

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 27, 2026 at 10 am

*"All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship,
and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. . . .
And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved." (Acts 2:42, 47)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

I WILL SING OF THE MERCIES OF THE LORD

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing. I will sing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness.
With my mouth will I make known,
Thy faithfulness to all generations.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing. I will sing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

*"I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord" by James Henry Fillmore Sr.,
Words and Music: Public Domain.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Praise the Lord,
whose Spirit rushes like wind through locked doors,
whose fire rests gently on ordinary heads.

He has not left us as orphans,
scattered and alone;
he has gathered us as sons and daughters,
and filled us with one breath—his Spirit.

The church was not built by human hands,
but breathed into being from above.

What began in an upper room
continues here, in this room, today.

So we gather as the first believers gathered:
devoted to teaching, to fellowship,
to eating together and breaking bread, and to prayer.

Come, Spirit of Pentecost, and fill your church once more.

Let every tongue and every nation,
and each one of us,
bring praise to the God
who makes his church a dwelling place for his Spirit.
Let's worship the Lord.

CHOIR: *MORNING HAS BROKEN*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *AND* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Holy God,
you have poured out your Spirit upon your people,
yet we confess that we often live as though we belong only to ourselves.

We guard our time, our gifts, our resources, and our hearts.

We notice our own needs more quickly than the needs of others.

We seek recognition rather than opportunities to serve.

We forget that your Spirit gives different gifts
so that your whole church may be strengthened.

Forgive us for making your church smaller than your grace.

Teach us to rejoice in one another's gifts,
to carry one another's burdens,
to welcome those who are different from us,
and to give ourselves generously for the good of your people.

Fill us again with your Spirit
and make us a living, loving church.

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HYMN #326: *SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King;
All, all Thine own: soul, heart, and strength and mind?
I see Thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: *"The Holy Spirit and the Beginning of the Church"*

Acts 2:1–16

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place.

² Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. ³ Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. ⁴ And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

⁵ At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem.

⁶ When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

⁷ They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, ⁸ and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! ⁹ Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" ¹² They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other.

¹³ But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!"

¹⁴ Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that. ¹⁶ No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel . . .

Acts 2:37–47

³⁷ Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God." . . .

⁴¹ Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

⁴² All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

⁴³ A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. ⁴⁴ And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. ⁴⁵ They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. ⁴⁶ They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and

generosity—⁴⁷ all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people.
And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

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 #442: THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION (verses 1-2, 4-5)

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word.
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won:

O happy ones and holy!
 Lord, give us grace that we,
 Like them, the meek and lowly,
 May live eternally.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Sept 29	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Wednesday, Sept 30	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Sunday, Oct 4	Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
LOOKING AHEAD	October 11: Potluck after the Service October 21 – November 18: Coffee/Soup and Study (Wed. study series, 1:00/6:00 pm) <i>The Goodness of God: Learning to Notice God's Grace</i> Friday, October 31, 5:00–8:00: Halloween “Coffee for Parents” Saturday, November 7, 5:00–7:00: Spaghetti Dinner/Craft Fair Fundraiser

Helping Hands is our deacon's ministry to provide household assistance to members of our congregation (and those who attend our church). If you need assistance, please contact Brian Krohn (360-580-1683). And, if you would like to be part of Helping Hands, talk to Brian as well.

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