

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Presbyterian Church  
Tallahassee, Florida  
Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 18, 2025, 11:00 AM



## GATHERING

Ring of the Zimbelstern

Voluntary

Prelude in D minor

Clara Schumann

Call to Worship

Ethan Murphy

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God on high!

**Praise God, sun and moon. Praise God, all you shining stars!**

Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and ocean depths!

**Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, praise the Lord!**

Kings and all peoples of the earth, princes and all rulers of the earth, praise the Lord!

**Old and young together; all people praise the Lord!**

Opening Prayer

Rev. Glenn Hodges

\*Hymn 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, you command us to love one another,  
yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace.**

**You command us to care for all of creation,**

**yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature through carelessness.**

**You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**Guide us as we work toward a new heaven here on earth.**

**Lead us to reconciliation and a vision for your beloved community,  
as we share your love with your people everywhere.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, nurtured, and safe.**

\* Sung Response

Christ Our Passover

Jeffrey Rickard

Congregational Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ our Pass - o -  
- ver has been sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us  
keep the feast, Al - le - lu - ia,  
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Choir: *Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil; But with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. [Refrain]*

\*Asterisks indicate to please rise in body or spirit. Congregational responses are in **bold print**.

\*The Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Glenn Hodges  
Donna Barber

Minute for Mission

Gail Hankinson

Recognition of Teachers and Graduates

Rev. Glenn Hodges  
Mary Kutter

## PROCLAIMING

Prayer for Illumination

Joyce Crawford

Acts of the Apostles

Acts 11:1-18

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Hymn 17

Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!  
(Psalm 148:1-14)

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

New Testament

Revelation 21:1-6

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Hymn 316

Where Charity and Love Prevail

TWENTY-FOURTH

Gospel

John 13:31-35

Rev. Glenn Hodges

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

## RESPONDING

\*Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of  
the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the  
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

God of new life, **hear our prayer.**  
... through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

## Call to Offering

### Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

#### Anthem

#### Love is Come Again

Arr. John Erickson

*Now the green blade riseth,  
from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth  
green.*

*In the grave they laid Him,  
Love whom men had slain,  
Thinking that He never would wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth  
green.*

*Forth He came at Easter,  
like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth  
green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Thy touch can call us back to life again.  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

*Christ the Lord is risen, Sing Alleluia!  
Ris'n for our salvation, Sing Alleluia!  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

#### \*Presentation Hymn 609

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

## SENDING

#### \*Hymn 374

#### O Holy City, Seen of John

MORNING SONG

#### \*Blessing and Charge

The blessing of the eternal, triune God—Alpha and Omega,  
first and last, beginning and end—be with you all. **Alleluia!**  
Come, Lord Jesus! **Amen.**

#### Congregational Meeting

Greg Riccardi, Clerk of Session

#### Voluntary

Fugue in D minor

Clara Schumann

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## IN WORSHIP TODAY

“**Kingdom**” or “**Kindom**” in the Lord’s Prayer? Kingdoms were the dominant community structure when our Scriptures were written. Some find it meaningful to think about other Biblical metaphors to convey the ethos of care and genuine kin-ships about which Jesus taught and preached. Please pray as you choose.

**Prayer Concerns and Celebrations** — **We offer prayers for healing** for Barbara Kronholz, Cole (grandson of Rich Peyton), Alan Williams, Martha Kutter, Sandy Burkholder, Wayne Friedemann, Morris Springer, Cindy Harden, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Sandra Sherrard, and Martha Snowden. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Brooklyn and all those involved in her care; the Kutter family, as Ed’s sister Patricia Yeilding died this week; and Evanna (Wayne Friedemann’s sister), Patricia McCoy Delancey, Thaddeus Gillon, and Aidan (grandson of Sue Safford). We pray for the staff and volunteers of Second Harvest of the Big Bend and all our mission partners, and for victims of gun violence in our community and our country. We pray for the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba, Pastor Izett Samá Hernández, and Pastor Alison Infante. We pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, and around the world. **We also pray for those in military service**, including Brian Guisao, Ross Yeilding, David DelRossi, and Owen Elzie. **We offer prayers of celebration** for the birth of Corrine Clara Hanley on May 13, joining the family of Julia Kronholz, Adam Hanley, and Camille Hanley.

