



WWJD

Sermon on the Mount Series

Worship of the Living God

Gathering around the Word

Prelude		Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer
Welcome & Greeting	Rev. Lara Musser Gritter	Announcements
†Call to Worship	Rev. Hannah Ostlund	Minute for MinistryMaggie Behrooz, First Kids
†Song	God Of This City Aaron Boyd Andrew McCann	Offering
Confession of Sin		OffertoryBlaine Smith
Assurance of Forgiveness		

†Response	Glory Be to the Father John Stafford	†DoxologyDoxology (God Be Praised) Louis Bourgeois Thomas Ken
		†Prayer of Dedication

Proclamation of the Word

Children's Message		†SongEveryday Joel Houston
Prayer of Illumination		†Benediction

Scripture: Acts 1:1-9	Jennifer Flynn	Postlude
		†Those who are able are invited to stand.

Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16		
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Sermon	Rev. Lara Musser Gritter	
Moment for Reflection		

Responding to the Word

†Affirmation of Faith	Rev. Josh Musser Gritter
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Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Minute for MinistryMaggie Behrooz, First Kids

Offering

OffertoryBlaine Smith

Salt And Light
Chris Llewellyn | Grant Wall

†DoxologyDoxology (God Be Praised)
Louis Bourgeois | Thomas Ken

†Prayer of Dedication

Sending to share the Word

†SongEveryday
Joel Houston

†Benediction

Postlude

†Those who are able are invited to stand.



The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God, by Carol Sayers and Coe and Holly Brier in memory of Kelly Sayers Vecchio.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

John Smith, Ryan Hindes (Karen and Denny Wenker's friend), Acey Worthy, Betty Carli

Susan and Joe Sember on the marriage of their daughter, Anna Jenkins, to Brian Keaveny, on August 6.

Guy and LeeAnna Hoskins on the birth of their granddaughter, Chapel Laine Hoskins on August 17. Chapel's parents are Chad and Charlotte Hoskins.

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Preston and Glenda 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, Jesse Tart, Jeanette Whitley

BIRTHDAYS

Jackie Burleson, Hannah Galloway, Caroline Snow, Taylor Cook, Jim Taylor, Bob Steele, Colin Dailey, Beffie Cook, Paul Bassett, Sheila Mulkey, Davis Nelson, Suzanne Casey, Jerry White, Melissa Butler, Richard Ervin

ANNIVERSARY

John and Anne Cave, Jan and Helen Kichefski, Bob and Barb Bruce

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

WORSHIP: Life Center Worship welcomes fiddler Carrie Webster, who joins the Praise Team for today's offertory. Carrie is a fiddle/violin instructor at Carolina Folkworks, which she co-owns with her husband, Eric.

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: Our Sanctuary Choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM in the choir room below the Sanctuary. Our Bell Tower Ringers are moving to Thursdays, 5:30-7:00 PM in the choir loft in the Sanctuary beginning August 27. If you would like to participate in either/both, contact Teresa de Freitas, our Director of Music Ministries.

Ministry Focus

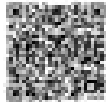
GROW: Devotional Drop-In for Young Parents! Are you a parent looking for community at First Pres? Have you ever dropped your child off at Sunday School and been unsure of where to go yourself? Come to the new “Devotional Drop-In” during the Sunday School hour, 9:45-10:45, in the Kirby Library! We will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

GROW: First Kids has begun, but it's not too late to join us! Ages: preschool 3-4-year-olds through 5th-grade kids. We begin on Wednesday, August 19.

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: Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Course - Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 PM, September 9 - Oct 28. What does it actually look like to live a Christian life in our world? Is discipleship more than just being nice and volunteering some hours at church? As we'll explore in our WWJD sermon series this fall, the answer is an unequivocal YES! Jesus calls us to follow him in every aspect of our lives: work, home, finances, friendships, commitments, and more. The Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course taught by respected pastor Pete Scazzero and facilitated here by Kia Creamer 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: First Kids needs shepherds. It takes a village of volunteers to put on programming. Please consider helping by being a shepherd. Sign up now!



GROW: Mom's Village kick-off event! Join us on Sunday, August 30, 2:00-4:00 PM, in the courtyard for some family fun and a chance to learn about the new direction of Mom's Village. The Mom's Village Fun Fest will be filled with games, crafts, food, and light refreshments for the whole family! We hope to see you there.

YOUNG ADULTS: 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: JOY (Just Older Youth) is headed to dinner and a concert. Friday, September 11, 5:15 for dinner at Romano's, then on to St. Luke's Episcopal Church for the 7:00 PM performance of The Moonglows. RSVP to the church office by Sept. 4.

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 Fellowship Hall.

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.

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 continues. Sundays from 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.



YOUTH: Youth Sunday School TODAY, 9:45-10:30, in the Youth Room. They meet weekly throughout the school year. Food, fellowship, and study.

First Presbyterian Church

Where God's Love is Alive for Mission

August 23, 2026
8:30 am



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

