherever you are! Visit firstpres.cc/worship to join our livestreams.

Children's Sunday School - Neumann Center

The Children's Ministry at First Pres provides a place where children can go while their parents are at our Sunday Worship services. Our Sunday childcare services are offered to infants - Prek4. For more info please stop by our Connection Counter today!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES

Grow in faith by connecting with one of our ministry groups at First Pres, there is something for all ages throughout the week - every week! Learn more at firstpres.cc or contact us at 954-462-6200 or info@firstpres.cc.

MONDAYS

Young Adults Virtual Bible Study

7:30 - 8:30 pm / Via Zoom
(Meeting ID: 871 3336 6461)
Passcode: 177983

TUESDAYS

Men's Morning Bible Study

8:00 am / Via Zoom
(Meeting ID: 483 553 8166)
Book of Galatians

Young Adults A Step Further Study

6:30 - 7:45 pm
Spanish Room

WEDNESDAYS

Cherub Choir Rehearsals

5:00 - 5:30 pm
Happyland

Good Game Wednesday

5:30-7:30 pm
Family Campus

Wednesday Night Live!

5:30-6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
[CLICK HERE](#) to
RSVP by Monday.
Adults: \$12 / Students: \$8
Kids Under 5: Free
This Weeks Menu:
Baked Ziti with Sausage

2026 Lent Study

6:30-7:30 pm
St. Andrews Rooms

ALPHA

6:00-7:30 pm
Neumann Center Library

THURSDAYS

Women's Bible Study

10:00 - 11:00 am

Study & Renewal Center

Adult Activity Center (AAC)

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Men's Bible Study & Lunch

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Neumann Center Library

GriefShare

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Spanish Room

Cathedral Choir (Adults)

Rehearsal 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Choir Room

FRIDAYS

Middle School Youth Group

4:00 - 6:30 pm - The Harbor

SUNDAYS

Children's Choir Rehearsals

9:00 - 9:30 am - Choir Room

New Testament Bible Study

9:45 am

Bininger Conference Room

Children's Sunday School

PreK3 & PreK4

9:30 am: Neumann Center, Room #127

K-5th Grade

9:30 am: Neumann Center, Room #224

Childcare

Newborns-PreK 4

9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Neumann Center, Room #127

Kirk Singer Rehearsal

4:00 - 5:00 pm

Choir Room

High School Youth Group

4:30 - 6:00 pm

The Harbor

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE!

Stay connected with everything happening at First Pres!

From upcoming events and announcements to weekly happenings, sermon sneak peeks, and so much more.

You won't want to miss it. [CLICK HERE](#) to follow us on your favorite social media platform and keep up with the life of the church!