

SERMON NOTES:

1. Core Identity (v. 9)

2. Primary Delight (v. 10)

3. Promised Outcome (v. 11)

This Week at 1st Pres

Sunday, September 17

9:00 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:15 AM	Children's Church	Children's Wing
10:15 AM	Sunday School	Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 AM	Children's Church	Children's Wing
11:30 AM	Church Picnic	Off-Site
5:15 PM	Evening Worship Service	Sanctuary
6:00 PM	Youth Choir	Choir Room
6:30 PM	High School Small Group	Student Center

Monday, September 18

10:00 AM	Flower Delivery Pick-Up	Connector
	Women's Prayer Ministry	Session Room
5:15 PM	Diaconate Monthly Meeting	Nell Davis

Tuesday, September 19

9:30 AM	Women of the Covenant	Coffee Lounge
9:45 AM	GaP Women's Bible Study	Tower 10 th Floor
11:45 AM	Let's Have Lunch Women's Study	Nell Davis
12:00 PM	Beatitude Living	Tower 404
5:45 PM	Bonded in Fellowship	Coffee Lounge
6:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom

Wednesday, September 20

4:30 PM	Deacon-on-Call	Connector
	World Missions Prayer Time	Tower 303
5:30 PM	Midweek Dinner	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Middle School Small Group	Student Center
6:15 PM	Master Plan Town Hall	Fellowship Hall
	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	Rapha Fellowship	Rooms 209, 210, 212
	Kids Ministry	Children's Wing

Thursday, September 21

11:45 AM	Ladies Fellowship Lunch	Off-Site
3:15 PM	First Friends English Class	Student Center
7:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom

Friday, September 22

	Middle School Fall Retreat	
12:00 PM	Card-E-Ology	Tower 8 th Floor

*The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 1st Sunday of a month.
Prayers for Healing take place on the 2nd Sunday of a month.
The Sacrament of Communion takes place on the 3rd Sunday of each month.*

Announcements are available via email subscription
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*At First Presbyterian, we seek to be a healthy church
exhibiting all the fullness of Christ as we disciple believers who
develop spiritually, connect relationally, and engage missionally
to reach Chattanooga and the world with the gospel.*

The Lord's Day

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
11:00 AM

† *Please stand as you are able.*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PERSONAL WORSHIP REFLECTION

It is one of the most amazing, wonderful,
and sweetest things in the Bible
to realize that just hours before Jesus was crucified
He was concerned for the peace, joy, and faith of His followers.
Think of it . . . Jesus is about to be tortured to death
with one of the most horrific means of torture ever devised,
and His burden was to solidify in the souls of His followers
His love, His peace, and His joy!
Today, He wants you to experience the same
as you come to worship Him.
– adapted from John Piper

PERSONAL PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, may my worship of You
cause the mind of Christ to be more fully present in me
so that I may think Your thoughts and do Your deeds.
May Your Word dwell in me so that I delight to do what You command.
May Your peace so umpire my life
that I am progressively set free from anxieties and fears.
May Your love so fill me that I am empowered
to love others who may prove difficult to love.
Lastly, may Your beauty rest on me in such a life-transforming way
that others might truly see Christ in me and be drawn to Him. Amen.

PRELUDE

*"Ruska" by E. Toppinen, arr. Roger W. Lowther
("Colors of Autumn") Roger W. Lowther, organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"I Sing Because I'm Happy" arr. Rollo Dilworth

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

†SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Zephaniah 3:17 ESV

Pastor: The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty One Who will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness;

**People: He will quiet you by His love;
He will exult over you with loud singing.**

†PRAYER OF INVOCATION

†THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.**

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

†HYMNS OF PRAISE

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" No. 164 (vv. 1-6)
"O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire" No. 161 (vv. 1-4)

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism (1647), Q&A 36

Pastor: What are the benefits which in this life
do accompany or flow from justification,
adoption, and sanctification?

**People: The benefits which in this life do accompany
or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification,
are, assurance of God's love, peace of conscience,
joy in the Holy Spirit, increase of grace,
and perseverance to the end.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Holy Father, our life-giving relationship with Your Son
is to be marked by trust, love, obedience, and joy.**

**Yet, we confess our battle with unbelief
and our struggle to rest in Your promises.**

Pardon us for our unwillingness to sacrifice

in loving others who are different from ourselves.

Liberate us from a practical atheism and prayerlessness

that lead us into the grip of paralyzing fear.

Forgive us for our half-hearted resistance to temptation.

Transform us so that we truly delight to do what You command.

**Restore to us the joy of our salvation
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Revelation 1:5b-6 NASB 2020

To Him Who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood
—and He made us into a kingdom, priests to His God and Father
—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

†HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!" No. 535 (vv. 1-3)

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

"At the Cross" arr. Beryl Red

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Please check in your children PreK-1st grade at the check-in station by the
Fellowship Hall level elevator and walk them to the PreK-K dept.*

†DOXOLOGY

THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

SERMON

John 15:9-11 — "A True Disciple of Jesus Christ"
"A Bright Future: Jesus's Vision for Our Church"
Richard G. Cain

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

"My Jesus, I Love Thee" No. 648 (vv. 1,2,4)

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

Romans 15:13 NASB 2020

Pastor: Now may the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you will abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Wir glauben all an einen Gott, BWV 680" by J.S. Bach
("We All Believe in One True God") Roger W. Lowther, organ

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Walton Boxell and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by
volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, September 18th.*



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