

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 10, 2026

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, thank you for worshipping 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.fpcsrq.org/streaming 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/Lisa@fpcsrq.org.



Flowers Today

"Mother is a verb. It's something you do, not just who you are." — Cheryl Lacey Donovan

The flowers today are given to the glory of God in celebration of Mother's Day. We give thanks for all who have mothered in any and every way, and hold in prayer those for whom this day brings grief, absence, or difficult memories.

New Website Is Live

Our new church website is now live, and feedback has been very positive! It features a clean design, easier navigation, and quick access to worship, events, ministries, online giving, and livestream services.

Staff email addresses have changed to: firstname@fpcsrq.org.

Visit: www.fpcsrq.org Realm log-in is located in the blue header for easy access to the directory.

We Need Your Help!

Each week, FPC's weekly All Faiths Food Bank distribution serves over 200 families, volunteers are essential to making this happen. As many of our regular volunteers are snowbirds who are now leaving for the season, we especially need extra help. 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.

NEWSFLASH!

Steven has been with First Presbyterian for 10 years! He joined us in 2016 as Director of Music, bringing experience from churches in Tallahassee and Tennessee, along with a rich musical background along the way. We are grateful for Steven's leadership and many contributions to our worship life. We will celebrate and honor him on Sunday, **May 17 at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services**. Please take a moment to share your appreciation when you see Steven around the church.

First Connect Class: Just Jesus

Grow closer to Christ in *Just Jesus*, a four-week study. Session three is today, and the study concludes May 17. Explore the life and ministry of Jesus through thoughtful conversation.

Led by Susan DeWyngaert and Dave Householder at 10:05 a.m. in Room 203.

First Connect: Brainstorming Session & Screwtape Apocalypse Study

Join us on May 24 & 31 as Eric leads us through a riveting discussion using four “lost *Screwtape Letters*” C.S. Lewis wrote about the Book of Revelation. Meet Sunday, May 24 at 10:05-10:55 a.m. and Sunday, May 31 at 9:05 - 9:55 a.m. in the library, Eric Robinson will be the facilitator.

It's Not Too Late! Register for VBS 2026: Snowball Mountain Challenge!

Trade the summer heat for a winter wonderland this **June 15-19**. Kids will discover bravery and resilience through God's strength with frosty games and hands-on Bible lessons. Scan the QR code to register your “Challengers” today! Contact Eric Robinson, Leah Cotter, or Emily Weitekamp with questions. The deadline has been extended to Friday, May 22



Summer First Connect Bible Study: We Need Your Feedback!

As we look ahead to the summer, we are planning to meet together on Sundays from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the library in June and July. We'd love to get your feedback on a book of the Bible or topic of study! All ideas are welcome! Please reach out to Eric Robinson Eric@fpcsrq.org or Doug DeCelle douglasdecelle@gmail.com to share your thoughts.

Art Work for Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost, celebrated 50 days after Easter, marks the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. Often called the “birthday of the Church,” it reminds us that the Spirit unites us, empowers us, and sends us out to share God's love in the world. The Liturgical Arts Committee invites everyone to contribute artwork for **Pentecost Sunday, May 24**. Selected pieces will be framed and displayed. Artwork may be created in any medium and should reflect Pentecost themes such as flame colors, wind, fire, doves, the Holy Spirit, and music. All ages are welcome to participate—no one is too young or too old to contribute! Deadline for submissions is Thursday, May 14.

Last Chance to Join the Horizon's Bible Study

Horizons Bible Study is now in Part III, “*Finding Our Identity*.” The ninth lesson, “*The Road to Emmaus*” (Luke 24:13-35), reflects on moments when faith feels uncertain and reminds us that Jesus walks with us, even when we do not recognize Him. As two of Jesus' followers journey to Emmaus, they are joined by Christ Himself—revealed only later. Their story invites us to trust that God's presence is with us, even in times of doubt. Join us on Zoom on Wednesday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m., led by Harriette Humphries. If this is your first time attending, please contact Jinny Miller at jinnyrn@gmail.com for the Zoom information.

Summer is Coming: Worship Schedule

As summer approaches, we shift to our summer worship schedule:

May 31 – 10:00 a.m. Summer schedule begins with *Faith and Diversity Sunday* in the Sanctuary

June 7, 14, 21, 28 – 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

July 5, 12, 19, 26 – 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall

We look forward to sharing this summer season of worship with you!

Sanctuary Doors

New automatic door openers have been installed at the sanctuary, including the restrooms, bell tower entrance, and north courtyard door. Made possible by a generous grant from the Dalbeck Foundation, this upgrade improves accessibility and hospitality for all who use our shared space.

Worship Online

If you are traveling this summer or are a snowbird, and you miss a Sunday morning worship service, you can view archived livestreams of both the traditional and contemporary services at www.fpcsrq.org/streaming/ or <https://www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017>. Services are available for one year, so you can revisit a favorite sermon or share a link with a friend.

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

