

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 9, 2026 at 10 am

*"When you received the word of God, which you heard from us,
you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God,
which is indeed at work in you who believe." (1 Thessalonians 2:13, NIV)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

THY WORD

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path;
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.*

When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end. *[Refrain]*

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end. *[Refrain]*

*"Thy Word" by Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Your eternal word, O LORD,
stands firm in heaven.

Your faithfulness extends to every generation,
as enduring as the earth you created.

Your regulations remain true to this day,
for everything serves your plans.

Your laws are perfect
and completely trustworthy.

Your justice is eternal,
and your instructions are perfectly true.

You have charged us
to keep your commandments carefully.

Your word is a lamp to guide our feet
and a light for our path.

Your laws are our treasure;
they are our heart's delight.

As we come now to worship you, Lord,
Accept our offerings of praise, and teach us your word.

Based on Psalm 119:89-91, 138, 142, 4, 105, 111, 108.

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HYMN #485: TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done.*

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *[Refrain]*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(You are invited to join in unison with the pastor, or to follow along in silence)

Merciful God,
you made us in your image, with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you, and a will to serve you.

But our love is inconstant, our obedience incomplete.

We ignore your calling;
we don't spend time with your word;
we resist your Holy Spirit;
we fail to grow into Christ's likeness.

And so we come to you broken, and in need of your mercy and grace.
Hear, now, our personal and silent confessions of sin

In your tender and infinite love, forgive us of our sins,
and restore to us the joy of our salvation
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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SPEAK, O LORD

Speak O Lord as we come to You
 To receive the food of Your holy word;
 Take Your truth plant it deep in us
 Shape and fashion us in Your likeness.
 That the light of Christ might be seen today
 In our acts of love and our deeds of faith;
 Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
 All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,
 Holy reverence true humility;
 Test our thoughts and our attitudes
 In the radiance of Your purity.
 Cause our faith to rise;
 Cause our eyes to see

Your majestic love and authority;
 Words of power that can never fail,
 Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak O Lord and renew our minds;
 Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
 Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
 That will echo down through eternity.
 And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
 And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
 Speak O Lord till Your church is built,
 And the earth is filled with Your glory.

*"Speak, O Lord," by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend.
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READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: *"Extra Books, Lost Books, Hidden Books:
 What's In (and Out) of the Bible—and Why"*

Luke 24:25–27, 44–48

Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. ²⁶ Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" ²⁷ Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. ⁴⁷ It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of all these things.

2 Peter 3:15-16

And remember, our Lord's patience gives people time to be saved. This is what our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom God gave him—¹⁶ speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters to mean something quite different, just as they do with other parts of Scripture. And this will result in their destruction.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Do not scoff at prophecies, ²¹ but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good. ²² Stay away from every kind of evil.

1 John 4:1

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

*The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support
our deacons' provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.*

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DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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ANCIENT WORDS

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart,
O let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope,
Give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where'er we roam,
Ancient words will guide us home.

*Ancient words, ever true,
Changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.*

Holy words of our faith,
Handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice.
O heed the faithful words of Christ.

Holy words long preserved,
for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart.
O let the ancient words impart. *[Refrain, twice]*

"Ancient Words" by Lynn DeShazo.

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, August 11	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Wednesday, August 12	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30) Summer Lawn Concert: <i>Don Stone Trio</i> (6:30–8:00)
Thursday, August 13	Session (7:00 pm)
Sunday, August 16	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
LOOKING AHEAD	August 26: Summer Lawn Concert: <i>The Goods</i> (6:30–8:00) Sunday, August 30: Sharing Table

We have hearing assistance device/headphones for those who could use a bit of a “volume boost” during the services. You will find them in a drawer, in the table where you pick up your bulletin. If you need help finding them, ask!

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