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 25, 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 Next Sunday, June 1

NEXT Sunday 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.

Welcome, Cliff Cardi

We rejoice that Cliff Cardi joined our church and was baptized last Sunday—a beautiful step in his journey of faith. Originally from Provincetown, RI, Cliff moved to Sarasota, completed his BA in General Studies through SCF and USF, and now works at Taco Bell. Cliff was drawn to FPC by our Presbyterian foundations and began attending during Lent. He is enjoying Sunday worship and adult Sunday School, and forming new friendships. Let's warmly welcome Cliff as he grows in Christ among us!

Congratulations to our Graduates

Liam Feeney Borza, grandson of Pat Feeney, graduated from the Maine Marine Academy, with Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering. He is a Strategic Sealift Officer and Ensign in the US Naval Reserves.

Jack Carleson, son of Wende and Mark Carleson, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Arizona State University with a BS in Design and Architecture. Jack is pondering his options at this time and will be enjoying this summer with family.

Arianna Dulaney, daughter of Irene and Rich Dulaney, graduated from Lakewood Ranch High School with a 4.40 weighted GPA. She played bass clarinet and tenor saxophone all four years and took 12 AP classes, She will be attending the University of South Florida in Tampa this fall as a biology major.

Austin Dunn, grandson of Kay and Bill Dunn, graduated from Riverview High School and will be entering the honors program at Florida State University.

Sawyer Dunn-Matrullo, grandson for Kay and Bill Dunn, graduated from Washington and Lee University and will be working in Miami in an investment firm.

McLain Miller, grand daughter of Ron and Jinny Miller, graduated from Columbia University, NYC with Masters of Arts in politics and education.

Lauren Reasoner, daughter of Beth Byron-Reasoner, graduated from University of South Carolina Honors College with a BA in Visual Communications and Dance, next she will attend the Disney College Program Professional Internship, Disney World, Orlando.

Liv Schmeits, daughter of Hans and Kim Schmeits, graduated Magna Cum Laude with her Bachelor of Science degree from University of Florida. She plans to get her Master's as a Physician's Assistant.

First Connect / Adult Education

Today is the final class with Doug DeCelle and Eric Robinson's class on Ecclesiastes at 10:05 in Room 203.

Family Ministry Update

We are 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.



10th Annual Celtic Christmas – Planning Has Begun!

We're excited to announce that planning is underway for this year's 10th Annual Celtic Christmas—a cherished two-performance tradition celebrating music, faith, and Celtic heritage! To help fund this special event, advertising sponsorships in the program booklet are available, and donations are warmly welcomed. Your support makes it possible to share the joy of the season through the gifts of talented musicians and singers. Please see the flyer in the narthex or in the fellowship hall for details.
Míle buíochas! *(A big Celtic thank you!)*

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry Volunteer Day Trip

Sponsored by the Mission Committee the next trip is Wednesday, May 28, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Join our FPC team as we serve at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma. We'll help sort food and assist with related tasks. Beth-El supports 600–900 people each week through its food distribution program. This outreach happens on the last Wednesday of each month. To sign up, get more details, or arrange a carpool, contact: **Wendy Miller** (941) 321-8488 towmiller@yahoo.com

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!

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