Love is First

We are delighted that you are joining us for worship today! We are a curious, inclusive, and diverse gathering of imperfect people united by our common hope in Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, and service, we seek to know and show the transformative love of God found in the pages of scripture and revealed in the person of Jesus. No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here.

Sunday, May 18, 2025

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, thank you for worshiping here today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of this congregation, please be sure to speak with the pastor after today's worship or share your information on the pew pad or friendship card. We would love to get to know you.

Prayer Concern? Please let us know how we can be praying for you by filling out the welcome card and placing it in the offering plate or by calling the church office: (941) 955-8119.

Children Of All Ages Are Welcome in Worship! At the New Song (9:00 a.m.) service there are coloring sheets on the tables and an activity center in the corner. At the traditional (11:00 a.m.) service, children are invited to take a worship bag hanging in the narthex. Sunday School is from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the children's wing on the second floor. Ask a greeter for directions.

To Aid In Worship In the sanctuary, a T-Coil Hearing Loop is available for people with equipped hearing aids. Headphones to amplify sound are also available at the tech booth in the rear of the sanctuary.

Worship Online Livestreams of the contemporary and traditional worship services are available at www.firstpressarasota.org/worship-live and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017.

Ways To Give There are many ways you can support the mission and ministries of First Presbyterian. During worship, you may place your gift in the offering plate or you can scan this QR code. It will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you can mail a check to the church office. Thank you for your gifts. Questions? Contact Finance Manager, Lisa Garcia: (941) 955-8119/Lgarcia@firstpressarasota.org.

Summer Worship Schedule Begins June 1

Beginning June 1, we move to our summer schedule with one joint worship service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, featuring our wonderful choir. This is a special season to come together as one body in Christ, worshiping side by side with members from all services.

Starting July 6, worship shifts to the fellowship hall, where the New Song Band will lead us in uplifting praise. After each service, stay for coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship—a weekly opportunity to deepen relationships and grow as a church family.

On August 3, we return to the sanctuary for a joyful combined service, followed by a potluck lunch—a cherished time to break bread, share stories, and strengthen the bonds that unite us in Christ. During worship, we will also bless the backpacks, surrounding our children and youth with love and prayer as they prepare for the new school year.

Then on August 10, we resume our two-service schedule and celebrate Rally Day—the exciting launch of a new year of Sunday School! Come be part of the energy, connection, and renewed commitment to growing in faith together.

Today is the final day of Children and Youth Sunday School!

As we wrap up a wonderful season, we're excited for **VBS, June 9–13!** To help with supplies, check out our Amazon Wish List—the QR code is available here and on the donation bins. Prefer to shop locally? Let Rachel Martin know so we can update the list. To sign up or volunteer, see the Family Newsletter or talk to Eric Robinson or Emily Weitekamp.



First Connect / Adult Education

- Doug DeCelle and Eric Robinson's class on Ecclesiastes continues today at 10:05 in Room 203.
- The final parent group meets today at 10:10 in the Parlor!

Let Justice Roll Down – Final Bible Study Session

Scripture and science together help us recognize the wisdom woven into creation. As we seek justice, our faith invites us to cooperate with nature in sustaining life for all.

Join us for the final lesson of the *Presbyterian Women Horizons* Bible Study, *Let Justice Roll Down*. This month's topic is **"Sustaining Creation's Health for All."** We'll meet via Zoom on **Wednesday, May 21, at 10:00 a.m.**, with **Eric Robinson** leading our discussion.

All are welcome! We look forward to a rich conversation about our shared responsibility to care for the earth and one another. To receive Zoom details and the study material, please contact **Elaine Barnett at** ewbarnet@me.com.

We Need Your Help!

Each week, FPC's weekly All Faiths Food Bank distribution serves over 150 families — and volunteers are essential to making it happen. Join us Thursday mornings in the south parking lot. We begin packing food at 8:30 a.m., and distribution runs from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. You don't need to stay the entire time — any help is a blessing.

Worship Online

If you miss a Sunday morning worship, or if you are a snow bird heading north, you can view the archived live streaming of the contemporary and traditional worship services available at www.firstpressarasota.org/worship-live and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017. Services are archived for one year, so you can go back and watch your favorite sermon or send a link to a friend!

Consider Volunteering This Summer

Many of our mission partners experience a drop in volunteer support during the summer as seasonal residents head north—but the need remains constant. You can make a difference by stepping in during this critical time. To learn more about summer volunteer opportunities with Resurrection House, Caritas, All Faiths Food Bank, or any of our mission partners, please talk with Dave Householder or email him at dphouse47@gmail.com. Let's be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community this summer!

Realm Directory

Check out the online directory — all you need is your login.
Need help? Call the church office for more information (941) 955-8119

Church Office

The church office will be closed on Friday, May 23. The voicemails will be monitored.

Financial Update

April	**Actual**	**Budget**
Revenues (pledge, non-pledge, and other receipts)	$ 78,444	$ 78,266
Expenditures	96,023	90,759
Year-to-date		
Revenues (pledge, non-pledge, and other receipts)	569,247	555,020
Expenditures	$ 381,778	$ 389,993

Would you like receive our Friday E-Newsletter? E-mail info@FirstPresSarasota.org to be added to our distribution list.

