

welcome

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

AUGUST 31, 2025 | 9:30AM

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

Gracious God,
We come this morning not just to hear ancient,
but to encounter you, living and active, still speaking, still calling.
Open our ears to your voice, our eyes to your presence,
our hearts to your Spirit's movement.
Strip away distractions and doubts,
and give us the courage to draw near to holy ground.
Speak Lord, your servants are listening.
Amen.

WELCOME

Jon Bock

*SONG

Psalm 34 Taste And See

I sought the Lord and He answered me
And delivered me, from every fear
Those who look on Him are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

This poor man cried and the Lord heard me
And saved me from, my enemies
The Son of God surrounds His saints
He will deliver them, —He will deliver them

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name toge - ther
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name fore - ver
O taste and see that the Lord is good
O blessed is he, who hides in Him
O fear the Lord O all you saints
He'll give you everything He'll give you everything

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name toge - ther
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name fore - ver

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night

Never ending praise
May our incense rise

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Never ending praise
May our incense rise

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name toge - ther
Glorify the Lord with me
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O taste and see that the Lord is good
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

COMMUNITY LIFE

Bock

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Bock

**Merciful God, forgive us
For we exalt ourselves and mock the humble.
We choose to believe we are self-sufficient
Rather than trust in your strength.
Open to us your spirt,
That we might serve all people
Without regard to the outcome,
Devoting ourselves to your honor alone.
Remind us that you are enough.
Teach us your expansive love.
Transform and heal our lives.
We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*SONGS

One Thing Remains

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains

Your love never fails, it never gives up
Never runs out on me : (3x)

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains

Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me : (3x)
Your love

In death in life I'm confident and
Covered by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love

Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me (3x)
Your love

In death in life I'm confident and
Covered by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love

How He Loves

He is jealous for me, loves like a hurricane
I am a tree bending beneath
The weight of His wind and mercy
When all of a sudden I am unaware of
These afflictions eclipsed by glory
I realize just how beautiful You are
And how great Your affections are for me

Oh how He loves us so, Oh how He loves us
How He loves us so

He loves us, Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us, Oh how He loves
He loves us, Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us, Oh how He loves

We are His portion and He is our prize
Drawn to redemption by the grace in His eyes
If grace is an ocean we're all sinking
So Heaven meets earth, like a sloppy wet kiss
And my heart turns violently inside of my chest
I don't have time to maintain these regrets
When I think about the way

He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves

He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves

He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves

CHILDREN'S TIME

Bock

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Bock

SONG

Reckless Love

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Daris Bultena

SCRIPTURE • [Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Bultena

"When the Gospel Eats Through"

Giving Online is easy, [Click Here](#)

*SONG

Jesus Paid It All

He is jealous for me, loves like a hurricane
I am a tree bending beneath
The weight of His wind and mercy
When all of a sudden I am unaware of
These afflictions eclipsed by glory
I realize just how beautiful You are
And how great Your affections are for me

Oh how He loves us so, Oh how He loves us
How He loves us so
He loves us, Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us, Oh how He loves
He loves us, Oh how He loves us
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Our Preacher for Today: The Rev. Dr. Daris Bultena serves as the General Presbyterian and Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Tropical Florida. Rev. Bultena is a Minister of Word and Sacrament and served congregations in Maryland and Pennsylvania prior to moving to South Florida in 2017. He is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of South Dakota. Daris was born and raised in South Dakota, and he was ordained to ministry by the Presbytery of South Dakota.

The Flowers are Dedicated by Candace and Kevin Hagerty, Patty Stover, and Rich Martinez in loving memory of Michael Mills.

Flower Availability: September 14th and 21st. 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FIRST PRES

Wednesday Night Live (WNL!) Dinners

Wednesdays, September 10th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Join us on Wednesdays beginning September 10th for delicious meals prepared by our own Chef Phil. [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP. For more info, contact Mona Petersen at monap@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9345.

