

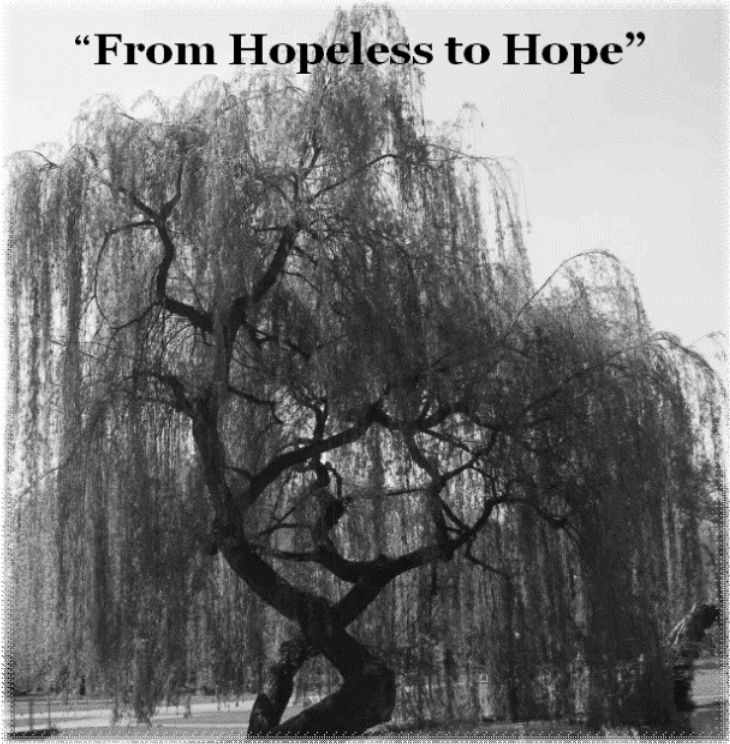
First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70125

September 21, 2025

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

“From Hopeless to Hope”



First Presbyterian Church

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

11:00 am

Writing in **bold** is for the congregation response.

*Please stand as you are able.

Please silence your phones during worship service.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 9)

Leader: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

People: I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

Leader: I will be glad and exult in you.

People: I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Leader: Those who know your name put their trust in you.

People: You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

*HYMN 7 “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

God is faithful and just, a very present help in trouble. Let us quiet our racing thoughts and calm our anxious hearts and turn to God in prayer.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Lord, for some of us this week has felt like tumbling down a hill. We come here this morning bruised and aching, dazed and confused. What we had planned, what we had hoped for this week, didn't turn out that way. We come to you, asking, “What happened?” Wondering if it's our fault. Or maybe partly our fault. Trusting that you will welcome us into your loving arms and that you will tell us we are forgiven. Help us, Lord.

Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (from Psalm 103)

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

(cont'd next page)

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who revere him. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

Response: And also with you!

HEARING THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC Aya Magavina-Alvarez

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7 (pg. 963)

Liturgist: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 8:20-22 (pg. 612)
and Psalm 113:5-9 (pg. 493)

Preacher: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON “From Hopeless to Hope”

Rev. Kathleen Crighton

*HYMN 39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles’ Creed

Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal pg. 35

SHARING THE WORD WITH THE WORLD

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY Avery & Marsh

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(...Now, be with us as we conclude this time with the prayer, taught to us by your son, our Risen Lord saying...)

**ALL 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 he
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN 616 (*sing twice*) “Our God Is an Awesome God”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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LEADERSHIP IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

PREACHING: Rev. Kathleen Crighton

LITURGIST: elder, Tracy Rene’ Helms-Capasso

PIANIST: Aya Magavina-Alvarez

OFFERING: elders, Henry and Diane Kleinfeldt

LITURGIST GUIDE PREPARATION: elder, Ted Swartz

HYMN NUMBERS: Canna Frentz

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FPCNO THIS WEEK

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday | 9am-11am | Program of Hope (setup) | Sanctuary |
| | 7pm-9pm | “Big Easy” AA Group | Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday | 9am-10:30am | Program of Hope | Sanctuary |
| | 11am-1pm | Gurdjieff Foundation | Fellowship Hall |
| Thursday | 7pm-9pm | MCC | Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday | 9:45am -10:15am | F.P.C Adult Bible Study | Conference Rm. |
| | 10am-11am | M.C.C Sunday Service | Fellowship Hall |
| | 11am-12pm | F.P.C Sunday Service | Sanctuary |





WELCOME VISITORS!

We Are Glad You Are Here

We welcome you to historic, progressive First Presbyterian Church this morning! Even if you are just visiting the city, we want you to feel welcome in our community and to involve yourself in the life of this place. Here are a few things to get you up to speed.

- If you are a visitor or guest we invite you to sign the visitor/guest register which is located in the Narthex and/or sign the guest/visitors card located in your bulletin and put in the offering plate. We care about you and want to know who you are.
- A bathroom is available (with a changing table) at the back of the church in the left hand alcove as you face the entrance doors.
- During the time of the passing of the peace, some may be comfortable with hugs, laughs, and conversation, but others may not. Please be respectful of one another's comfort levels. If you would prefer to maintain a social distance, you may pass the peace by folding your arms, making a peace sign, or whatever is comfortable for you.
- **Great news!** We have resumed having coffee available in the narthex before, during, and after worship. Big thanks to our elder, Henry Kleinfeldt for preparing the coffee! We are also offering snacks. Feel free to donate your favorite kinds and leave them on the table beside the coffee fixings.
- We were the first "More Light" congregation in New Orleans and now are the first congregation to be a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians in New Orleans. Which means we welcome not only the membership, but the leadership and talents of all genders, abilities, races, and sexual orientations.
- We appreciate the spiritual and financial support your attendance brings. If you wish, you may put cash or a check in the offering plate that will be passed towards the end of the service. If you would like to use a credit card or PayPal to make a secure donation to the Program of Hope or the Capital Campaign, you can go to the church's website, www.fpcno.org and click on the links on the right hand side of the home page.



Please like us on Facebook at facebook.com/fpcno and also follow us on X (formerly Twitter) at <https://x.com/fpcno>.

We don't have an official church newsletter, but you can find updates on our Facebook page (above) and website, www.fpcno.org.

First Presbyterian Church

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WWW.FPCNO.ORG; FACEBOOK.COM/FPCNO; TWITTER.COM/FPCNO

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

PASTOR

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REVKATHY@FPCNO.ORG

OFFICE MANAGER/LEASING CONSULTANT

CHERYL A. ROBERTS

CHERYL@FPCNO.ORG

MUSICIANS:

AYA MAGAVINA-ALVAREZ; SYDNEY MCMATH; AMANDA WADSWORTH

WEDDING COORDINATOR:

DEE BOLING

WEDDINGS@FPCNO.ORG

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR

BRUCE MATHER

WEBSITE TECHS:

TERRY RUPPEL; CARRIE FISHER

TECH SUPPORT:

RICHARD TATUM

SEXTONS:

CORVUS JANITORIAL

THE SESSION

CLERK OF SESSION

KEN ALLEN

ASSISTANT CLERK OF SESSION

BRUCE MATHER

CLASS OF 2024

HENRY KLEINFELDT

LYDIA POLLARD

CLASS OF 2025

BRUCE MATHER

CHRISTIE RUPPEL

CLASS OF 2026

ZANE FISHER

TED SWARTZ

PROGRAM OF HOPE DIRECTOR

DIANE KLEINFELDT

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