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 4, 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. Large print bulletins are available, ask an usher.

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.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

Join us for **Faith and Family Night** at the ballpark! You are invited to a fun-filled evening as we cheer on the **Bradenton Marauders** against the **Lakeland Flying Tigers** on **Friday, May 9, at 6:30 p.m.**
Tickets: $15 (includes a Marauders hat and a Pepsi drink voucher!)
Location: LECOM Park, Bradenton
Get your tickets now! Scan the QR code to purchase.
Enjoy a night of baseball, community, and faith-filled fun! Don't miss out!

Help Launch Our PDA Host Site – Leadership Team Meeting

We're excited to invite you to an on-site meeting on **Wednesday, May 7 at 5:30 PM** as we take the next big step in launching our **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Volunteer Host Site** at First Presbyterian. At this meeting, we will form a leadership team, review the space designated for hosting volunteers, and discuss action items and a timeline for getting the site up and running. If you're interested in serving, supporting, or simply learning more, we'd love to have you join us. **Location:** Room 223

Summer Worship is Coming!

Starting June 1, we shift to our summer schedule with one joint service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, featuring our wonderful choir. Beginning July 6, we'll worship in the fellowship hall with music led by the New Song Band. On August 3, we'll return to the sanctuary for a combined service, followed by a potluck lunch. We'll also bless the backpacks as kids and youth gear up for the school year. Then on August 10, join us for Rally Day as we kick off a new year of Sunday School with joy and excitement!

Project Update: Roofing Repairs in Progress

We are excited to share that the much-needed roofing repairs are moving forward, thanks to the generous donations that have made this possible. In total, over 50,000 square feet of roofing is being addressed. The roof is now fully dried in, and shingle installation is scheduled for the next phase. Tile installation will follow once the shingles are in place.

The flat roofs are complete, with some final work on the courtyard area scheduled for Saturdays when fewer people are around, ensuring safety.

Shingle installation experienced a slight delay due to backordering but is now on track. The tile was delivered and loaded on April 17.

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward with these important repairs!

Adult Bible Study: Ecclesiastes

Join Doug DeCelle as he continues the class today at 10:05 a.m. in room 203. This class will be meeting weekly until May 25. This adult Bible study is a deep dive into the book of *Ecclesiastes*. All are welcome!

Parent Small Group Gathering

Our parent small group will meet **at 10:10 a.m. in the parlor** for a time of discussion and fellowship. We are using *Caring for One Another* by Edward T. Welch as our study guide. We will be discussing Chapter 7 this week and Chapter 8 on May 18. We look forward to seeing you there!

Invest in Children – Make a Difference at Brentwood Elementary

Do you have a heart for children and a desire to make a lasting impact in your community? Brentwood Elementary is looking for caring individuals to volunteer their time and talents to help nurture and support young minds.

There are several ways you can get involved—whether it's through one-on-one mentoring, assisting teachers in the classroom or helping in the office. Every moment you spend with a child can inspire confidence, build trust, and plant the seeds for a brighter future.

If you feel called to serve and invest in the lives of children, we'd love to hear from you! For more information or to get started, please contact Lorraine Foltz at lmfoltz@me.com.

Your time could be the difference a child needs!

Presbyterian Women—Birthday Day Offering

May marks the time for the **Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering**—a tradition of faithful giving that has been supporting life-changing projects for over 100 years. Each year, between one and five projects are selected from many applicants, with each receiving a grant between **$75,000 and $150,000**.

This year's recipients include the **Leland Presbyterian Church Windward Volunteer Housing Facility** in the Delta region of Mississippi and the **Red Cloud Renewable Lakota Thiyuha Dome Home Project** in South Dakota.

Look for the **yellow birthday offering envelope and flyer** in next week's bulletin for more information about these inspiring projects. Let us give generously and joyfully as we continue this legacy of mission and ministry in the name of Christ.

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!

We Are Here For You.

The FPC care team, along with our deacons, elders, and church staff, remain available to support you. If you need assistance, please contact Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse, at (941) 320-3828, or call the church office at (941) 955-8119. We are here for you.

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

