

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



First Presbyterian Church Arlington

1200 South Collins St.
Arlington, TX 76010

The people gather for the Worship of God
Sunday, May 3, 2026

Preaching: Rev. Jim Witherow
Lay Leader: Sonia Ellis
Organist: Sandra Davis

Mission Statement:

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

About our service

Please silence all phones and devices.

Please fill out the Friendship Pad in your row.

Words in **bold** are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all to stand in body or spirit

Our communion grape juice is alcohol-free.

FPCA follows the liturgical calendar. Currently we are in the season of Easter. We use gold paraments as a symbol of the glory, majesty, and triumph of Jesus' resurrection.

If you are a guest today, please stop by the narthex for information and a warm FPCA welcome!

Gathering

Prelude	Glorificamus	John Redford
The Light of Christ		
Prayer for Preparation		
<i>Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life. Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly; through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory. Amen.</i>		
Welcome and Opening Prayer		Sonia Ellis
Call to Worship		
Let us offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Alleluia! Thanks be to God!		
Introit	Alleluia!	Eugene Englert
§ Hymn 515	I Come with Joy	DOVE OF PEACE
§ Prayer of Confession		
Almighty God, your word offers freedom from sin, but we confess that we have not obeyed your word. We have harbored malice toward our enemies. We have been deceitful in our relationships. We have been insincere in our commitments. Through gossip we have slandered our friends. Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance. Help you children long for pure, spiritual milk that we may grow into the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ. 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 31:1–5, 15–16

Responsive Reading

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame;

In your righteousness deliver me.

Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress; **for your name's sake lead me and guide me.**

Take me out of the net that is hidden for me, **for you are my refuge.**

Into your hand I commit my spirit; **you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.**

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 28:16–17

Old Testament page 655

Children's Time

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

Anthem

Bless Now Our Love

Russell Farnell

Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.

We love, because He first loved us. Do everything in love.

Bless now our love, and bless this union; God the Spirit: comforter and guide.

Bless all the years we spend together: In Your love we truly can abide.

Bless now the love that we are seeking; Kindle in our hearts the Living Fire.

Bless all our actions: In our living be the object of our heart's desire.

These three remain: faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love.

Bless now our love, bless this communion. God in Jesus Christ, the crucified.

Bless us, and help us love each other, and recall the reason that You died.

Bless now our coming and our going, be the Light that shows the way above.

Bless now your children at this table, make us living symbols of Your love.

Love does no harm to its neighbor. Love fulfills the law.

This is love: not that we love God, but that he loved us.

Love each other deeply. This is my command.

Bless now our love, bless now your people, loving God: our guardian and stay.

Bless us through trials of daily living, that our love, O Lord, will never sway.

Bless now our faith, and make it stronger. Be the One that we depend upon.

Bless now our love, and ever longer, in Your loving story we live on.

New Testament Reading

1 Peter 2:2–10

New Testament page 233

Sermon

Living Stones

Rev. Jim Witherow

Responding

§ Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

Offering our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory

In the Garden
Laura Farnell, piano

arr. Gary Prim

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

see below

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 245

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

LLANFAIR

§ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Fugue in C Major

Dieterich Buxtehude



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.

I Come with Joy

515

Capo 3: (D) (G) (A) (D) (Bm)
 F B \flat C F Dm

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

(Asus) (Am) (G) (F#m) (D)
 Csus Cm B \flat Am F

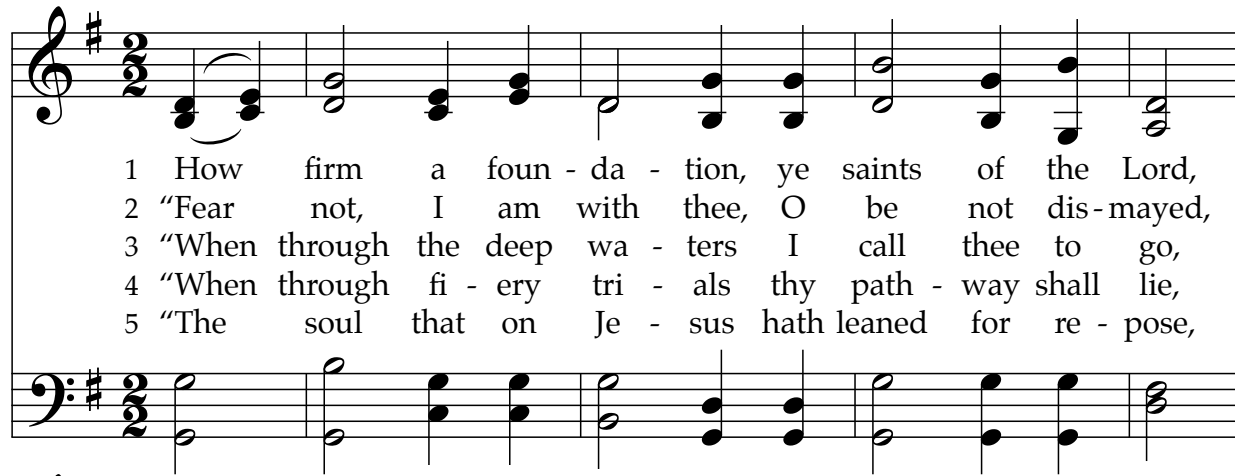
free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

