FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LAKE CITY, FLORIDA

FPCLC

November 15, 2026 25th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am Service

PRELUDE *"We Gather Together"* Andy Muskrat

TRINITY CHIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

* CALL TO WORSHIP liturgist: Mark Knoper

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God provides every blessing in abundance.

Thanks be to God for the gift of grace.

Let us worship God together!

* HYMN #712 *"As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"* FOREST GREEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *(John 3:16)*
Trusting in the saving work of Jesus, let us confess our sin together.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving Father, in Jesus Christ, you give us your very best! We confess that we sometimes do not give you our best—the best of our time, the best of our talents, the best of our treasures. Father, tenderly teach us that holding back from you is a great foolishness—foolishness because stinginess stifles our growth in godliness, foolishness because when we cling to earthly trinkets, our hands and hearts are not open to receive the gifts you would like to give, foolishness because only the things that we give to you last forever. Father, please forgive our foolishness. Give us the faith and the power to enter and enjoy the radical and wonderful new life that you make possible, even now, as we follow and abide in Jesus. In his name, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him. *(John 3:17)*
In Jesus, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* GLORIA PATRI #581 *"Glory Be to the Father"* GREATOREX

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CHORAL ANTHEM *"What the Lord Has Done in Me w/ Jesus Paid It All"* Tom Fettke

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM LESSON Psalm 123

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:14-30

God's word for God's children.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Dr. Vaughan Smith

God Has Invested in Us, and God Expects Us to Invest Ourselves and His Kingdom

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH adapted from *The Belhar Confession* [1]

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, and that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. Amen.

OFFERTORY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* Heather Sorenson

* DOXOLOGY #701 *"Lord, Prepare Me"* SANCTUARY

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for the privilege of sharing your bounty with those in need. Thank you for prospering our work and witness. We seek to walk in your light and to follow our risen, present Lord. We want to share the good news of salvation through these gifts and by the way we live. Help each of us to do our part in helping people to be ready for Christ's coming. Amen.

* HYMN #710 *"We Are an Offering"* OFFERING

* BENEDICTION

* SENDING SONG *"Our Church's Mission"* Goodrich & Redding

* POSTLUDE *"Endless Song"* David Angerman

[1] The *Belhar Confession* is a Christian statement of faith with themes of unity, reconciliation, and justice, written in Afrikaans in 1982. It was adopted by the Dutch Reformed Mission Church of South Africa in 1986, and by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2016.

Announcements

The blessings don't stop when worship ends! Stay after worship for our Commitment Sunday Luncheon, where we'll gather in gratitude, share a meal, and celebrate all that God is doing in our church.

Sunday School - (9:30am) Montgomery SS Class: RM106 – Jay Fraser & Jennifer Renfroe
(9:30am) Ligonier Adult Class: RM112 – James Robinson
Children – 1st to 5th grade: RM104 – Lisa Smith **Youth 6th to 12th grade:** RM202 – Johnny Brown

Prayer Group – Monday: (11am) RM106
Life Group – Monday - Joy Seekers: (4pm) RM106
Troop 85 Court of Honor – Monday: (6:30pm) FH
Finance – Tuesday: (4pm) RM106
Men's Bible Study/Power Lunch - will NOT meet: Nov 18 & Nov 25
Next meeting: Wed Dec 2, 11:45am - Study topic Genesis 33: Esau & Jacob reconcile
Fellowship Dinner – Wednesday: (5:45pm) FH: **Sausage Dogs** *w/ Sauerkraut and Slaw!*
Life Groups – Wednesday: (6:30pm) **Heinz57** – RM104 & **Salt & Light** – RM106
Youth Group – Wednesday: (6:30pm) RM202
Personnel – Thursday: (9am) RM112
Christian Ed – Thursday: (1pm) RM104
Men's Breakfast at IHOP – Friday: (8am) see Larry Elshoff
AA District 16 Gratitude Meeting – Saturday: (12pm) FH
Scouts – Monday (6:30pm) EB: **Scouts Den Mtg**
(7pm) Scout Hut: **Scout Troop 85**
– Tuesday (6pm) EB: **Girls Troop 9085**

