

NEW & UPCOMING AT 1ST PRES

Announcing the New Assistant Minister of Congregational Care, Ron Brown

We are pleased to announce that the Lord has called Rev. Ron Brown to be 1st Pres's new Assistant Minister over Congregational Care! Ron and his wife Susan were part of 1st Pres from 2002-2014, and they are coming to us now from First Presbyterian Church of Panama City, where Ron served as the Senior Pastor. They plan to begin their time here in June!

World Missions Lunch Bunch - April 11

Today is the last day to register for our World Missions Lunch Bunch on Thursday, April 11 at 12:00pm on the 10th floor! We'll hear from Andy Weatherley, a pastor and trainer for church planters in Birmingham, UK. You can bring your own lunch, or order Chicken Salad Chick for \$10 when you register. Reserve your spot at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

It's a Wonderful Life! Senior Fellowship & Program - April 11

Join us for IAWL to hear from composer, performer, recording artist, and worship leader James Ward! Fellowship begins at 10:30am, followed by the program at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall, and lunch (\$8) at 12pm. RSVP to Janette.Barnes@gmail.com or RWrenn@Epbfi.com.

Men's Retreat - April 19-20

This Friday, April 12, is the last day to register for our Men's Retreat at Quail Run Farm, featuring Dr. Richard Phillips, Senior Minister at Second Presbyterian in Greenville, as our guest speaker! The cost is \$30 for general attendees and \$10 for college students. Learn more and register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Kid's Playgroup - April 19

On the third Friday of every month from 9:00am - 11:00am in the Student Center, come connect with other parents while your kids (ages 0-5) play in a safe and fun environment!

Evangelism Workshop - May 3-4

Learn how to share your faith at our next annual Evangelism Seminar, Friday March 3, from 6:30pm - 8:30pm and Saturday, May 4, from 8:00am - 12:30pm! Learn more and register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Ministry Fair - May 5

Save the date for our next annual Ministry Fair! During the Sunday School hour, you are invited down to the Fellowship Hall to meet our community ministry partners and get to know the 1st Pres ministries available to you! There will be NO adult Sunday School, but youth and kids will still meet.

Vacation Bible School - June 24-28

Registration is now open for VBS this summer for children 3-years-old through rising 5th grade! To learn more, register your child, and/or sign up to volunteer, go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Midweek - April 10

Midweek continues with a meal and fellowship at 5:30pm and electives for nursery, kids, youth, and adults starting at 6:15pm! Learn more at 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM EACH SUNDAY

Adult

Bible 101: 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: Tower 804

Currently studying Colossians; mostly 50s+ but all ages welcome.

Fellowship Class: SS 210

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

First Pres Forum Class: Fellowship Hall

Offering a rotating schedule of teachers and speakers. Currently studying "The Joy of Generosity; how worshipping God with our resources is a big part of living a joyful life in Christ."

The Joy of Learning: 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: SS 209

Fellowship and prayer followed by a study of Philippians. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

McCallie/Anderson Class: 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: Tower 10th Floor

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

Rocking Chair Class: Tower 302

Focuses on discovering "what sayest the Scripture." Currently studying John MacArthur's series, "The Rapture & the Day of the Lord."

International & Adult Bible Discussion: SS 204-F

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

Welcome All Class, SS 202

Currently studying how Jesus lived as a person and what it means to be fully human as God planned, using Paul Miller's *The Person of Jesus*.

Young Couples: SS 211

A short lesson followed by group discussion. Currently studying the Westminster Standards, the Confession of Faith, and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms.

Young Professionals: Tower 304

Aimed at connecting recent college graduates and newly-weds in their 20s-30s; current series is "Soul Care: Spiritual Food for Hungry People," studying Psalms.

Youth & Kids

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

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



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, APRIL 7, 2024

11:00 AM

† *Please stand as you are able.*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

Holy Saturday is the day that Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands, enduring the curse of our sin. A theology of Holy Saturday is of crucial importance for many things, especially sustained, faithful, and fervent prayer...

- It opens the door to more than just a little help in our experiences of the silence of God.
- It was a day of anguished disappointment, regret, and failure. All their hopes were ruthlessly dashed upon the rocks of the previous day.
- It was a day when it seemed that death had the last word. For the One claiming to be the Son of the God of life was buried and defeated by death. The disciples were isolated, alone, and hiding away in fear for their lives.
- It was a day of silence from God. In all this distress and darkness and uncertainty, no word of direction or answer was heard from the heavens. Therefore, when life seems a living hell and our cries receive the seemingly silent treatment, we can know that Jesus Himself has gone there first and thus can be found even there.

- adapted from Daniel Brendsel, "The Silence of Holy Saturday"

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, Whose lovingkindness is infinite, mercifully hear our prayers: grant on the last day that we may rise to life immortal and be numbered with Your saints in glory everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In this life we are united to Christ in the mystical body of His Church, and in death we are laid in the ground with the sure hope of resurrection. Amen.

For more information on these and other upcoming events, subscribe to our Weekly Email Announcements on our website under the "Resources" tab, or go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Find more info on our Discipleship Ministries at 1stPresbyterian.com/Discipleship.

PRELUDE

*“I’m Gonna Sing” arr. Robert Hunter & Paul Salamunovich
UTC Men’s Chorus*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

*“Sing to the Lord” by Antonio Vivaldi, arr. Hal Hopson
(based on Psalm 148)
UTC Men’s Chorus*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 16:9-11 ESV
Pastor: Therefore my heart is glad,
and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.
For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let Your holy one see corruption.

**People: You make known to me the path of life;
in Your presence there is fullness of joy;
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

†PRAYER OF INVOCATION

†HYMN OF PRAISE

“Thine Be the Glory” No. 274 (vv. 1-3)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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.**
*living **universal

†HYMN OF PRAISE

“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” No. 290 (vv. 1-4)

CONFESSION OF SINS

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,
You shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.
We waste Your gifts, wander from Your ways,
and forget Your love.
We overlook others
and are often absorbed with ourselves.
Forgive us, Father of mercies.
Transform us and make us new
so that we may experience the joy of our salvation
given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 44:22 ESV
I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud
and your sins like mist;
return to me, for I have redeemed you.

†HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

SACRAMENT OF COVENANT BAPTISM

*Robert Maxwell (Max) Gardner, Jr.
son of Robert & Amber Gardner*

OFFERTORY

*“A Jubilant Song” by Allen Pote
(based on Psalm 90 & 96)
UTC Men’s Chorus*

1ST PRES WOMEN LEADERSHIP TEAM COMMISSIONING

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

*Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station
at the PreK-K department on the Fellowship Hall level.*

†DOXOLOGY

THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

SERMON

**“Holy Saturday”
Luke 23:50-56
Dr. Edward A. Hartman**

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Jesus Paid It All” No.308 (vv. 1-4)

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

adapted from Philippians 4:6-7
Pastor: May the peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God’s Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
And may the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
remain with you always.
People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

*“Toccata on Easter Hymn” by Diane Bish
Patrick Rice, organ*

Worship Leader

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*

Presiding Minister

Gabriel N.E. Fluhner, *Senior Pastor*

Minister of the Word

Dr. Edward A. Hartman

Giving Update for Deacons/General Fund

Annual Budget (fiscal year ends March 31):

\$3,046,380

Raised Year-to-Date:

\$3,362,370



*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 loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin O. Moore and Alvin O. Moore, Jr., by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Moore.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, April 8.*