

Welcome in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ

We are pleased you have joined us for worship this Sunday morning. We are a faithful congregation of the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) and within the bounds of the Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery. Worship is one of the many ministries that are facilitated by this historic and active congregation. A small group of Presbyterians began this ministry in 1835 and we are called by God to continue their faithful witness of Jesus Christ to our community and world. Bible studies and mission projects punctuate our weekly activities. If you would like more information about our ministries and/or becoming a new member, please call our church office during the week or talk to our pastor after worship. *Visitors and members alike are encouraged to complete the registration pad located on the main aisle of each pew.* Your contact information is never shared with any other identity.



Lay Leader this morning is Ruth Needle.

Ushers for this morning are Emily & Elsie Harris and Katherine Harrison & Jenna McAbee.

Visitors Last Sunday Were: Dave & Stephanie Bengtson, Walt Wilde.

Pastoral Care: Myra Peo, Dixie Hopkins, Becky Parkinson, Donne Williams, Bill Stover, Ray Ritter, Barbara Taylor, Paul Rice, Judy Rueseler

In the Military: Michelle Bryan, CA; Donald Shaver (brother-in-law of Joanna Shaver), Cape Girardeau; Eric Rueseler, LCPL; David Parkinson, Travis Air Force Base, CA; Col. Richard Parkinson, MacDill Air Force Base, FL; Jeff Parkinson, Elgin Air Force Base, FL. (Bob & Ann Parkinson's nephews); John Raimondo, Camp LeJeune, N. Carolina (Sharon Metcalfe's grandson); Eric Yocom, Air Force, Mountain Home, Idaho (Ray & Sandy Wilhelm's grandson)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES Both Children's Sunday School Classes will meet after the Kid's Message in worship. The Lower Grade's Class will meet in their classroom next to the Nursery. Kathy Woodfin and Cherie Herbst will be teaching this class. The curriculum will focus on "The Stories of the Old Testament" based on the *Read and Learn Bible*. The Upper Grade's Class will meet in their classroom on the second floor. Their curriculum will focus on studying "The Parables of Jesus". This class will be team taught by Kathy Brown, Melissa Harris, Sandy Wilhelm, Kate Broeckling and Julie Harrison.

Flowers for Worship: Flowers for worship may be shared to celebrate your anniversary, someone's birthday, or in memory of a loved one or friend. They can also just say "Thanks, God!" Please call the church office (335-2579) to sign up for flowers.

In support of our local FISH, the November Meal a Month- 2 cans tomato soup, 1 can evaporated milk, box of crackers, 2 Cans fruit of choice. Please put in the box in the Narthex.

Free Redhawks Women's Basketball Game- local churches, we had such a great turnout at our last event we are doing it again. Sunday December 13, at 2 pm the Redhawks will be taking on Central Arkansas. Anyone who brings a church bulletin will get free admission.

CALENDAR Sunday 11/22

Pray for	Woody Woodfin (birthday)
9:30 am	Embracing God's Word Adult Class
10:00 am	Coffee & fellowship
10:30 am	Worship Service
Noon	Decorate Church
4:00 pm	Community Thanksgiving Service Temple Assembly of God
Monday 11/23	Pray for Wilma Harris (birthday)
Tuesday 11/24	Pray for Dr. Ed Burford, Mary Davis (birthday)
Wednesday 11/25	6:30 pm Hand Bells
	7:30 pm Choir Practice
Thursday 11/26	Pray for Jim Logan (birthday)
	Rob & Sarah Ross; Paul & Donna Farris (anniversary)
Saturday 11/28	Pray for Bill Syler (birthday)
Sunday 11/29	9:30 am Embracing God's Word Adult Class
	10:00 am Coffee & fellowship
	10:30 am Advent Worship Service

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

The psalmist asked, "What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?" Gracious God, you have given us far more than we could ever need. Fill our hearts with gratitude for the simplest of your gifts—for family and friends, for shelter and nurture, for faith in the Creator and Giver of all things. Most of all, make us grateful for your presence with us. Amen.

National Bible Week is this week! Did you know that National Bible Week has been celebrated the week of Thanksgiving ever since 1941? National Bible Week statements are entered into the Congressional Record and every US President since Franklin D. Roosevelt has issued a National Bible Week Message. There is value and importance in reading the Bible and it is the perfect kick-off to the religious holiday season.

Worship at First Presbyterian!

