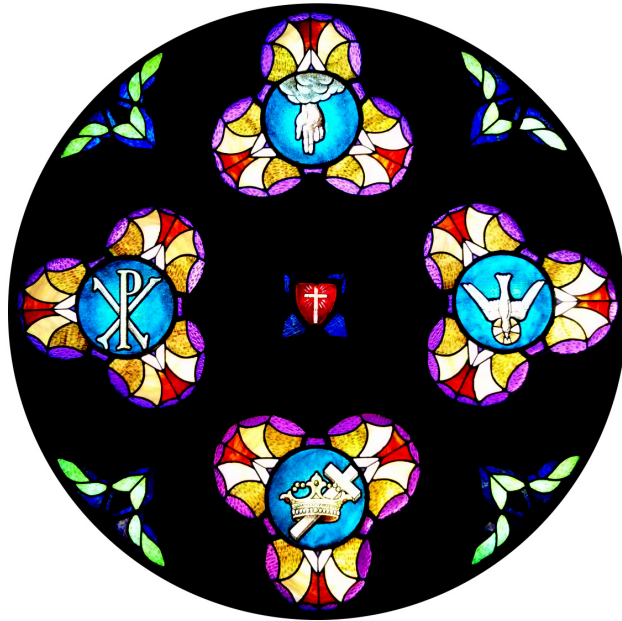


# First Presbyterian Church Arlington

September 7, 2025

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Following Jesus, Transforming Life

*Mission Statement:*

**First Presbyterian Church of Arlington is transforming life  
by glorifying God, following Jesus, and loving our neighbor.**

Preaching: Rev. Chris Campbell

Lay Leader: Shannon Annen

Organist: Shina Heo

# The Worship of God 11:00 a.m.

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.  
§ Invites all who are able to stand.

Please silence all phones and devices.  
*Please fill out the Friendship Pad in your row.*

## Gathering

Prelude Showers of Blessing James Conely

The Light of Christ

Prayer for Preparation

*Weaver of life, framer of the ages, we marvel at your artistry and the trust you place in us. From our first cries to our final breaths, we are your own. Bind us now to each other in ways beyond our choosing, that your purpose might find fulfillment in our common life and service, for we pray in the name of Jesus, the firstborn of all creation. Amen.*

Welcome and Opening Prayer Rev. Chris Campbell

Call to Worship

Give praise to God!

**Praise the Lord, for it is God who saves.**

It is God who forgives. It is God who delivers.

**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Introit Alleluia Taizé Community

§ Hymn 650 O Beauty Ever Ancient ANCIENT BEAUTY

§ Prayer of Confession

**Gracious and loving God, you lived for us; we have not lived for you.**

**You have forgiven us; we have not forgiven others.**

**You have loved us; we have not loved ourselves, nor have we loved one another.**

**Take pity on us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you.**

**Help us to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

§ Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

§ Gloria Patri GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## Proclaiming

Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18

Responsive Reading

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

**Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.**

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot sustain it.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts; **you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

I praise you, **for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

Wonderful are your works; **that I know very well.**

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. **Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.**

In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, **when none of them as yet existed.**

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

**I try to count them – they are more than the sand; I come to the end – I am still with you.**

### Children's Time

Children, age 3 to fourth grade, are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC).

Anthem

I Am the Bread of Life

Richard Proulx

*I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall not hunger, and who believes in me shall not thirst.  
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.*

*And I will raise you up on the last day.*

*The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,  
and if you eat of this bread you shall live forever.*

*Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of His blood,  
you shall not have life within you.*

*I am the resurrection. I am the life.  
If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live forever.*

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21–35

New Testament page 20

Sermon

Merciful Discipleship

Rev. Campbell

## Responding

§ Hymn 444

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT

Offering our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory

Nearer, My God, to Thee

Lani Smith

## The Table

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer sung

Words of Institution

The Bread and Cup

*Eat the bread as it is served. Hold the cup to drink together. While passing the elements, you may say, "the body of Christ, broken for you," and, "the blood of Christ, shed for you."*

