

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHIMES

(The congregation is asked to pray for the blessing of God upon this service.)

*God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, and the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength. Amen.*

PRELUDE *Duo* Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo* Richard Purvis  
The Sanctuary Choir

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;  
Serve the Lord with gladness  
And come before his presence with a song.

†CALL TO WORSHIP from *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before God's presence with a song.

**Know this: The Lord alone is God;  
we belong to the Lord, who made us,  
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving;  
go into the holy courts with praise;  
give thanks and call upon the name of the Lord.

**For good is the Lord,  
whose mercy is everlasting;  
and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

†OPENING HYMN, No. 473 *For the Beauty of the Earth* DIX

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and merciful God,  
in your presence we confess  
our sinfulness, our shortcomings,  
and our offenses against you.  
You alone know how often we have sinned  
in wandering from your ways,  
in wasting your gifts,  
in forgetting your love.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord,  
for we are ashamed and sorry  
for all we have done to displease you.  
Forgive our sins,  
and help us to live in your light,  
and walk in your ways,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

*(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence)*

KYRIE ELEISON, No. 572 Congregation and Choir

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* MEINEKE

**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

Stand, as you are able, and greet one another saying: *"The peace of Christ be with you."* Respond by saying: *"And also with you."*  
*(Children are invited to come forward now for A Time with Children.)*

THE WORD

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

*Children, ages 2-3 yrs. who will be going to Extended Session and children, ages 4-first grade who will be in The Worship Center, may exit at this time through the right front door, where they will be escorted to the CE Building.*

**Leader:** As you depart from us now, the children of God say:

**Children:** God be with you as you stay.

**Congregation:** God be with you as you go.

**We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching,  
we are marching in the light of God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING John 14:15-21  
Pew Bible, page 103; large print, page 133  
(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

ANTHEM *I Will Not Leave You Comfortless* Ron Nelson  
The Women of the Sanctuary Choir

I will not leave you comfortless. And your heart will rejoice,  
But I will come to you, For I will not leave you comfortless.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Acts 17:16-34  
Pew Bible, page 129; large print, page 167  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *The Courage of Our Convictions*  
Rev. Pendleton Peery

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†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.**

†HYMN, No. 354 *Guide My Feet* GUIDE MY FEET

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

Offertory *Spring Bursts Today* David H. Williams  
Text by Christina Rossetti  
The Sanctuary Choir

Spring bursts today, for Christ is risen Break forth this morn in roses,  
And all the earth's at play. Thou but yesterday a thorn.  
Flash forth, thou sun, All herds and flocks rejoice,  
The rain is over and gone, its work is done. All beasts of thickets and of rocks.  
Winter is past, sweet spring is come at last. Sing, creatures, sing,  
Uplift thy head, O pure white lily Angels and men and birds,  
Through the winter dead. And everything sing!

†Doxology, No. 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

†Prayer of Dedication

†HYMN, No. 364 *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* GRAND ISLE

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE *Jubilate Deo* Richard Purvis  
The Sanctuary Choir  
Amen.

†POSTLUDE *Plein Jeu* François Couperin

† Worshipers standing if able.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God  
and in honor of Betty Frierson  
by her children and grandchildren.

Elder Reader: Frank Dodson  
 Ushers: Doug Caulkins, Zama Dexter, Sammy Guy, Neil Erwin, Glenda Erwin  
 Extended Session: Sharon Cage, April Carberry  
 Worship Center Leaders: Kelly Hodgson, Lynda Griffey

## WORSHIP NOTES

**WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS.** This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance pad. There is an information center with material about our church and Presbyterianism in the foyer of the Jordan Street entrance to the sanctuary.

**CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN** by Sitters' Registry and church volunteers. Nursery: Room CE-106; Extended Session during 11:00 a.m. worship for ages 2 yrs.—3 yrs.: Room CE-105 and The Worship Center for ages 4 yrs.—first grade: Room CE-113.

**CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP!** Bibles are available for use during worship; they are found at the end of every pew. We also provide **Worship Bags** designed for children elementary age and younger. The worship bags can be found in the narthex and at the front entrances to the sanctuary. Please return them after the service.

**THE PENTECOST OFFERING** is traditionally received on the day of Pentecost (June 12, 2011). It provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. Congregations are encouraged to keep 40 percent of the Offering to support ministry with children at risk in their communities.

The General Assembly's portion (60 percent) provides leadership development opportunities for Presbyterian youth and young adults and supports children-at-risk programs at the national level. Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised over \$7 million for these ministries that benefit younger members of God's family.



A Service for the Worship of God  
 Eleven O'Clock  
 May 29, 2011  
 Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Ministers: All Members of the Congregation**

**Session Ministry Moderators:**

John Frierson	Administration	johnfrierson60@yahoo.com
John Guth	Church Facilities	johnguth@bellsouth.net
Rick LaBorde	Outreach	claborde@wpsump.com
David Oliver	Stewardship	dmo@rcco.com
Lynn Chance	Congregational Life	LWChance@att.net
Robert Folsom	Adult	robertfolsom@lendersoption.net
David Butterfield	Youth	david@msrlaw.com
Rob Ajluni	Children	robajluni@hotmail.com
George Fritze	Evangelism	kinggpf@yahoo.com
Bruce Henderson	Worship	bhenderson@highlandclinic.com
Elton Richey	Communications	ebrlaw@bellsouth.net
Julie Blewer	Staff Committee	jblewer@djslawfirm.com

**Church Staff:**

Pendleton B. Peery	Pastor
Bryan L. McDowell	Associate Pastor
Sarah Cooper Searight	Associate Pastor
Hollice S. Watson	Organist/Choir Director
Lindsey Wells Peery	Director of Children's Ministries
Cindy K. Natale	Director, First Presbyterian Day School
Rebecca L. Mayfield	PCHAS Director, Child and Family Program
Ginger Collier	Communications Director
Peggy E. Sartin	Administrative Coordinator
Susan B. Whaley	Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard	Staff Secretary
George L. Beaner III	Maintenance Coordinator
Jeff A. McKenzie	Sexton
Sherry L. Odom	Housekeeper
Lillie M. Sutton	Housekeeper



*The Death of Socrates (1787)*  
 Jacques-Louis David

Our Mission

*Responding to God's grace and building upon the strength of our Reformed tradition, we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, seek to: Proclaim joyfully the Good News, revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; live as a welcoming and nurturing community of faith through worship, prayer, study and fellowship; and serve others - at home and beyond our community with love, compassion, respect, justice and mercy, in the name of Jesus Christ and after His example. May God empower us by the Holy Spirit to fulfill our call to be God's people.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
 Let us worship God.