

Adult

Bible 101: all ages, SS 212

A round-table discussion on the basic studies of Scripture following the Chalmers Center Guide. Currently studying *The Jesus Storybook Bible*.

Chapter by Chapter: ages 50+, Tower 804

More information will be available soon.

Fellowship Class: all ages, SS 210

Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

First Pres Forum Class: all ages, Fellowship Hall

Offering a rotating schedule of teachers and speakers. See 1stPresbyterian.com/SundaySchool for the full class schedule.

The Joy of Learning: ages 30s - 70s, Tower 258

A no-pressure, discussion-based class currently studying God's Biblical responses to Screwtape/Satan in C.S. Lewis's book *The Screwtape Letters*.

Link Class: ages 60+, Tower 301

Currently studying Romans, followed by prayer requests and a time of prayer. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

McCallie/Anderson Class: all ages, Chapel

Class dates back to 1924 and is named after legendary Sunday School teachers J. Park McCallie and Lee Anderson. Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse.

Reformed by the Word: ages 50s - 80s, Tower 10th Floor

An interactive class studying the Gospel according to Mark. Lessons are followed by a time of prayer.

Rocking Chair Class: all ages, Tower 302

Focuses on discovering "what sayest the Scripture." Currently studying Acts.

International & Adult Bible Discussion: all ages, Tower 805

Part of the First Friends Ministry, welcomes international college students. Currently studying the Kingdom of God.

Young Couples: ages 20s - 30s couples, Tower 402/3

A short lesson followed by group discussion. Class is currently studying the Book of Church Order from the Presbyterian Church in America's Constitution.

Young Professionals: ages 20s - 30s, Tower 304

Aimed at connecting recent college graduates and newly-weds in their 20s and 30s, class begins with a time of fellowship followed by a short lesson.

Youth & Kids

Youth Large Group: 6th - 12th grade, Student Center (across McCallie Ave.)

Kid's Sunday School: Pre K - 5th grade, ground, 1st, & 2nd level Children's Wing

Nursery: Infant - 4-years-old

More information on our Adult Sunday School, Youth Ministry, and Kids Ministry can be found at 1stPresbyterian.com.

A Place at the Table - November 15

To wrap up this semester's Midweek fellowship, please join us for our annual Thanksgiving dinner this **Wednesday, November 15, from 5:30-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall!** We encourage you to invite neighbors and friends, especially those who may not have any place to celebrate Thanksgiving this year.

Operation Christmas Child - October 29-November 13

Operation Christmas Child season is upon us! Shoeboxes are available in the Connector for you to take home and fill with school supplies, hygiene items, and a "wow" item, such as a doll, stuffed animal, etc. We ask that you include a \$10 donation in your box to cover shipping costs. Filled boxes may be dropped off in bins around the church. Go to SamaritansPurse.org for more information or to fill a box virtually.

Officer Nominations through November

During the month of November, 1st Pres members in good standing can nominate qualified men in our congregation who you think would be a good fit for Deacon or Elder. Nomination forms and drop-box will be available at the Front Desk in the Connector starting November 1. View a full list of qualifications at 1stPresbyterian.com/events.

Channels of Love Thanksgiving Baskets - November 1-20

1st Pres is partnering once again with Channels of Love, a Christian non-profit ministry for those affected by HIV. Drop-off baskets are available around the church for canned goods and other items. Visit COLMinistry.org or contact our Community Outreach Director Shad Guinn (shad@1stpresbyterian.com) for more information and ways to contribute.

Ways to Serve This Holiday Season

There are multiple ways we as a church can serve in our community during the holidays this year, including making donations and fun charity events. A list of ways you can serve locally this season, and year-round, can be found on our website at 1stPresbyterian.com/Serve-Locally.

Kids Hope Mentors Needed!

1st Pres partners with Kids Hope USA to send trained Mentors into Orchard Knob Elementary school to be "intentional friends with a purpose" to at-risk students. We currently need 50 more Mentors and Prayer Partners to minister to the additional 50 children Orchard Knob's Care Team is referring to us. For more information, please visit 1stPresbyterian.com/Serve-Locally. If you're interested in volunteering, please email KidsHope@1stPresbyterian.com.

