

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026, 11:00 AM
First Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, Florida



GATHERING

Ringling of the Zimbelstern

Voluntary

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Hugo Gehrke

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tai Cole
Donnie Watts

Call to Worship

Surely the Lord is in this place!
This is the house of God.

Opening Prayer

*Hymn 367

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGES'S WINDSOR

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, Author of our life and End of our pilgrimage: Guide us by your Word and Spirit amid all perils and temptations, that we may not wander from your way, nor stumble in the darkness; but may finish our course in safety, and come to our eternal rest in you; through the grace and merit of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith.
Beloved people of God, believe the good news:
through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen

*Response Hymn 583

Gloria, Gloria
Sung once in unison, twice in a round

GLORIA (Taizé)

*The Peace

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

WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Linda Smith

First Reading

Isaiah 44:6–8

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

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

Hymn 29

O God, You Search Me (Psalm 139)

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME

Second Reading

Romans 8:12–27

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

*Hymn 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

Rev. John Cole

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

Sermon

*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

... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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.**

EUCCHARIST

Call To Offering

Anthem

Sowing in the Morning

ARR. BO KIM

*Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
sowing in the noon tide and the dewy eve.
Waiting for the harvest and the time of reaping,
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.*

*Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest and the labor ended,
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.*

*Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,
We shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves!*

*Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.*

*Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves.*

*Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves, we
shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves.*

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

*Presentation Hymn 608

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*Hymn 714

God of the Fertile Fields

ITALIAN HYMN

*Blessing and Charge

May the blessing of the Trinity—holy, holy, holy Lord—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?
And I said, “Here I am; send me!” Amen.

Voluntary

Sonata de primo tono

José Lidon

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 Juana Maria Diaz Perez (mother of Ruben Diaz), Bob Rackleff, Rich Peyton, Martha Kutter, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Sandra Sherrard, Martha Snowden, Wayne Friedemann, Jeff Jennings and Judy Arthur. Wayne also requests prayers for a friend who is having surgery. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Patricia McCoy Delancey and Jeannetta Hoekman. **We pray for the staff and volunteers** of Second Harvest of the Big Bend as well as those of all our mission partners. **We pray 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, Iran and around the world. **We also pray for those in military service**, including Ross Yeilding, David DelRossi, and Owen Elzie.

Today we welcome back Rev. Tai Cole and Rev. Dr. John Cole. John Cole is an assistant teaching professor in the Department of Religion at Florida State University, where he completed his PhD in 2021. Tai Cole holds degrees from Union Presbyterian Seminary as well as an MSW from Florida State University, where she is Associate Director of The Stoops Center for Communities, Families, and Children. She anticipates completing a PhD later this year. They have served several churches in the Florida Presbytery and elsewhere, including a recent term as interim co-pastors at First Presbyterian Quincy.

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 door to the Narthex. Childcare for children under the age of kindergarten is in the Education Building, Room 205. 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 ground floor aisle of the sanctuary.

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 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.

CHECK-IN



Let us know you came
to Worship today!



QR CODES



GIVE ONLINE



Online Offerings &
Donations

MEMBERS OF SESSION 2026–28

CLASS OF 2026

Daniel Bruno
Eleanor Cleveland
Janet Fixel
John Mayo
Greg Riccardi, Clerk

CLASS OF 2027

Kay Crowell
Jon Dodrill
Caitlin James
Mary Kutter
Deb Whisnant

CLASS OF 2028

Carolyn Herrington
Sue Hightower
Bob McVety
Donnie Watts
Shirley Zahn

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

OFFICIANT
SCRIPTURE READER
CHOIR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
VIDEO TEAM LEAD

Rev. John Cole
Linda Smith
The Adult Choir
Bryan Stenson
Timothy Hoekman
Carl Morse

First Presbyterian Church
110 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Email: office@oldfirstchurch.org



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

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har-vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har-vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!



Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria

Capo 3: (Bm)

(Em)

(A)

(D)

Dm

Gm

C

F

(chords continue)



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**May be sung as a canon.*

O God, You Search Me

29

(Psalm 139)



1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my
 2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
 3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have
 4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, still I
 5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, gave me



thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I
 cern my pur - pose from a - far, and with
 known its mean - ing through and through. You are
 search for shel - ter from your light. There is
 life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the



walk or lie down you are be - fore me: ev - er the
 love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: in ev - ery
 with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my
 no - where on earth I can es - cape you: e - ven the
 won - der of who I am, I praise you: safe in your



mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
 dark - ness is ra - dian - t in your sight.
 hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Psalm 139 is one of the most introspective and most intimate of all the psalms, showing an acute mindfulness of God's presence in all aspects of one's life. Sometimes resisted, this omnipresence ultimately becomes a ground of hope, a promise that we never stray beyond God's care.

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
 2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
 of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
 is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
 faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

608

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

God of the Fertile Fields

714

1 God of the fer - tile fields, shap - er of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - ery land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - ery - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Greater awareness has enlarged Christian stewardship to develop new dimensions of concern for people in all parts of the world. Because we believe that it is God's will that the gifts we have received should be shared, this hymn concludes with that phrase from the Lord's Prayer.