

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 31, 2025 at 10 am

"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." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures." (Luke 24:44-45)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

THERE IS A REDEEMER

There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit, till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain. *[Refrain]*

When I stand in glory, I will see His face,
There I'll serve my King, forever,
In that holy place. *[Refrain]*

*"There Is a Redeemer," by Melody Green. © 1982 Universal Music—Brentwood Benson Publishing, Birdwing Music, Ears To Hear;
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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

ACKNOWLEDGING AND THANKING KELLY CHRISMAN

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

In life, in death,
in life beyond death:

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Over powers and principalities,
over all who determine, control,
govern, or finance the affairs of humankind:

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Of the poor, of the broken,
of the sinned against and the sinner:

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Above the Church,
beyond our most excellent theologies,
and in the quiet corners of our hearts:

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Thanks be to God. Let us worship God together.

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HYMN #2: *COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS*

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *AND* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Gracious and loving God,
we struggle to be obedient and faithful followers of Christ.

You ask us to be quick to listen,
slow to speak and slow to anger.

Instead, we find ourselves speaking without listening,
letting our anger get the best of us.

Too many times the words that come out of our mouth
are thoughtless of their impact:
they tear down, demean, break apart, and separate us
from one another and ultimately from you.

We offer no excuse and simply ask for your forgiveness.
Forgive us for not speaking grace and mercy to our neighbors
and those whom you put in our path.

Set us free for future victories
when we relate with others.

Help us to extend and reflect the joy and kindness
you offered us through the wonderful Word,
Jesus Christ.

Hear now our silent and private prayers

After corporate prayer we will have a few moments of silence for personal confession.

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 HYMN #310: JESUS THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE

Jesus, the very thought of Thee
 With sweetness fills my breast;
 But sweeter far Thy face to see,
 And in Thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
 Nor can the mind recall
 A sweeter sound than Thy blest name,
 O Savior of us all.

O hope of every contrite heart,
 O joy of all the meek,
 To those who fall, how kind Thou art!
 How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this
 Nor tongue nor pen can show;
 The love of Jesus, what it is,
 None but His loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be Thou,
 As Thou our prize will be;
 Jesus, be Thou our glory now,
 And through eternity.

 READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: "*Christ BC*"

Luke 24:13–32

¹³ That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. ¹⁶ But God kept them from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. ¹⁸ Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days."

¹⁹ "What things?" Jesus asked.

"The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. ²⁰ But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. ²¹ We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.

²² "Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. ²³ They said his body was

missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! ²⁴ Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said.”

²⁵ 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.

²⁸ By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, ²⁹ but they begged him, “Stay the night with us, since it is getting late.” So he went home with them. ³⁰ As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

³² They said to each other, “Didn’t our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?”

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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HYMN #151: CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace;
 Whose power a scepter sways
 From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
 Absorbed in prayer and praise:
 His reign shall know no end;
 And round His pierced feet
 Fair flowers of paradise extend
 Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
 The Potentate of time;
 Creator of the rolling spheres,
 Ineffably sublime.
 All hail, Redeemer, hail!
 For Thou has died for me;
 Thy praise shall never, never fail
 Throughout eternity.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Sept. 2	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30) Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
Wednesday, Sept. 3	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Sunday, Sept. 7	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary) NEW SERMON SERIES: <i>“Worship the Lord Your God”: The Why’s and How’s of Worship</i>
LOOKING AHEAD	September 14: Potluck (after the Service)

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