(Em) (D/F#) (G) (A) (Am7) (D)
 Gm F/A B \flat C Cm7 F

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

463

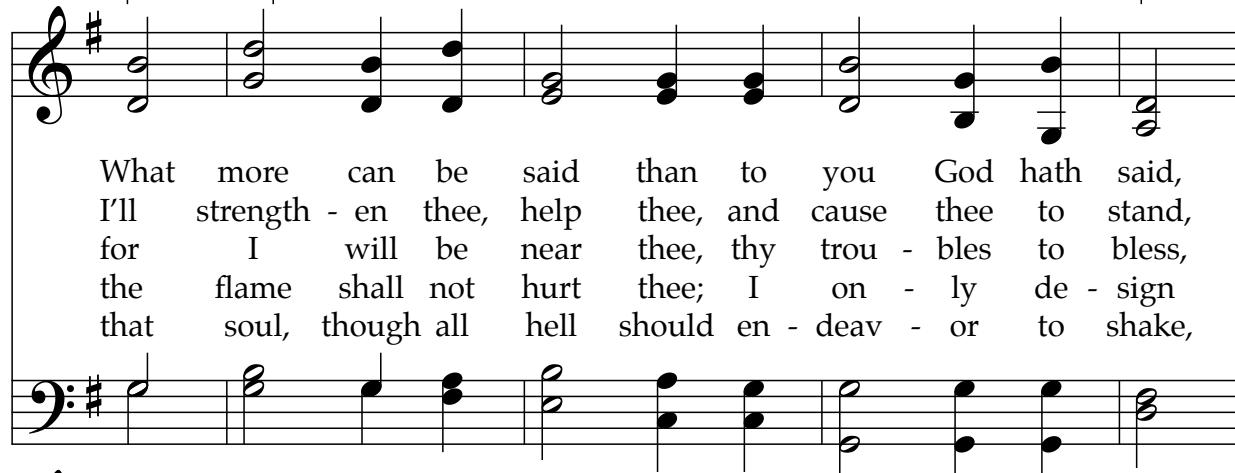
How Firm a Foundation



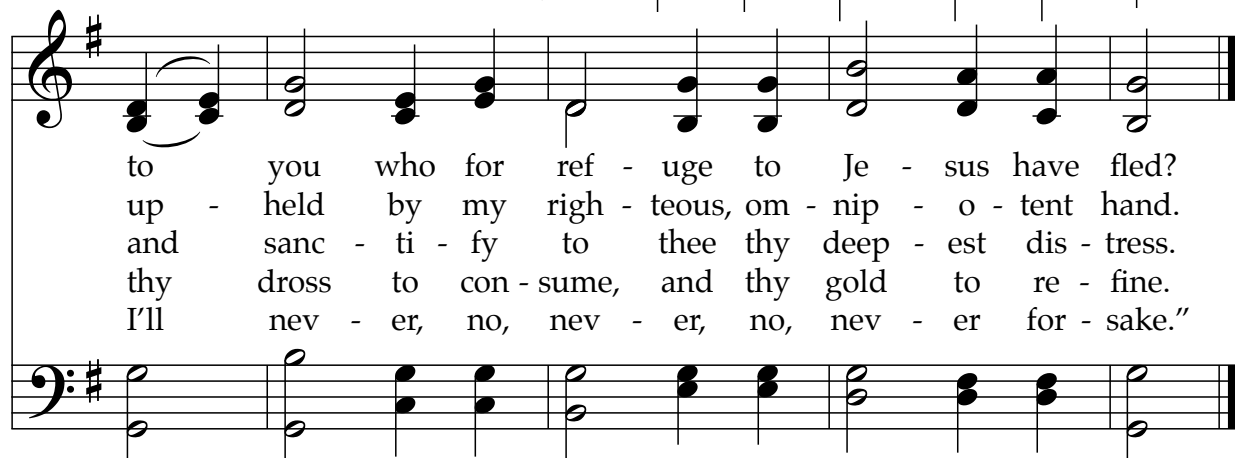
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,