Prayer after Communion

## Sending

§ Hymn 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

§ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Brenda Portman



1200 S Collins St  
Arlington, TX 76010

### *The Lord's Prayer*

for the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Arlington, Texas

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be thy name; \_\_\_\_\_  
Thy king - dom come; Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heav - en.  
Give us this day our dai - ly bread; for - give us our debts as we for - give our debt - ors;  
Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil:  
For Thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

# O Beauty Ever Ancient 650

Capo 3: (D) (G) (Em) (C) (G) (Em) (A) (D)  
 F B<sup>b</sup> Gm E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> Gm C F

1 O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,  
 2 O beau - ty in cre - a - tion, in world of sound and sight,  
 3 O beau - ty that is move - ment in liq - uid line of grace,  
 4 O beau - ty of the Spir - it where love is shin - ing through,

(G) (Em) (F#7) (Bm) (G) (Em) (A) (D)  
 B<sup>b</sup> Gm A7 Dm B<sup>b</sup> Gm C F

di - vine and Ho - ly Pres - ence, my be - ing sings to you,  
 O beau - ty in the si - lence, in dark - ness as in light,  
 O beau - ty that is still - ness in love - ly form or face,  
 O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,

(D) (G) (Em) (C) (G) (C) (Dsus)(D) (G)  
 F B<sup>b</sup> Gm E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Fsus F B<sup>b</sup>

in grat - i-tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

Both Psalms 29:2b and 96:6a encourage us to “worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,” yet celebrating the beauty of the holy God is not an end in itself but involves a call to oppose unjust ugliness. The beauty that draws us to God also urges us to work for mercy and justice.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 2000  
 MUSIC: Alfred V. Fedak, 2007  
 Text © 2000 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 2009 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

ANCIENT BEAUTY  
 7.6.7.6 with refrain

# Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive 444

Capo 5: (Am) (Dm) (Am) (C) (Em) (Am)



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with-in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease.

(F) (Em) (C) (Dm) (Em)(Am)  
Bb Am F Gm Am Dm



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
what triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!  
Then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Few petitions of the Lord's Prayer are as difficult to pray as this one, and we would not dare to pray it if we had to depend on ourselves rather than the example of forgiveness we are given in Jesus Christ. The shape note tune sets these words with appropriate spareness.

TEXT: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983, alt.

MUSIC: *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. Margaret W. Mealy, 1985

Text © 1969, 1983 Rosamond E. Herklots

Music Harm. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

DETROIT

CM

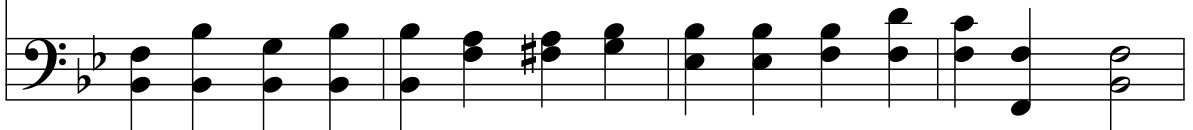
# Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.  
help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.  
blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.  
bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

## This week:

### Sunday, Sept. 7

- Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in classrooms
- Worship Service - 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary
- Youth and Children's Music Ministries from 12:45 to 1:45. Lunch is provided in Fellowship Hall at 12:15.

### Tuesday, Sept. 9

- Senior Flexibility Class - 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study - 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, Sept. 10

- Men's Bible Study - 8 a.m. in the Parlor
- Quilting - 10:30 a.m. in room 204
- Women's Bible Study - 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Ring of Praise Handbells - 6 p.m. in the choir room
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m. in the choir room
- CFW Bible Study - 7 p.m. in the Parlor

### Thursday, Sept. 11

- Senior Flexibility Class - 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Fellowship Team Meeting - 4:30 p.m. in room 210
- Team Meeting - 7 p.m. online

## Coming up:

### Sunday, Sept. 14

- Fall Festival Luncheon in Fellowship Hall after worship service

### Friday, Sept. 19

- Children's Ministry Family Game Night at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

## Community:

### Celebrate Fall with the Festival Luncheon!



The church community autumn season kicks off Sunday, Sept. 14 when the Fellowship team

will host a fun-filled, food-filled, music-filled luncheon. The event will feature a silent auction, music from the Internship in Church Music students, delicious food, and a scholarship presentation. Plan to head to Fellowship Hall right after worship to enjoy.