ALPHA Series

Wednesdays, September 10th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, St Andrews Room

Alpha is a space to unpack the basics of the Christian faith together. No pressure, no judgement. Just open conversation over some good food, that's it. So, come along and see what you think on every Wednesday from September 10th - November 19th. [CLICK HERE](#) to register for ALPHA. For more info, contact Mona Petersen at monap@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9345.

Bible History Class

Wednesdays, September 10th, 2025 - May 20, 2026

Join us as we take a historical look at the Bible "From Galilee to the Globe" Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in Chapel In The Sky and via Zoom. This class will be facilitated by Mary Helen Merchant. For more information, contact Mona Petersen at monap@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9345.

Third Serve Sundays

Sunday, September 21st, 10:45 am, Family Campus

Join our Young Adult Ministry for Third Serve Sundays, a monthly gathering filled with brunch, pickleball games, and connection! Meet us at the Family Campus after the 9:30 am service every third Sunday of the month. All are welcome — bring a friend, your kids, or even your dog! For more info contact Jon Bock at jonb@firstpres.cc.

College Care Package Mission

September 1st-28th

Our church family is sending love and encouragement to nearly 60 undergraduate and graduate students through our College Care Package Mission. These packages, filled with practical items and a touch of home, remind our students that they are cared for and supported as they navigate their academic journey. You can help by [CLICKING HERE](#) to access our Amazon wish list and dropping the items at the church by Sunday, September 28th. Financial contributions are also welcome. Please note “College Care Packages” in the memo line. Thank you for blessing our students in this meaningful way! For more info about needed items and more, contact the College Team Chair, Suzanne McCawley at themccawleys@gmail.com.

Are You Looking For a Bible Study?



At First Pres, we believe learning what it is to be a follower of Jesus is important to our discipleship framework. A Step Further is a resource for individuals, families and small groups to dive deeper into Sunday's sermon. We would love to get you plugged in with a group whether it's on the church campus, via Zoom, at a coffee shop or in a home! [CLICK HERE](#) to answer a few questions to get started!

We will also be offering “A Step Further” on Wednesday nights after the WNL! dinner from 6:30 - 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Scan the QR Code to sign up!



RALLY DAY 2025



ROOTED IN FAITH

10:00AM | SEPT 7TH
📍 COLEE HAMMOCK PARK

Rally Day is our annual celebration of
worship, community & connection.
Join us for music, food, games & fun!

WORSHIP | LEARN | GIVE | SERVE

MORE INFO: FIRSTPRES.CC

RALLY DAY 2025

Sunday, September 7th

Join us at Rally Day 2025 as we kick off a brand-new year of ministry and celebrate 113 years of faith at First Pres! We'll begin with a special 10:00 am worship service in the Sanctuary, followed by a vibrant outdoor gathering at Colee Hammock Park with fun for the whole family! Enjoy music, food, face painting, a petting zoo, slip n slide, games, and more! All ministries will have booths where you can play games, explore ways to get involved, grow in faith, and find your place in our church community.

Happening This Week!

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES

Connect with one (or more!) of our Ministry groups and strengthen your spiritual growth. We have several opportunities throughout the week, for all ages!
For additional information contact us at 954-462-6200 or info@firstpres.cc.

TUESDAYS

Men's Morning Bible Study

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

WEDNESDAYS

Good Game Wednesday

5:30-7:30 pm
Family Campus

THURSDAYS

Men's Bible Study & Lunch

12:00 pm / In Person
Neumann Center Library

Cathedral Chior (Adults)

Rehearsal 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Choir Room

SUNDAYS

New Testament Bible Study

9:45 am
Bininger Conference Room

Children's Sunday School

PreK3 & PreK4
9:30 & 11:00 am:
Neumann Center, 1st floor
K-5th Grade
9:30 am: Neumann Center, 2nd floor
11:00 am: Watts Chapel

Childcare

Newborns-PreK 4
9:30 am -12:00 pm
Neumann Center 1st Floor

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 am Contemporary Worship in the Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Livestream Sunday Worship 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 in the 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!