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, June 1, 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 Today!

We begin our summer schedule today with one joint worship service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, This is a meaningful season to worship together as one congregation.

Beginning July 6, worship moves to the fellowship hall.

August 3 brings a joyful combined service in the sanctuary, followed by a potluck lunch—a time to share food, stories, and community.

On August 10, we resume our two-service schedule and celebrate Rally Day with a Backpack Blessing during worship. Join us as we launch a new year of Sunday School and support our students with love and prayer.

Each week, during June and July stay after worship for coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship—a great chance to connect and grow together.

Called Congregational Meeting - Sunday, June 8 at 11:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive a report from the Nominating Committee.

Flowers

The flowers last week were given to the glory of God and in honor of those who gave their life in service to our country. The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Widman, whose celebration of life was held yesterday.

Summer Sunday School & Bible Study Opportunity

There is interest in continuing our Sunday School class through the summer, along with a time of Bible study. We will be diving into the books of *Ephesians* and *1 John*, both of which speak powerfully to the nature of Christ, the gift of salvation, and our growth in faith—both personally and as the body of Christ.

This study will deepen your faith as we gather to read, reflect, and discern God's Word together. The class will follow an *inductive Bible study* format, encouraging participants to draw meaning directly from the text through guided observation, interpretation, and application.

The class will meet June 1 through August 10, Sundays from 9:00–9:45 a.m. in room 203. On August 10, class will meet from 10:05–10:55 a.m. in room 203. Taught by Eric Robinson, Richard Cole, Doug DeCelle, and Susan DeWyngaert. Come grow with us in Christ this summer!

Next Week is Pentecost

On the day of Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, who descended with a mighty rush of wind and tongues of flame. This outpouring empowered the Church to proclaim the risen Christ and to carry His mission and ministry into all the world.

It is the tradition of this church for everyone to wear red on Pentecost, symbolizing the fire of the Spirit that ignites our faith and unites us in Christ's mission.

All children are invited to come to the narthex at 9:50 a.m. to join the processional carrying red ribbons as we begin our joyful celebration!

"I will pour out my spirit on every kind of people." -Acts 2:17

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of children, youth, and young adults. 40% is retained by congregations to support work with at-risk children, youth and young adults in their local community. 50% supports ministries with youth and young adults. 10% supports child advocacy/children at risk. We will receive the Pentecost offering on June 8.

Family Ministry Update

We are excited for **VBS, June 9–13!** To help with supplies, check out our *SignUp Genius,* using the QR code which is also available on the donation bins in the narthex.

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!)*

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 other 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.