

W E L C O M E

JULY 20, 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 Teacher, as we come into this time of worship, quiet the noise around and within us. In a season that provides a change of pace, open our hearts to learn from you. Teach us to love with courage, to listen with intention, and to pray with trust. Shape us as your disciples, and help us follow you more faithfully in every part of our lives. Amen.

WELCOME

Rev. Nicholas B. Merchant

*SONG

None But Thee

Jesus, mighty King of Heaven
Thou O Lord our guide shall be
Thy commission we rely on
We will follow none but Thee

As an emblem of Thy passion
And Thy victory o'er the grave
We who know Thy great salvation
Are baptized now beneath the wave

Fall on us O Holy Lord
Our hearts Oh King are only Yours
By your grace we live, and we
Will follow none but Thee
Will follow none but Thee

Fearless of the worlds despising
We the ancient path pursue
Buried with our Lord and rising
To a life divinely new

Sin shall never be our master
Captives of Thy blessed grace
Offering our lives hereafter
We resolve to seek Thy face

COMMUNITY LIFE

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

Loving and gracious God,
You invite us to sit at your feet,
to listen for your voice,
to make space for what truly matters.
But we confess how easily we are pulled away.
We fill our days with tasks and worries.
We chase what is urgent and neglect what is holy.
We try to earn your love instead of receiving it.
Forgive us, Lord.
Teach us to slow down.
Help us to listen with open hearts
and to choose time with you.
Amen.

***SONGS**

No Longer Slaves to Fear

I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God

You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
'Til all my fears are gone

I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God

From my mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again
Into Your family
Your blood flows through my veins

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

I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God (believer)

I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God

I am surrounded
By the arms of the Father
And I am surrounded
By songs of deliverance

We've been liberated
From our bondage
We're the sons and the daughters
Let us sing our freedom

You split the sea
So I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me
So I could stand and sing
I am a child of God

You split the sea
So I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me
So I could stand and sing
I am a child of God
I am a child of God
Oh, I am a child of God

Always

My foes are many
They rise against me
But I will hold my ground
I will not fear the war

I will not fear the storm
My help is on the way
My help is on the way

Oh my God
He will not delay
My refuge and strength always
I will not fear
His promise is true
My God will come through always
Always

Trouble surrounds me
Chaos abounding
My soul will rest in You
I will not fear the war
I will not fear the storm
My help is on the way
My help is on the way

I lift my eyes up
My help comes from the Lord
I lift my eyes up
My help comes from the Lord

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Merchant

SHARING OUR GIFTS

SONG

Be Kind To Yourself

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE • [Luke 10:38-42](#)

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Merchant

"Jesus, Teach Us To Listen"

***SONG**

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 Your love Your love will never change)

Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me

Your love Your love Your love Your love
Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me

Your love oh Lord

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

Your love Your perfect love oh Lord
Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me

Your love oh Lord

In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd 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

Your love Your love Your love Your love
Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me

Your love we can feel Your love oh Lord
Your love burning in our hearts (oh God)

Your love

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Merchant

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Flowers are Dedicated by Susan and Allan Arch in memory of their parents, Joseph and Thelma Arch & Frank and Katherine Lawlor.

Flower Availability: Available Dates: August 3rd and 10th and 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!

July Blood Drive - TODAY!

July 20th, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Front of Neumann Center

Why donate, you ask? Simple, it helps save lives! All donors will receive a \$20 eGift card, a top-handle drinkware, and a wellness check. ID is required and walk ins are welcome!

Beach Night

July 23rd

Join us on Wednesday, July 23rd, from 6:00–8:00 pm at the southernmost point of Fort Lauderdale Beach, near the volleyball courts. We will be grilling up hot dogs and hamburgers and providing drinks. We ask you to just bring a side dish or dessert to share! This event is open to the entire church family, so bring a chair, a beach towel and a friend!

Work Day Paint Party

August 2nd, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm, Neumann Center

Join us for a fun painting party as we get Happyland ready for the new school year! This is a great way to invest in First Pres and make a real difference in our community. Lunch and drinks will be provided, just wear your paint clothes and bring your energy! [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up. Contact Mike Shaw at 954-598-9338 for info.

VBS Back-to-School Backpack Mission

Now through August 8th

Our Children's Ministry is leading a Back-to-School Backpack Mission now through August 8th! We're aiming to collect 350 backpacks filled with school supplies for students in need. It takes just \$40 to fill one backpack.

[CLICK HERE](#) to donate and help our VBS kids reach their goal! For more information, please contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341 or cindyv@firstpres.cc.

Vacation Bible School Workdays - Volunteers Needed!

July 30th, 9:30 am - Noon

Do you enjoy painting, drawing or building things? Then we need your help to bring our ideas to life! No experience is necessary, and we supply everything you'll need. Contact Cindy Vason at (954) 598-9341 or cindyv@firstpres.cc for more info.

Vacation Bible School - Hurry, Spots Are Filling Up!

August 4-8th

Join us for a super fun Vacation Bible School experience as we celebrate the Good News! This exciting opportunity is happening August 4-8th in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 am-12:00 pm and is open to PreK 4-5th graders. [CLICK HERE](#) to register. Contact Cindy Vason at (954) 598-9341 or cindyv@firstpres.cc for more info.

Vacation Bible School - Volunteers Needed!

August 4-8th

It's such a fun and meaningful week — but as you know, we can't make it happen without the incredible help of amazing volunteers! Even if you can't be here for the week, join us for a day or two. Any help is greatly appreciated. [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up!

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 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!

Church Membership Connection Class

Are you interested in learning what it means to be a member of First Pres, or are you ready to take the next step and join? The next Membership Connection opportunity is August 24th at 10:30 am in the Neumann Center Library. Please email Karyn Greep at Karyng@firstpres.cc if you are interested in attending, or just show up!

Are You Looking For a Bible Study?

AstepFURTHER

A resource for individuals, families and small groups. Access this resource on the church app under Worship Resources or on our website under Connect. For more info or to get plugged into a group, contact Karyn Greep at karyng@firstpres.cc.

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)

We are focused on the Gospel of Luke, facilitated by Sam Stark

THURSDAYS

Men's Bible Study & Lunch

12 pm / In Person

Neumann Center Library

SUNDAYS

New Testament Bible Study

9:45 am, In Person.

Bininger Conference Room

Children's Sunday School

9:30 am & 11:00 am

PreK3 & PreK4

Neumann Center, 1st floor

K-5th grade - 9:30 am Neumann Center, 2nd floor; 11:00 am Watts Chapel.

Childcare 9:30 am -12:00 pm

Newborns-PreK 4,

Neumann Center 1st Floor