is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

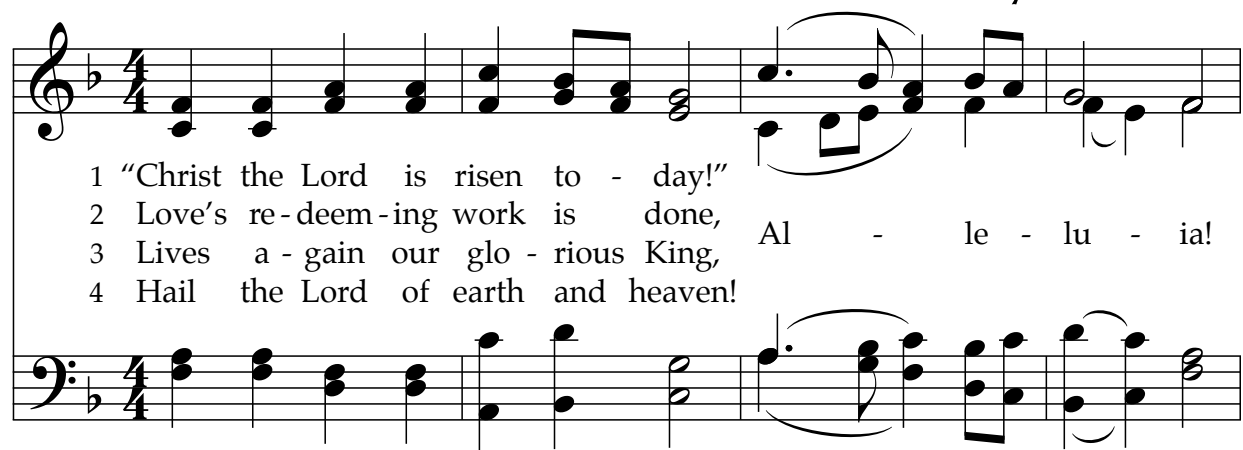


What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

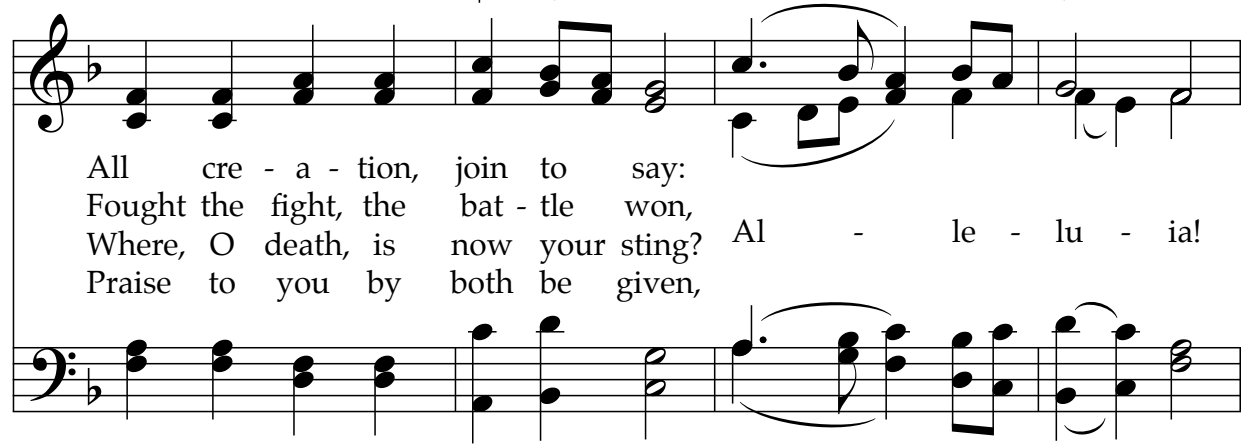


to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

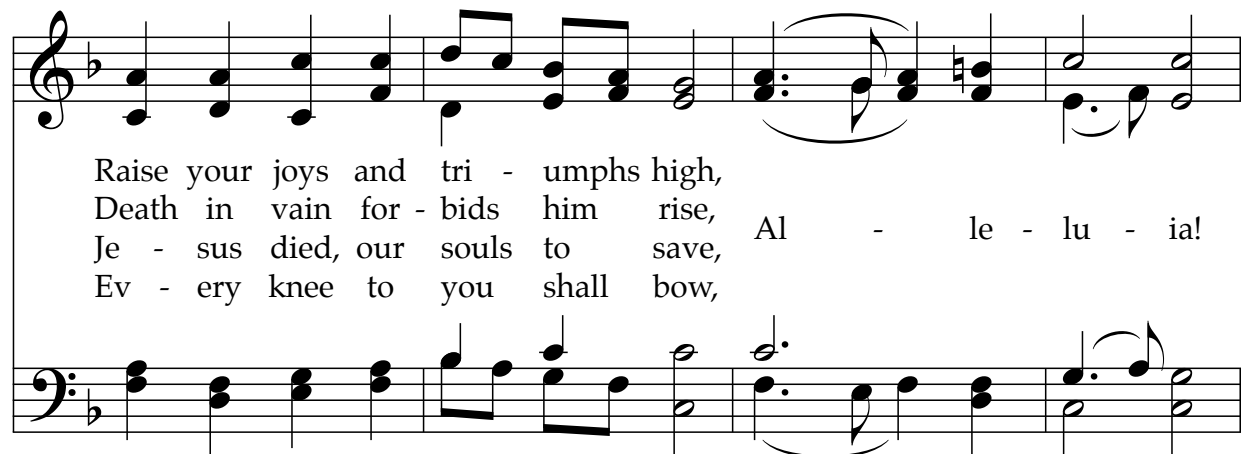
245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!



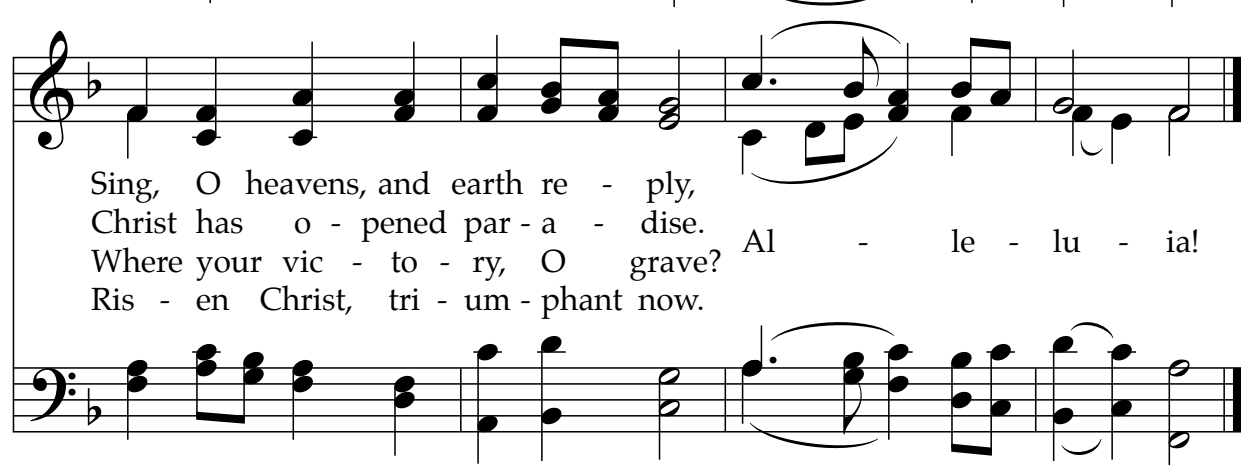
1 "Christ the Lord is risen to - day!"
2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!



All cre - a - tion, join to say:
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise to you by both be given,



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
Death in vain for - bids him rise,
Je - sus died, our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
Ev - ery knee to you shall bow,



Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave?
Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

This week:

Sunday, May 3

- Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in classrooms
- Worship Service - 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary
- Youth/Children's Musical rehearsal - Lunch at noon in Fellowship Hall; rehearsal begins at 12:45 in the choir room

Tuesday, May 5

- Senior Flexibility Class - 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study - 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- HOPE Tutoring - 6:30 p.m. in room 218
- Women's Ministry Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor

Wednesday, May 6

- Men's Bible Study - 8 a.m. in the Parlor
- Quilting - 10:30 a.m. in room 204
- Ring of Praise Handbell rehearsal - 6 p.m.
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m.
- CWF Bible Study - 7 p.m. online