### Nominate members for FPCA leadership

We're looking for members who have vision, values, and energy to serve in leadership positions at FPCA. Consider

nominating someone (or yourself) for Elder, Deacon, Congregational Nominating Team member, or trustee. You can submit nominations in the box in the Narthex, email your nomination to [info@firstprestexas.org](mailto:info@firstprestexas.org), or reach out to Matt Annen at [mattannen@yahoo.com](mailto:mattannen@yahoo.com)

### Gather Campaign Updated

So far, we have:

\$1,679,606 Committed

109 Commitments

\$516,688 Total donations

The Schematic Design drawings have been approved. The approved drawings are currently being priced by the general contractor and will be shared with us for our budgetary consideration. We expect the initial budget price to be delivered to us in mid-September.

Get   
connected:



First Presbyterian  
Church Arlington



First Presbyterian  
Church Arlington



@fpcatx



[firstprestexas.org](http://firstprestexas.org)

# Prayer Ministry:

Send prayer requests to [prayer@firstprestexas.org](mailto:prayer@firstprestexas.org)

## Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

The family of Richard Whitenight, Jay Graham, Charles Arnold, Carol Browning, Judy Crowell, Cyprain Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Nancy Guerry, Bob and Beverly Koch, Margaret Landolt, Shawn LeBlanc, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Judy Reck, Lisa Scrabeck, Tonya Scrabeck, David Spencer, Drew Stephenson, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Sherry and Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble

## Prayers for family in the armed forces:

Christopher Young, Wolfgang Van Wie

## Prayers for our home-bound members:

Bettye Burdett, Madge Casselman, Margaret Fite, Ann Scarr, Leonard and Mary Jane Tibbetts, Dee Uhri

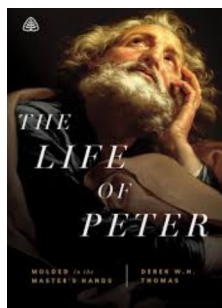
## Pray for those who do not know Christ.

If you have any congregational care needs, contact Parish Associate Jim Shroyer at 682.445.0155 or [jim@firstprestexas.org](mailto:jim@firstprestexas.org).



## Faith & Blue Sunday will be Oct. 12

Faith & Blue's mission is to create safer, stronger, and more unified communities by fostering direct partnerships between law enforcement agencies, houses of worship, and other community groups. Since its inception, the initiative has grown into a transformative national movement, mobilizing thousands of communities across all 50 states. This year, local law enforcement agencies will work alongside FPCA Oct. 12 to strengthen bonds, break down barriers, and build lasting solutions.



## Bible Study will explore Peter's life

The new Tuesday Morning Bible Study for Men and Women is *The Life of Peter: Molded in the Master's Hands*. In this teaching series, Dr. Derek W. H. Thomas offers an encouraging portrait of Peter from the Gospels and the book of Acts, with insights from Peter's own writings later in life. Understanding Peter's transformation from the brash fisherman into the bold Apostle can guide us in pursuit of our own growth in grace. Study guides are provided. If you wish to buy one, the cost is \$15. The Bible Study group will meet Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

# Staff directory:

|                     |                                    |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Chris Campbell      | Lead Pastor                        |
| Russell Farnell     | Minister of Music/Facilities Admin |
| Jim Shroyer         | Parish Associate                   |
| Stephanie Arredondo | Interim Director of Youth Ministry |
| Kyle Terwilliger    | Director of Children's Ministry    |
| Shina Heo           | Organist                           |
| Cheryl Harris       | Music Ministry Associate           |
| Tricia Regalado     | Director of Communications         |
| Jeanne Chin         | Finance Manager                    |
| Jane Leathem        | Finance Assistant                  |
| Bob Watkins         | Prayer Ministry                    |
| Diane Chin          | Night Monitor                      |
| Reggie Manuel       | Custodian                          |

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