



WWJD

Sermon on the Mount Series

Worship of the Living God

Gathering around the Word

Prelude		Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer
		Announcements
		Minute for MinistriesLynn Hales, Showing Up
Welcome & Greeting	Rev. Josh Musser Gritter	Offering
†Call to Worship	Rev. Hannah Ostlund	OffertoryPraise Team
†Song	Thank You Lord Don Moen Paul Baloche	The Kingdom of Jesus Jon Guerral Isaac Wardell
Confession of Sin		†DoxologyDoxology (God Be Praised) Louis Bourgeois Thomas Ken
Assurance of Forgiveness		†Prayer of Dedication
†Response	Glory Be to the Father John Stafford	

Proclamation of the Word

Back-to-School Blessing		†Benediction
Prayer of Illumination		Postlude
Scripture: Micah 4:1-5	Colin Dailey	†Those who are able are invited to stand.
Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12		
Sermon	Rev. Josh Musser Gritter	
Moment for Reflection		
Responding to the Word		
†Affirmation of Faith	Rev. Lara Musser Gritter	

The flowers this morning are given to the glory by Gail Hounshell in loving memory of Trevor Williams.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Ryan Hindes (Karen and Denny Wenker’s friend), Acey Worthy, Betty Carli

Jessica Holman Settineri and family on the death of her husband, Kevin Settineri.

Antonio Cervantes Anguiano on the death of his mother.

Tim and Jenny Steinman and family on the recent deaths of both their mothers, Marna Steinman and Andrea Ritter.

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Preston Askew, Bill Baker, Mary Cameron, Ron Church, Alice Edwards (Tracy Smith’s mother), Richard Franklin, Scott Hay, Rosalie Laughlin, Wib Manuel, Martha Michael, Betty Mohs, Frank Saunders, John Smith, Jesse Tart, Jeanette Whitley

BIRTHDAYS

Landry Adams, Kenan Smith, Peggy Bullock, Jared Rowland, Ella Coleman, Charles Coleman, Jimmy Linn, Linda Davis, Carl Repsher, Gerhard Wolf, Lake Billings, Joe Sember, Bob Wood, Brooke Cunningham, Faye Shellhorn, Dotty Clement, Sherry Wolf

ANNIVERSARY

Barry and Kathy Sang, Robert and Lynn Bertram, Banks and Lauren Fisher

Ministry Focus

WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

FRIENDSHIP PADS in your rows are for recording attendance and for visitors to share their information so that we can share about God’s work here. **CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY CLIPBOARDS** are in the back of the room on the Welcome Table. **CHILDCARE** (ages 4 and under) is available in the Nursery in our Family Life Center (see an usher for directions). **ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES** are available from an usher.

CHURCH LIFE

WE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED
GROW: Fall Kickoff is here! Join us TODAY, 9:45-10:45 in the courtyard for refreshments, games, fellowship, and more. See what’s happening with First Kids, Young Adults, Mom’s Village, Children’s, Youth, and Adult Sunday School, and so much more. Bring your family and enjoy!
GROW: Time to Pray for our Kiddos and Youth! We would love for every family to take a backpack or handprint magnet or two and pray for the child on it! We want our students to feel the thought and love of the congregation through prayer. They are located in the hallway beside Lewis Hall, across from the Welcome Center and just before the Kirby Library.
MUSIC: Join us TODAY at 2:00 PM in the Sanctuary for our First Pres Concert Series featuring the Astralis Ensemble. This award-winning trio consists of a cello, flute, and harp. Don’t miss these ‘scary-good’ musicians!

Ministry Focus

GROW: Devotional Drop-In for Young Parents! Are you a parent looking for community at First Pres? Have you ever dropped your child off at Sunday School and been unsure of where to go yourself? Come to the new “Devotional Drop-In” during the Sunday School hour, 9:45-10:45, in the Kirby Library! We will have refreshments, time to connect with other parents, and a chance to reflect on our faith together. Kick off TODAY!

GROW: Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Course - Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 PM, September 9 - Oct 28. As we'll explore in our WWJD sermon series this fall, Jesus calls us to follow him in every aspect of our lives: work, home, finances, friendships, commitments, and more. The Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course will help you do just that: Give God your whole heart and life. Registration is required, and space is limited. If you're interested, email Pastor Lara at pastorlara@firstpressalisbury.org by September 1.

GROW: Calling all preschool 3-4-year-olds through 5th-grade kids; it's time to sign up for First Kids! We begin on Wednesday, August 19. **Parents**, we will also have a parent meeting on August 19. Come for dinner and stay for a meeting to hear about expectations, the calendar, and new opportunities! Contact Megan Shaw.

GROW: First Parents is NEW! On the 1st Wednesday of each month, beginning in September, parents can join Pastor Lara at Crafty Buffalo for fellowship and food. Drop off your First Kids, then enjoy some time spent with other parents. 5:45-6:45. First Kids is open to all preschool 3- and 4-year-olds through 5th grade.

GROW: First Kids needs Shepherds. It takes a village. First Kids begins on August 19. Contact Megan Shaw to volunteer.

GROW: Pastor Hannah is hosting a Dip Off for young adults! Bring your favorite dip to share on Wednesday, August 26, 6:00-8:00 in our courtyard. Dips, games, and fellowship. Invite your friends.

GROW: Our Men's Bible Study with Pastor Josh continues each Tuesday at 6:30 am in room 201.