Today and every day, **we give thanks for our Sunday School teachers. Adult Classes:** Greg Riccardi, Debbie Gibson, John Guthrie, Barbara Busharis, Patrick Kennedy, and Carl Morse. **Middle/High School Class, Elementary Class, and the Nursery:** Mary Hodges, Carolyn Herrington, Aide Whitaker, Mary Kutter, Amy Guthrie, Ed Kutter, Kay Crowell, Robyn Stevenson, Sue Hightower, Ann Riccardi, and Kathy Caleen.

We are proud to celebrate our **high school graduate** today, Sebastian Bradley Neel (son of Elizabeth Bradley, grandson of Carolyn Herrington, and nephew of Carolyn Bradley). Sebastian is graduating from Leon High School and will be attending Santa Fe College to study Statistics and Finance.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Children** are welcome in this service as full members of God's family. Parents and children are invited to use whatever is useful in the basket by the back door. Child care for children under the age of kindergarten is in the Education Building. Please note that during worship the Education Building is locked. Please enter through the breezeway door.

**Restrooms** are located in this building through the door at the end of each aisle of the sanctuary on the ground floor.

**An induction loop system** is available in the sanctuary. To use the system, switch your compatible hearing aid to the T-telephone mode or request a wireless headset from an usher.

**Large print versions** of the Glory to God hymnal and worship bulletin are available from ushers.

**Visitors:** We are glad you are here this morning! If you have questions about our congregation or about church membership, please let us know by using the friendship registers or speaking to one of the greeters so we can connect you with the right people. We welcome new members after worship on the second Sunday of each month.

**A congregational meeting** will be called at the close of worship today to elect the 2025-2026 elder nominating committee.

**Please join us after worship today** in the courtyard for refreshments to celebrate our teachers, graduates, and Florida's Emancipation Day.

Check-in



Let us know you came  
to Worship Today!



QR Codes



Give Online!



Online Offerings  
& Donations

## MEMBERS OF SESSION 2025-27

### CLASS OF 2025

Donna Barber  
Carolyn Bradley  
Debbie Gibson  
Patrick Kennedy  
Sue Safford

### CLASS OF 2026

Jane Atkinson  
Daniel Bruno  
Eleanor Cleveland  
Janet Fixel  
Greg Riccardi, Clerk

### CLASS OF 2027

Kay Crowell  
Jon Dodrill  
Caitlin James  
Mary Kutter  
Deb Whisnant

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

### DESIGNATED PASTOR

Rev. Glenn Hodges

### PARISH ASSOCIATE

Rev. Dr. Greta Reed

### ORGANIST

Elizabeth Lajeunesse

### CHOIR DIRECTOR

Ethan Murphy

### VIDEO TEAM

Carl Morse

### CUSTODIAN/SUNDAY HOST


Becky Brown

First Presbyterian Church  
110 North Adams Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
E-mail: [office@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:office@oldfirstchurch.org)




Phone: (850) 222-4504  
Fax: (850) 222-2215  
[www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch](https://www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch)  
Website: [www.oldfirstchurch.org](http://www.oldfirstchurch.org)


## 81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken




1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.  
 2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear  
 3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.  
 for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.  
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?  
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,  
 Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.  
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.  
 Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.

