

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 26, 2025

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE “The Dark Island” Bryant Smith

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(Take a moment to center yourself with this prayer)
O God, your grace and power have been manifesting through the witness of your people over the centuries. We are instructed by great leaders from the past. Speak to us in this present hour. Give us courage to proclaim your gospel of salvation by grace alone. Help us to trust not in our righteousness, but in your grace and power. Teach us to approach you humbly, with open hands and open hearts. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Great is our God and greatly to be praised.
All: God’s love is so amazing, beyond our understanding.
One: God pours out his gifts on all who cry out for love and mercy.
All: We come to God with open hands and open hearts.

*OPENING HYMN “There's a Wideness in God's Mercy” #298

*CALL TO CONFESSION

How easily we have forgotten you, O God of our salvation. We imagine that our prosperity is of our own design. We wander into paths of self-righteousness and self-congratulation. We compare ourselves with those whose sins are public knowledge and consider ourselves better than they. O God, rescue us form all that alienates us from others and from you. We humble ourselves before you, seeking forgiveness.

*SILENT PRAYER OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON “I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry” #362

Singing: I love the Lord, who heard my cry
And pitied every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rise,
I’ll hasten to God’s throne.
I love the Lord, who heard my cry
And chased my grief away.
O let my heart no more despair
While I have breath to pray.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus the Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.

. . . to Proclaim God’s Word

FIRST READING Joel 2: 23-32 p. 848

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18 p. 213

ANTHEM “O Love” Choir

GOSPEL READING Luke 18: 9-14 p. 81
One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Repent! It's Good for You!” David Arends

*HYMN OF RESPONSE “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” #326

. . . to Give Thanks to God . . .

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY “Mist Covered Mountains” Bryant Smith

*OFFERING RESPONSE “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” #592

Singing: 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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We praise you, O God, for all the gifts you bestow on us in Jeus Christ. You give us grace, hope, peace and love. You make us your people. Your breath on us with your life-giving Spirit and give us gifts for ministry. Receive these gifts as symbols of our love for you. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

One: Lord in your mercy,
All: hear our 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.

. . . and to Be Sent in God’s Name

*CLOSING HYMN “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” #280

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION “Go with God” Lt. Blue Songbook #138

Singing: Go with God. Go with God.
As you leave this place, go with God.
God will direct your way, God will light ev’ry day.
As you leave this place, go with God.

POSTLUDE “The Skye Boat Song” Bryant Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mon. Oct. 27	Easy Does It Exercise Handbells	10:00 AM 6:00PM
Wed. Oct. 29	Easy Does It Exercise Learn 2 Sew Adult Discipleship Class Church School/Youth Program	10:00 AM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:15 PM
Thurs. Oct. 30	Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge Choir	2:00 PM 7:00 PM
Fri. Oct. 31	Easy Does It Exercise	10:00 AM
Sun. Nov. 2	Sunday Bible Class	10:00 AM

Welcome to worship this morning! If you have small children, you're welcome to keep them in worship or take them into the quiet room.

Our thanks go to our guest speaker David Arends, lay reader Roma Lee Fuson, Bagpiper Bryant Smith, the choir, and pianist Dave Thomas.

You will find **prayer request cards** in the backs of the church pews that you may fill out and drop in the offering plate as needed.

For **Prayer Chain Requests**, please call either Martha Orcutt, 406-868-1890 or Karen Burditt, 406-450-5295.

Today is Reformation Sunday. We will celebrate the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church with Scottish desserts at coffee hour.

Don't forget, **Daylight Savings Time** ends next **Sunday, Nov. 2nd**.

The Community Meal will be on **Friday, November 7th, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. The menu for the day will be Layered Turkey Dinner, Green Bean Casserole, Rolls, Creamy Cranberry Salad, and Dessert. We hope to see you there!

Our Annual **Fall Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for next **Sunday, November 9th**, immediately following the worship service to receive nominations for and vote on new Elders and Deacons and to receive the new budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

The churches of all denominations in Pondera County once again are supporting the collection of foods for the Pondera Food Pantry Thanksgiving Baskets. First Presbyterian Church has been asked to provide 100 cans of green beans. A collection table will be located in the Narthex from Sunday October 5th through Sunday November 2nd. Sign up applications for a Thanksgiving Basket will be available at the Food Pantry beginning Friday, October 3rd. You need only be a resident of Pondera County to receive a basket, no other qualifying factors. Please pass the word along to friends, acquaintances & families who might be in need of help preparing a Thanksgiving meal. This year the Food Pantry will distribute the baskets to those who complete an application, from the Pantry and not the Shooting Sports Complex, a week earlier than in the past, on Thursday & Friday, November 20th and 21st, this gives more time for folks to get the turkey defrosted. For questions contact Amy Zimbelman 406-899-9522.

A Huge Thank You to everyone who brought green beans for the Thanksgiving baskets. We've met our quota of 100 cans!

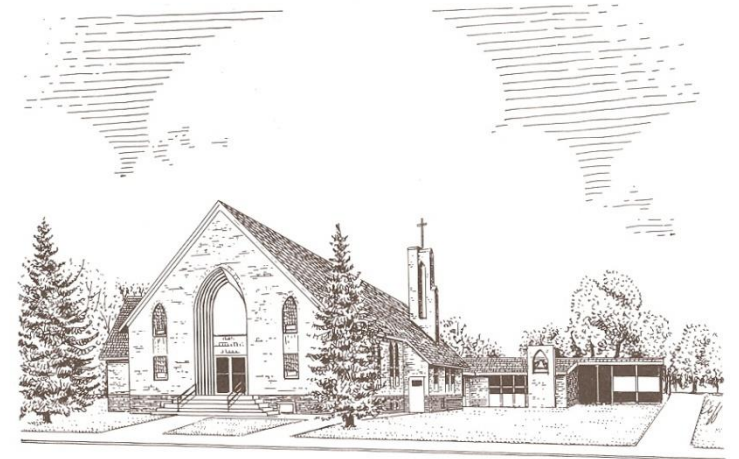
This year's **Nominating Committee** is looking for three (3) church members to be congregational representatives on the committee for 2026. The work would consist of 2 to 3 committee meetings in the fall and a few phone calls to invite membership on the Session and to replace outgoing Deacons. We also are looking for 1 more member to serve as an Elder for the Session. Please consider serving your church as these are very important positions in our church leadership. If you will do so or have questions, call Claudia Martin at 406-949-0374.

If you have any articles to contribute to the **December Newsletter**, please turn them into the office no later than **Wednesday, November 19th**.

Last week, the combined giving was **\$2,580.00**. In order to meet expenses, we need to average **\$3,104.00** per week.

Please remember to pray for Bruce Benjamin, Cecil & Alice Benjamin, Robin, Amy Zimbelman, Helen Stordahl, Barb Perry, Wally McHenry, Wendy Wagner, Dave Perry, Ward Orcutt, Kristine Ries Prewett, Mary Sanders, Lavon & Karen Carter, Sean Carter, Dana & Marie Ahmed, Pearl Severtson, and Hazel Jones.

First Presbyterian Church



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