GROW: Mom's Village People always say, "It takes a village to raise children," and we agree. To better meet the needs of moms, our MomCo program is now Mom's Village and has been updated with new curriculum, new ideas, and a variety of topics to discuss. If you are a mom, please join us for Mom's Village. This will be a time of dinner, fellowship, sharing, and caring. New date & time! Beginning in September, Mom's Village will meet during First Kids on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 5:30-7:00.

GROW: New Member Class - Have you been visiting with us for a while? Are you interested in learning more about Presbyterians and First Pres? Are you ready to join this family of faith? Then join us for lunch on Sunday, September 13, at 12:30, in the Fellowship Hall. Call/email Christine to let her know you will attend.

WE HAVE A HEALTHY CORE

NOMINATIONS: It's time to nominate members for Elder and the Nominating Team. Use the insert, call, or email Christine by September 1.

GIVING UPDATE:
2026 Budgeted Pledges through 07-31-26: \$672,272
2026 Year-to-Date Received: \$653,911

WE ARE BRANCHING OUT

SERVE: Overton Elementary needs our support. We are not doing backpacks this year. Overton has asked for school supplies. Shop using the Wish List QR code! Not a fan of online shopping? Donate wooden #2 pencils, Kleenex, or Clorox wipes. The deadline for dropping off items in the church office is August 26.



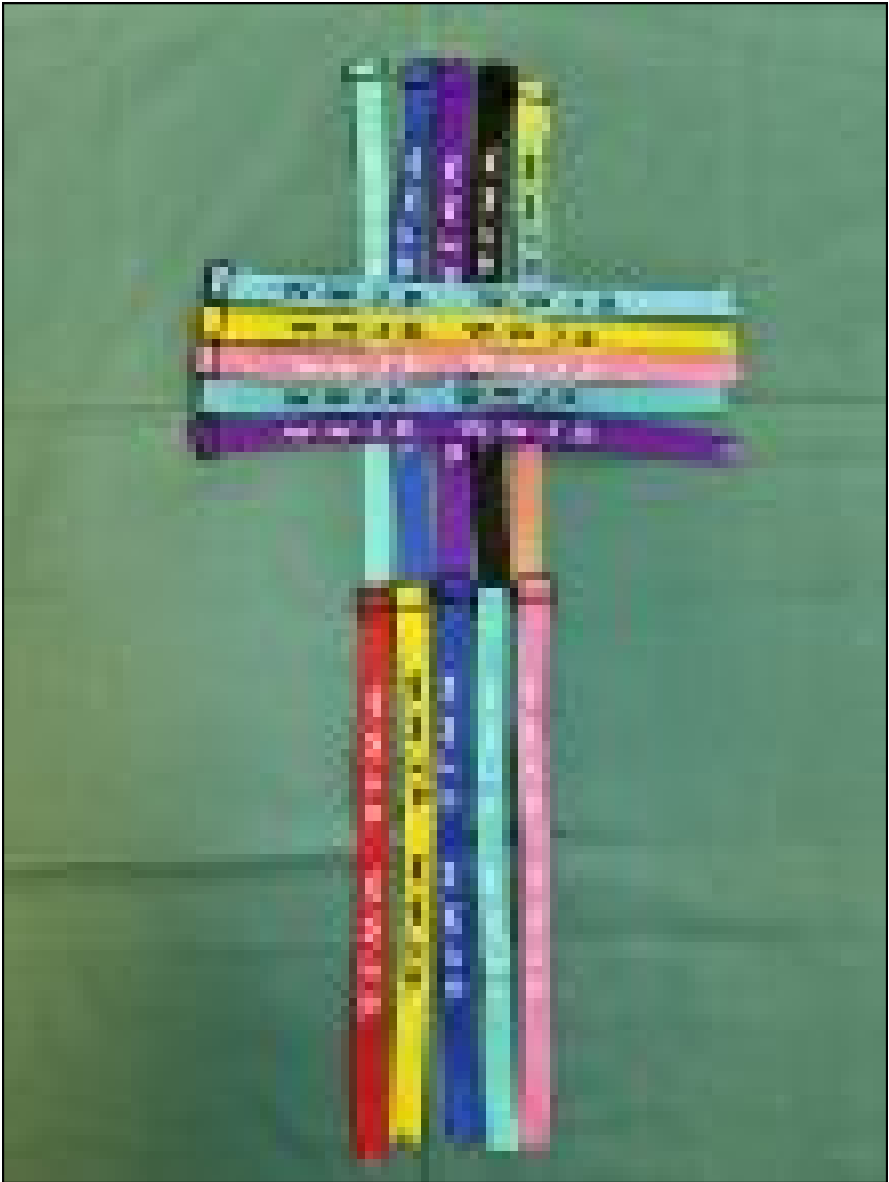
YOUTH: Youth Group begins TODAY, 5:00-7:30 PM. They meet weekly throughout the school year. Invite your friends!

YOUTH: Youth @ the Porch has begun. Join Pastor Josh on Wednesdays at 7:30-8:30 PM on the Musser Gritters' front porch throughout the fall, for pizza, fellowship, and study.

YOUTH: Attention, parents of youth! Help us keep in touch with you and your youth for all of our youth events. Please complete this year's Information Form asap. Contact Christine.

First Presbyterian Church
Where God's Love is Alive for Mission

August 16, 2026
8:30 am



LICENSES

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MISSION PRIORITIES
Spirit-Centered Discipleship
Friendships Across Differences
Hands-On Local Mission
Embracing the Unchurched

