

welcome

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

AUGUST 31, 2025 | 11:00AM

Traditional 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

Wonderous God,
We come this morning with praise.
Open our minds and hearts.
Open our hopes and dreams.
Open to us your abundant mercy
That keeps us forever in your love
And dwelling in such amazing grace.
Speak to our lives that we may grow
With wisdom and compassion this day.
Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mona Petersen

PRELUDE

Berceuse - Louis Vierne

Dr. Alan G. Cook, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Petersen

***OPENING HYMN #321**

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Petersen

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 spirit,
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.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Petersen

***JOYFUL RESPONSE • *The Gloria Patri* #581**

GREATOREX

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Petersen

[Jeremiah 2:4-13](#)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Petersen

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.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Petersen

OFFERTORY

Cook, organ

How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou - Marcel Dupre

***THE DOXOLOGY • Hymnal #606**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Dr. Daris Bultena

PREACHING TEXT

Rev. Bultena

[Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

MESSAGE

Rev. Bultena

"When the Gospel Eats Through"

***CLOSING HYMN #320**

WAREHAM

The Church of God in Every Age

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

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Bultena

POSTLUDE

Cook, organ

The New Commonwealth - Ralph Vaughan Williams

Those participating in worship today are:

*Dr. Alan G. Cook, Organist; Rev. Dr. Daris Bultena, Preacher;
Mona Petersen, Director of Adult Ministry & Small Groups*

*AV Team: Teo Constantinescu, Frantz Cyriac,
Mario Rodriguez, Travis Fickinger*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Our Preacher for Today: The Rev. Dr. Daris Bultena serves as the General Presbyter 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.



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.

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!

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!

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