

First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70125

September 28, 2025

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 16: 20,22

There was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid
at his gate, full of sores,
And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried
by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also
died, and was buried



First Presbyterian Church

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 28, 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 91)

Leader: I will live in the shelter of the Most High and abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

People: I will call upon the Lord.

Leader: The Lord is my refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust.

People: God is worthy to be praised.

Leader: The Lord will save me from the snare of the fowler,
from the terror of the night and the arrow that flies by day.

People: So shall I be saved from my enemies. The Lord lives!

*HYMN 1 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

God our Redeemer, you promise deliverance to those who love you. Draw unto us as we draw unto you in worship. Open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, and our spirits to encounter the revelation you have for us this day. Transform us with the truth of your love and grace, in the name of the one who loved us and gave his life for us. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Gracious and generous God, you lavishly bestow the gift of your love. Forgive us, we pray—when we don’t see or recognize your gifts for what they are; when we think we have somehow earned or are entitled to your generosity; when we take what you give and beg you for more; when we hoard our gifts and do not hear the mournful cry of those around us; when our desire for more plunges us into ruin and destruction.

(cont’d next page)

Teach us the ways of godliness, and grant us a spirit of contentment, that we may be grateful for your provision and share the gifts you give with others. As we are blessed by you, so may we be a blessing to others. Amen.

Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF SINS

People of God, do not set your hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on the richness of God, who provides us everything for our enjoyment. Be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

Response: And also with you!

HEARING THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC F.P.C. Choir

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament Reading 1 Timothy 6:6-12 (pgs. 965-966)

Liturgist: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading Luke 16:19-31 (pg. 847)

Speaker: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON “Comfort and Agony during these Strange Times”
Justin B. Wood

*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

Charlie Fisher

*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 649 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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LEADERSHIP IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

SPEAKING: Justin B. Wood

LITURGIST: Billye Constance

PIANIST: Aya Magavina-Alvarez

SPECIAL MUSIC: F.P.C. Choir

MUSICAL OFFERING: Charlie Fisher

OFFERING: elders, Henry and Diane Kleinfeldt

LITURGIST GUIDE PREPARATION: elder, Ted Swartz

HYMN NUMBERS: Canna Frentz

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FPCNO THIS WEEK

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|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 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

REV. KATHLEEN CRIGHTON

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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