Prepare your minds and hearts for Christmas at our upcoming 10:30 am Sunday services—Beautiful music and a great message! Schedule:

- Sun. Nov. 29—1st Sunday in Advent
- Sun. Dec. 6—2nd Sunday in Advent & Communion
- Sun. Dec. 13—3rd Sunday in Advent, & Choir Christmas Cantata
- Sun. Dec. 20—4th Sunday in Advent, & Recognition of Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Thurs. Dec. 24--Christmas Eve Service.
- Sun. Dec. 27—Special Music
- Sun. Jan. 3—Epiphany.

Bring a friend to church!

People are usually very receptive to church invitations at this time of year.

Tell your non-attending friends about our services.



Today! Decorate the Church with Holiday Decorations--The Worship and Arts team invites all of you to begin to decorate our church for Advent. We will start decorating after our service. Please consider staying and helping to make our church festive for the holiday season.



Living Nativity—Cast members needed! Two opportunities! Join us for one or both!

Come and participate in two Living Nativity events! The first one will be **next Sunday evening, November 29**, for the Parade of Lights. We will share the Christmas story in the window of our foyer. And the second one will be on **Friday, December 4**, for the Downtown First Friday Christmas Open House. Both are “user-friendly” events—no rehearsals required. We need various people of all ages to “play” the part of the Holy Family, Shepherds, Wise Men, and more. This is a great way to have an interactive Christmas memory for your family! It’s also a wonderful way to show our community that “Jesus is the Reason for the Season” and alive and well at First Presbyterian! To sign up, contact, Melissa Harris at 573-335-8548.

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11-23-2000

NICE WORK FELLAS ... IT'S BEEN A LONG WHILE NOW AND THEY ARE STILL REMEMBERING TO THANK ME

♪ Music Notes

Our Presbyterian calendar notes that today is Christ the King Sunday, also known as the Reign of Christ Sunday. Many denominations will recognize this day as the end of the Liturgical Year. Next Sunday we will begin a new cycle as we prepare for Advent and the coming of Jesus. His kingdom is both in heaven and on earth, and, it is unlike any kingdom of earthly kings.

Nov. 22, is the Feast of St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music. It is said that she was martyred as a Christian, most likely in the 2nd or 3rd century—long before Christianity was legalized. It is believed that when she married she made music in her heart, and while she was dying, Cecilia sang praises to God—hence, her role as a patron saint of musicians. She is often portrayed in art with organ pipes. Although Presbyterians do not revere such saints the way that some groups do, her story is still fascinating. We are blessed to live at a time when Christianity is legal in most places in the world. Would we have the faith of a St. Cecilia, and others like her, if practicing our faith might lead to our death?

We Gather Together is a folk hymn from the Netherlands, first published in 1626, after a Dutch victory. Although it is possible that the Pilgrims knew the tune and text, they most likely would have sung only Psalms or Scripture. It appeared in an American hymnal in the early 1900s and has been associated with Thanksgiving ever since. The closing hymn also uses the tune, “Kremser.”

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful (#654) is from the ecumenical community of Taizé, located in the Burgundy region of France. Both Protestant and Roman Catholic Christians from many nations gather there each week for prayer, scripture study, and meditation. For more information visit their website at: www.taize.fr.

May you be inspired to meditate on the music and texts.

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Ruth Pautler, Clerk of Session
Shirley Sullivan, Church Secretary
Jean Cairns, Treasurer
Peter Durow, Choir Director, Music Ministry Team
Rebecca Nelson, Keyboard, Music Ministry Team
Kathy Woodfin, Nursery Attendant
Joanna Shaver, Wedding Coordinator
Gina Thomas, Maintenance
Rev. Dr. Kim L Nelson, D. Min. Pastor

THE SESSION

CLASS OF 2015

Donna Pikey
Ruth Pautler
Joyce Rayfield
Kathy Brown

CLASS OF 2016

Nancy Bray
John Broeckling
Caroline Manuel
Joanna Shaver

CLASS OF 2017

Paul Farris
Melissa Harris
Janna Tuck
Dale Watkins

SERVICE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

9:00 A.M. Adult Education
10:30 A.M. Worship Service
10:45-11:30 Children and Youth Sunday School

GENERAL NOTICES

Childcare for infants, toddlers and preschoolers is provided during worship.
The Session meets the third Wednesday of the month.
The Church Choir rehearses Wednesdays at 7:30 P.M.
The Church sponsors Boy Scout Troop 4, David Remley Scoutmaster, and
Cub Scout Pack 15, Brian Hall Cubmaster