

This Week @ First

Worship & Music

To watch our Sunday worship at 11 AM, connect with us on [YouTube](#) (find the bulletin [here](#))!

Compassion and Social Justice

The Compassion and Social Justice's team of volunteers has been providing food, laundry services, and showers to our downtown unsheltered neighbors for several months. We'd also like to be able to offer them small toiletry items that would allow them to maintain their hygiene despite their challenging circumstances.

If you would like to contribute to our efforts, you can bring the small samples you collect while traveling or specific items that are available at a Dollar Store or drug store. We could use: toothbrushes and small toothpastes; disposable razors; travel-sized shampoos, hand lotions, and deodorants; small combs; etc. There will be a box on the table outside the office for you to leave your donations. Thank you for your compassion for those who are unsheltered in our community.

Office Volunteers

We are in need of office volunteers from 12–2 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If interested in volunteering, there are a few ways to sign up: go to the Breeze calendar and sign up to volunteer by clicking on the volunteer tab, fill out [this form](#) or email Kelby, kelby@oldfirstchurch.org.

To submit information to be included in the newsletter and/or the Sunday bulletin (as space permits), please use [this link](#), which will take you to an online form. You can access the form directly through Breeze, as well. Thank you!

Have any pictures from church events that you would like to share with us? Send them in a message on [facebook](#) or you can email them to kelby@oldfirstchurch.org.

First Presbyterian Church

110 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Phone: (850) 222-4504/Fax: (850) 222-2215

Email: Kelby@oldfirstchurch.org

Website: www.oldfirstchurch.org

www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

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Spiritual Formation

Sunday School–Youth

All youth are invited! Grades K–5 in room 306. Middle and High School Students in room 301. 9:30 AM each week. A nursery will be available starting at 9:15 AM.

“Feasting on the Word” Lectionary-Based Bible Study

Calvin Room and via [Zoom](#), 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM.

Each week this class will gather to engage and discuss selected texts from our Lectionary readings.

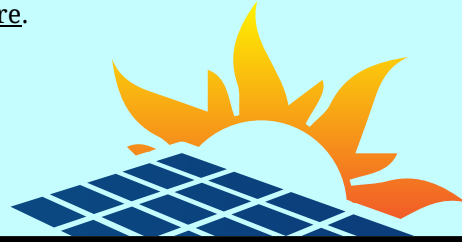
Adult Inquirer’s Class

The Inquirer’s Class will not meet this week.

Please keep an eye out for further information regarding plans for future classes.

Solar Symposium at Westminster Oaks

Westminster Oaks will be holding a “Solar Symposium” on November 22 from 2–4:30 PM. This event is co-sponsored by Tallahassee State College and will provide basic information about solar power for residents and local businesses/non-profits with suitable buildings and those curious about potential benefits. For more information, a flyer can be found [here](#).



Candlelight Concert Series

The Candlelight Concert Series has been a must see for the Tallahassee community. We had a full house for the concerts this past Saturday.

If you need some inspiration to get in the Halloween spirit, purchase tickets [here](#) to enjoy a musical evening of spooktacular Halloween Classics.





Pastoral Note

This is the second pastor's note in a series on worship. The Presbyterian order of worship is faithful to the witness of Scripture. At the same time, there are no standards governing service ordering. The Directory of Worship in the Book of Order (BO) presents standards and norms for worship in congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). According to the BO, the order of worship offered for the Service for the Lord's Day is rooted in Scripture, the tradition of the universal Church, and our Reformed heritage.

The Book of Common Worship (BCW), "Worship is at the heart of the church's life. All that the church is and does is rooted in its worship. The community of faith, gathered in response to God's call, is formed in its worship. Worship is the principal influence that shapes our faith and is the most visible way we express the faith." Liturgy is the service of God offered by the people of God in divine worship. The order of worship consists of rites, rubrics, patterns, words, and direction in "The Service for the Lord's Day." The order for "The Service for the Lord's Day" consists of four successive actions:

Gathering: Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative, calling us together. Or first act of worship is to heed God's call and join others in praising God. We praise God in Scripture, prayer, and song, acknowledging our sinfulness and receiving God's declaration of forgiveness.

The Word (Proclaiming)*: The congregation hears the Scriptures read and the message proclaimed. The congregation may sing psalms, hymns, spirituals, or anthems between scripture readings. Where the Word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ, the living Word, is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Reading, hearing, and preaching are essentials to worship. The use of song, drama, dance, and visual art enhances the proclamation of the Word.

The Eucharist (Responding)*: Thanksgiving in Greek means Eucharist, or ecumenically, the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper is a koinonia (fellowship) by the people of God with one another at the Table with Christ as their host.

It emphasizes the congregation's spiritual relationship with Christ, whose presence is given in the sacrament. On noncommunion occasions, "the Eucharist" contains affirmation of faith, offerings, prayer of thanksgiving, and the Lord's Prayer.

The Sending: This final section of the worship includes singing a final hymn and receiving the charge and the blessing. In a sense, this is a gathering to return to the world. We are entrusted to keep the faith as we go out into the world with the promise of God's support.

**Actions at First Presbyterian Church*

“

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

–John 4:24

”

Rev. Glenn Hodges

Sources:

Book of Common Worship. 2018. Prepared by the Office of Theology and Worship for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Louisville: John Knox Press.

Book of Order 2023-2025: The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Part II. 2023. Louisville: Presbyterian Publishing Corporation

McKim, Donald K. 1996. *Westminster: Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press.

The Companion to the Book of Common Worship, 2003. Edited by Peter C. Bower, Louisville: Geneva Press

White, James. 2000. *Introduction to Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press.

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