Thursday, May 7

- Senior Flexibility Class - 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- National Day of Prayer - noon in the Chapel

Friday, May 8

- Kids Night Out - 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Coming up:

Sunday, May 10

- New Member class begins - 9:45 in the conference room

Sunday, May 17

- Senior Sunday during worship

Community:

PCHAS Luncheon Wednesday will serve up hope

Please join us for the Annual PCHAS Luncheon this Wednesday, May 6, at noon at the Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth, where "Hope Outshines Hardship." Learn about the work happening now and in the future for the children and families we serve.

Celebrate the National Day of Thursday at noon



The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May. Since 1952 The National Day of Prayer enables us to recall and to teach the way in which our founding fathers sought the wisdom of God when faced with critical decisions. Join us for a celebration Thursday, May 7 at noon in the Chapel.

Spiritual Gifts Assessment and Ministry Fair coming soon!

On May 10, you'll be invited to prayerfully complete a spiritual gifts assessment to help you discover your spiritual gifts bestowed by the Holy Spirit and give you direction on where to use them. The Ministry Fair on May 24 in Fellowship Hall following the worship service will be a time for you to see the various ministries of FPCA and explore which ministries can use your gifts.

New Member classes held in May

If you're interested in being part of the FPCA congregation or learning more about the church, join our New Member classes May 10, 17, and 24 at 9:45 in the conference room.

Get  connected:



@fpcatx on social media

Online at
firstprestexas.org Scan to give

Prayer Ministry:

Send prayer requests to prayer@firstprestexas.org or scan:



Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Charles Arnold, Carol Browning, Jimmy Chefor, Judy Crowell, Kimberly Davis, Cyprain Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Marshall Gesner, Jay and Susan Graham, Nancy Guerry, Joann Hanson, Frank Huneycutt, Elaine Keefer, Bob and Beverly Koch, Pat May, her son Tim Karnes, and her son-in-law Coleman Rabourn, Cathy Osbourn, Richard Price, JoAnn Quick, Carole Ray, Judy Reck, Lisa Scrabeck, Tonya Scrabeck, Jim Shroyer, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Sherry and Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble

Prayers for family in the armed forces:

Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Wolfgang Van Wie, Christopher Young

Prayers for our home-bound members:

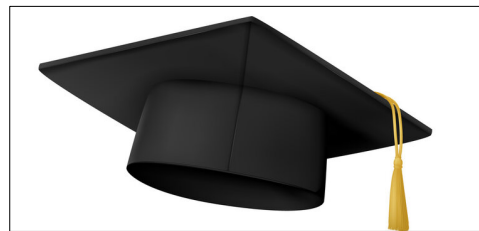
Bettye Burdett, Madge Casselman, Judy Crowell, Margaret Fite, Bobbie Fowler, Lila Glenn, Jay and Susan Graham, Teresa Hanson, Marcia Rober, Ann Scarr, Becky Speck, Leonard and Mary Jane Tibbetts, Dee Uhri, Biddie Walker

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.

Honor our graduates May 17

We will be celebrating high school and college graduations during worship on Sunday, May 17. Graduates, please email a photo and a biographical paragraph, including post-graduation plans by May 6 to tricia@firstprestexas.org. We hope our entire church family will attend to support these accomplished young people.



Join us for Kids Night Out Friday

Children ages 4 years old to 6th grade are invited to enjoy pizza, games, activities, and time with friends. Parents, enjoy a couple of hours off knowing your kids are safe and having fun!

Men's Lunch fellowship May 11

Announcing: a lunch fellowship for men who come to church alone! Join us at 12:15 p.m., on Monday, May 11, at JR's Grill in Pantego.

Naomi Group lunch May 17

The Naomi Group is a fellowship of church widows who go to lunch after worship each third Sunday. We invite you to lunch at 12:30 Sunday, May 17, at Prespa's Italian Restaurant, 3100 West Arkansas Ln. You don't have to make a reservation to come, but you may help us with seating by contacting jim@firstprestexas.org.

Staff directory:

Main Phone number: 817.274.8286

Chris Campbell	Lead Pastor	chris@firstprestexas.org
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Shina Heo	Organist	shina@firstprestexas.org
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Tricia Regalado	Director of Communications	tricia@firstprestexas.org
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Diane Chin	Night Monitor	diane@firstprestexas.org