First Takes, a Podcast from 1st Pres

Our latest episode of *First Takes* features a discussion between Gabe Fluhrer and Randy Nabors with our World Missions Conference guests, Rev. Andy Longwe and Karen Ellis, on ministering to nonbelievers worldwide and the persecuted church in both the West and around the world. To listen, search "First Takes" on any major podcast outlet!

For more information on these and other upcoming events, subscribe to our Weekly Email Announcements at 1stPresbyterian.com, or go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.



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, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

11:00 AM

† *Please stand as you are able.*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

There is no voice which has ever been heard, either in heaven or in earth, more exalted, more holy, more fruitful, than this prayer offered up by the Son of God Himself.

– Philip Melancthon

In times of transition, it is important to go back to the basics. A big transition is going on in John 13-17. Jesus is readying His disciples for His absence. He will no longer be with them physically. As He prays, He reveals to them and to us His desires and priorities for us.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,
Whom truly to know is everlasting life,
grant us so perfectly to know Your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life,
that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to eternal life;
through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with You,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever. Amen.

PRELUDE

*"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by J.S. Bach, arr. E. Power Biggs
Dr. Sigrid Luther, piano & Dr. Wesley Roberts, organ*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

*“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!” arr. James Mulholland
Congregation, please sing as directed.*

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 97:1,9 NIV

Pastor: The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad;
let the distant shores rejoice.

**People: For You, LORD, are the Most High
over all the earth;
You are exalted far above all gods.**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† HYMNS OF PRAISE

*“All Praise to God Who Reigns Above” No. 4 (vv. 1-6)
“To God Be the Glory” No. 55 (vv. 1,3)*

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 58

Pastor: How does the article concerning “life everlasting”
comfort you?

**People: Even as I already now experience in my heart
the beginning of eternal joy,
so after this life I will have perfect blessedness
such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard,
no human heart has ever imagined:
a blessedness in which to praise God forever.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Holy and Gracious Father,
You are worthy of our full devotion.
Yet we are constantly going astray in our hearts.
We humbly plead for Your forgiveness
for our lack of faith in Your promises,
and for grumbling and complaining against You and others.
Afflictions and difficulties have caused us
to doubt and question Your presence, power, and goodness.
Deliver us from a sour, skeptical spirit
so that we might live a life of restful dependence,
true contentment, and joyful obedience
through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Peter 2:24-25 ESV

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
By His wounds you have been healed.
For you were straying like sheep,
but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer
of your souls.

HYMN OF HEALING

“Just As I Am , Without One Plea” No. 501 (vv. 1-5)

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

OFFERTORY

*“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” arr. Dan Forrest
Congregation, please sing as directed.*

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

*Please check in your PreK-1st grade children at the check-in station by the 1st-3rd
department on the main Sanctuary level.*

† DOXOLOGY

THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

SERMON

*John 17:3,17 — “Knowing and Growing”
“A Bright Future: Jesus’s Vision for Our Church”
Gabriel N. E. Fluhrer*

OUTLINE

1. Knowing God (v. 3)
2. Growing in Christ (v. 17)

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† BENECTION

adapted from Numbers 6:24-26 ESV

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and give you peace.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE

*“All Praise to God” by Wayne Estrada, arr. Dan Hanson
Brass Ensemble*

Giving Update	<u>Deacons (General Fund)</u>	<u>World Missions</u>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	\$3,046,380	\$850,000
<i>Raised Year-to-Date</i>	\$1,353,778	\$466,946



*New to 1st Pres?
We’d love to connect with you!
Scan with your phone camera
to fill out a connect card.*



*To make a secure contribution
to First Pres, scan the above QR
code with your phone camera or
text GIVE to 423-888-0345.*

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of
Sue and Steve Sawrie, in gratitude for their faithfulness in teaching our
Sunday School Class each week.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by
volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, November 13.*

Stay connected and informed with the 1st Pres app. Text APP to 423-888-0345.

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