Service of Installation for Rev. Dr. Vaughan Smith

Nov. 22nd | 3pm – reception to follow

First Sunday of Advent - Hope - Nov 29

Staff & Support

Pastor – Rev. Dr. Vaughan Smith 814-564-2083
Music Director/Worship Coordinator – Tim Redding
Youth Director – Johnny Brown
Office & Financial Administrator – Nikki Hubler
Administrative Assistant – Jazmin Halley
Sexton – Luke Stanziani
Musicians – Sharon Christensen, Dalton Weatherford & Joel St. John

The Session Elders & Committee Chairs

Clerk of Session – Janie Killian 386-984-5742
Congregational Life – Cheryl Whigham 386-397-3246
Christian Ed. – Marty Fraser 386-365-1454
Finance – Lee McDuffie 386-365-4965
Mission Outreach – Lisa Smith 386-697-6010
Nominations – Charles Kime 386-755-4937
Personnel – Don Baggett 863-634-3625
Property – Gerry Klauber 540-809-1124
Seekers – Jennifer Renfroe – 386-292-2491
Stewardship – Mike Millikin 386-623-0901
Worship – Anne Carroll 386-365-2771
Youth – Beverly Schulz 386-965-0224

Prayer List

1. Pat Alba (Denise & Kai Gillyard's family friend)
2. Linda Andrews (Mark Kirby's friend)
3. Don & Julia Baggett
4. Judy Benvenuti
5. Jack Brogan (Bob & Bonnie Taylor's son)
6. **Deborah Brown (Nancy Howe's friend)**
7. Erik Brown (Sharon Persons's son)
8. Tonya Calie & family (George & Jill Maroney's friend)
9. Doris Clark
10. **Ginney Davis (Nancy Howe's friend)**
11. Marion Dooley
12. Larry Elshoff
13. **Bereaved family & friends of Anne Graves (service Nov 18 @11am, First Presbyterian Church, Lake City)**
14. Art Graves
15. Art Grover
16. Rodger Hadley
17. Bereaved family & friends of Al Hammack (our missionary, David Lawrence's father-in-law)
18. Rita Hetrick
19. Bereaved family & friends of Janie Hollis
20. Joanne Hudson
21. Tom Hudson
22. Joyce Lentes (Kitty March's sister)
23. Dr. Don McGarity & family
24. Gene McNeill
25. Sue Martin (Denise Kelii's friend)
26. **Omaya Moussa (Phyllis Stevenson's friend)**
27. Steve Osborne (Milner & Jan's son, Terri Milliken's brother)
28. Minesh Patel (Bev Anthony's friend)
29. Peace in the world
30. Debra Raulerson
31. Debbie Redding (Denise Kelii's friend)
32. Bruce Robinson
33. Phyllis Skinner
34. Rita Smith (Bobbie Bennett's friend)
35. Bereaved family & friends of Steve Suty
36. Peter Thomas (Jill Maroney's brother)
37. Ann VanDenburgh
38. Blaine Walker (former FPCLC Associate Pastor)
39. Pat Wells (Charlyne Walker's friend)
40. Nick & Mary Brown Whitehurst
41. **Susan Williams (Cheryl Whigham's friend)**

God of Comfort, God of Grace, and God of Love, we pray for your mercy, healing, and comfort for those above, as you hold them and their loved ones close to you. We pray that in your presence their hearts may know and feel your love, hope and kindness in the midst of their troubles. In Jesus Christ, we pray. AMEN. Thank you for keeping them in your daily prayers.

Birthdays:

Don Christensen 11/15 Ritchie Glass 11/15 George Maroney 11/16
Kay Peterson 11/18 Bonnie Green 11/20

Anniversaries:

Don & Sharon Christensen 11/17 Tom & Denise Kelii 11/19

We warmly welcome you to our worship service. Your presence is a great joy and we hope that you will have a wonderful experience of God's grace and love. If you are interested in becoming a member of the church or exploring becoming a member, please speak to the minister after worship today. *We would love to have you as a member!*