# SERMON NOTES:

1. The Fruit of Divine Love (v. 12)

2. The Greatness of Divine Love (v. 13)

#### This Week at 1st Pres

## Sunday, September 24

Middle School	Fall Retreat	
9:00 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:15 AM	Children's Church	Children's Wing
10:15 AM	Sunday School	
11:00 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 AM	Children's Church	Children's Wing
5:15 PM	Evening Worship Service	Sanctuary
6:00 PM	Youth Choir	Choir Room
6:30 PM	High School Small Group	Student Center

# Monday, September 25

10:00 AM	Flower Delivery Pick-Up	Connector
	Women's Prayer Ministry	Session Room
6:30 PM	Woman at the Well	Fellowship Hall

## Tuesday, September 26

9:30 AM	Women of the Covenant	Coffee Lounge
9:45 AM	GaP Women's Bible Study	Tower 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor
	Generations Women's Bible Study	Tower 804
11:45 AM	Bring a Lunch Women's Fellowship	Nell Davis
12:00 PM	Beatitude Living	Tower 404
5:30 PM	ONE Women's Bible Study	Tower 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor
6:30 PM	Virtual House of Prayer	Zoom

## Wednesday, September 27

4:30 PM	Deacon-on-Call	Connector
	World Missions Prayer Time	Tower 303
5:30 PM	Midweek Dinner	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Middle School Small Group	Student Center
6:15 PM	Adult/High School Elective	Fellowship Hall
	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	Rapha Fellowship	Rooms 209, 210, 212
	Kids Ministry	Children's Wing

### Thursday, September 28

3:15 PM	First Friends English Class	Student Center
7:30 PM	Virtual House of Praver	Zoom

#### Friday, September 29

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10:30 AM	Card-E-Ology	Tower 8th Floor

The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of a month.

Prayers for Healing take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of a month.

The Sacrament of Communion takes place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

Announcements are available via email subscription or the 1st Pres App. Subscribe to our emails at <a href="https://linear.com.net/">1stPresbyterian.com</a>.



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, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 11:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

# THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

# Personal Worship Reflection

Let us prepare our hearts to meet with the One Who delights to call us friends.

Christ is our best friend now, and, before long,

He will be our only friend. . . .

Therefore, I pray to God with all my heart

that I may be weary of everything else

but to converse and commune with Him.

– John Owen

There is nobody so rich, so strong, so thoroughly provided for, as the person of whom Christ says, "This is my friend."

– J. C. Ryle

#### Personal Prayer of Preparation

Holy Father, You have called us together for worship.

Thank You for calling us to Yourself

and placing us into Your body.

We are Your family.

We have been united with Your Son

through the work of Your Spirit.

Forgive us for the times that our needs, our wants,

and our desires have consumed us.

Empower us to worship You as those who are redeemed.

Galvanize us to love others the way that You have loved us.

Pour out Your love through us

to those we are not naturally inclined to love.

Forgive us for the times that love of self trumps love for others.

We ask You to do a mighty work in us today

through Your Word, through our songs, and through one another.

In Jesus's name we pray, amen.

"Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Matt Riley

Orchestra

#### Welcome and Announcements

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Total Praise" arr. Dave Williamson

# THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

# **†**Scriptural Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-2 ESV

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

## **†**Prayer of Invocation

### †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.

#### †Hymns of Praise

"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" No. 520 (vv. 1-5)
"Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery"

#### **†**Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 4

Pastor: What does God's law require of us?

People: Christ teaches us this in summary in Matthew 22:37-40:

"You shall love the Lord your God

with all your heart, and with all your soul,

and with all your mind.'

This is the greatest and first commandment.

And a second is like it:

'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

On these two commandments hang

all the law and the prophets."

# Confession of Sin

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

# Assurance of Pardon

1 John 3:16 NASB 2020

We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters.

# **†**Hymn of Assurance

"My Hope Is in the Lord"

No. 523 (vv. 1-4)

## Prayer of Intercession

#### OFFERTORY

"His Robes for Mine" arr. Dan Kreider

# Greeting & Dismissal to Children's Church

Please check in your children PreK-1st grade at the check-in station by the Fellowship Hall level elevator and walk them to the PreK-K dept.

#### †Doxology

# THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

#### SERMON

John 15:12-13 — "A Harvest of Love"

"A Bright Future: Jesus's Vision for Our Church"

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

# **†**Hymn of Response

"Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ" No. 524 (vv. 1-4)

# THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

# †Benediction

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 NASB 2020

Pastor: Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself

and God our Father,

Who has loved us and given us eternal comfort

and good hope by grace,

comfort and strengthen your hearts

in every good work and word.

## People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

#### Postlude

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor" arr. David Winkler

Don Holwerda, Church Administrator

Orchestra

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

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The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mary Grace Meade and Henry Clapp, and Eleanor and Doug Powell.

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.



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.

# Giving Update

April 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 General Fund Actual: \$1,202,538 Budget: \$1,291,667

Budget: \$1,291,667 Variance: -\$89,129 World Missions
Actual: \$446,135

Budget: \$566,667 Variance: -\$120,532

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