# Sing Praise to God, You Heavens! 17

(Psalm 148)

1 Sing praise to God, you heav-ens! Sing praise, each shin-ing light!  
 2 Sing praise, O earth, sing prais-es! Sing prais-es, hill and plain,  
 3 Sing prais-es, all you crea-tures in whom God takes de-light:  
 4 Sing prais-es now, God's peo-ple; your gift of speech em-ploy

Sing, plan-ets in your or-bits; sing, stars all burn-ing bright!  
 you moun-tains thrust-ing sky-ward, you val-leys ripe with grain!  
 you whales that roam the o-ceans, you ea-gles in your flight!  
 to praise the Lord, your Mak-er, with thank-ful-ness and joy!

Sing praise, you winds and tem-pests, you driv-ing rain and snow!  
 Sing praise, each fra-grant flow-er; your fair-est hues dis-play.  
 Sing praise, you sheep on hill-sides, you cat-tle in the stall!  
 Sing with the whole cre-a-tion; a cos-mic cho-rus raise:

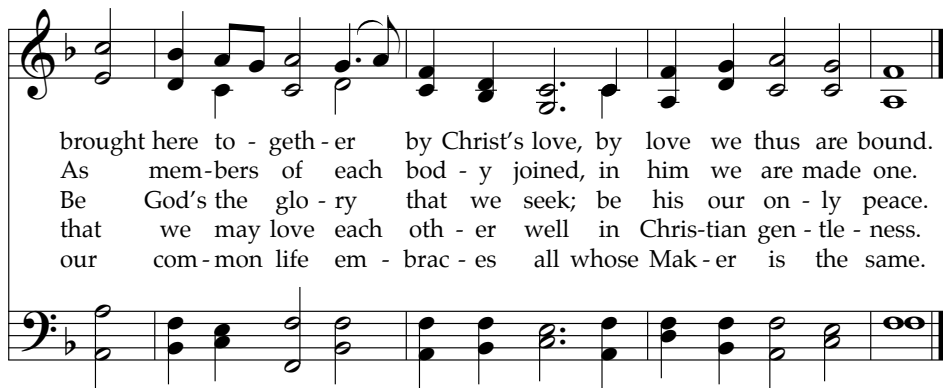
Sing, clouds that race and bil-low and shad-ow earth be-low!  
 Sing praise, you trees of au-tumn in glow-ing, glad ar-ray!  
 Though word-less, sing your prais-es to God who made you all!  
 "To God a-lone be glo-ry and ev-er-last-ing praise!"

This paraphrase of Psalm 148 reflects the spirit of praise linking Psalms 146–150. Of the two great themes found in these final five psalms—creation and deliverance—this psalm focuses on the former. The opening praise “from the heavens” is matched by praise “from the earth.”

# Where Charity and Love Prevail 316



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.  
3 Let strife a - mong us be un-known; let all con - ten-tions cease.  
4 Let us for-give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,  
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
As mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.  
our com-mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

## 609

# Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

D A D

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

Bm A D G D Bm E A D

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

D

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

G A D Em A Bm

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

Em D G A Em G A D

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## O Holy City, Seen of John 374

1 O ho - ly cit - y, seen of John, where Christ, the  
 2 O shame to us who rest con - tent while lust and  
 3 Give us, O God, the strength to build the cit - y  
 4 Al - read - y in the mind of God that cit - y

Lamb, does reign, with - in whose four-square walls shall come no  
 greed for gain in street and shop and ten - e - ment wring  
 that has stood too long a dream; whose laws are love, whose  
 ris - es fair. Lo, how its splen - dor chal - len - ges the

night, nor need, nor pain, and where the tears are  
 gold from hu - man pain, and bit - ter lips in  
 ways are ser - vant - hood, and where the sun that  
 souls that great - ly dare, and bids us seize the

wiped from eyes that shall not weep a - gain!  
 deep de - spair cry, "Christ has died in vain!"  
 shines be - comes your grace for hu - man good.  
 whole of life and build its glo - ry there.

Unlike texts that treat the heavenly Jerusalem as a goal for the life to come, this hymn regards John's vision as a challenge to work here and now for the accomplishment of God's purposes on earth. The shape note tune provides an effective setting for this stirring text.