

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES		
Today (07/26)	9:30a	Sunday School
	10:30a	Worship Service
Monday (07/27)	9:00a	Bulletin Information Due Website Information Due
	6:30p	Triad A Capella Connection
Wednesday (07/29)	9:00a	WW Meeting
Sunday (08/02)	9:30a	Sunday School
	10:30a	Worship Service

Pennies for Hunger: Don't forget to drop your pennies in the "Hunger" pail located in the Narthex.

Dollars for Missions: All loose dollar bills placed in the collection plates will be earmarked for mission work—divided between FPC Mission Team and a Salem Presbytery mission.



First Presbyterian Church

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Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Stan Stigall, Music Director

July 26, 2026—Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us call on our God and give thanks. Let hearts rejoice as we sing God's praise.

All: *Glory be to God in whose covenant we find life. Let all the people tell of God's wonderful works.*

One: Let us open ourselves continually to God's presence. Let us seek the strength that God alone provides.

All: *Surely the spirit helps us in our weakness. The Spirit searches our hearts and enlarges our prayers.*

One: Who can separate us from the love of God? Will hardship, distress, or peril overcome us?

All: *Nothing can separate us from God's love. We can face all things, knowing God's care. Let us worship God!*

*HYMN NO. 14

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

Financial Update can be found on the bulletin board.

The Gathering: Wednesday, August 12, at 6:00p, will be our Bingo Night and Ice Cream Sundae Gathering. Please register on the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board. Deadline for register is Monday, 9:00a, August 10.

School Supplies: We will again provide school supplies for our adopted school, Appalachian State Academy at Middle Fork, in Walkertown. Their needs are listed below and the deadline for collections will be at our August Gathering (August 12, 2026).

Please feel free to bring your donations in earlier and place them in the box located in the Narthex. Thank you!

- Kleenex
- Children Belts for Pants
- Deodorant (non-allergenic)
- Shoes (youth sizes)
- Hand Sanitizer (for class room)
- Water Bottles
- Wipes (Clorox, Baby, Water, etc.)
- Encouragement Stickers
- Encouraging Hand Stamps
- Mini Whiteboards
- Bookbags (Walmart, Target, Amazon, etc.)
- Glue sticks24 count crayons
- 12 count colored pencils
- Highlighters
- #2 pre-sharpened pencils
- Zip lock bags—sandwich, quart and gallon sizes

*Those who are able, please stand.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You know us, God, better than we know ourselves. You know the ways we scheme and manipulate our own advantage. You are aware of how often our deeds fail to match the faith we claim. Help us to face ourselves with honesty. Give us the will and courage to change our ways. We give thanks for Christ’s intercession for us. We rejoice as the Spirit gives voice to all we cannot express. Save us, O God, that our lives might give expression to your reign.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.)

Amen.

RESPONSE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Praise our God who forgives and restores. Give thanks for the inheritance that is ours in Christ Jesus. We have received a pearl of great value, a treasure undeserved, a pardon unmerited. Nothing can separate us from the love of God—not death or life, not angels or rulers, not things present or things to come, not heights or depths; no earthly power or anything in all creation can take away God’s abiding concern and care for each one of us. Friends, believe the good news...

All: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

*RESPONSE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

(Please share a sign of peace with others.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalms 105:1-11, 45b

Matthew 31-33, 44-52

SERMON

“Let’s Make a Deal”

Rev. John Pruitt

*Those who are able, please stand.

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 714

“God of the Fertile Fields”

ITALIAN HYMN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“The Apostles’ Creed”

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN NO. 658

“God Is So Good”

GOD IS SO GOOD

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Jul 26)

Greeters/Ushers: Linda Volcek, Priscilla Henderson

Serving Next Sunday (Aug 02)

Greeters/Ushers: Mike & Darcy Polinsky

*Those who are able, please stand.