



November 12, 2023
24th Sunday after Pentecost
Commitment Sunday

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! Please fill out the black Friendship Pad located on the pew so that we might welcome you to our FPC community.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

Prelude on Morning Song

Gardner Read

†CALL TO WORSHIP

We choose love.

We choose hope.

We choose peace.

We choose kindness.

We choose welcome.

We choose justice.

We choose to serve God.

Let us worship and give thanks to God!

†HYMN 374

O Holy City, Seen of John

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Everlasting God, we say we want to see you, we say we want to know you, we say we want to serve you, but we also do not want to put in the work. Teach us your thoughts on happiness, your ideas on giving, your way of making us whole. Give us faith, we pray. Inspire us to put our faith into action. And surprise us with your presence so we might be transformed into the people you have called us to be.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

All who seek God will rejoice and be glad. We proclaim that God is great because of this good news: We are forgiven people! Let us be at peace.

We will live as God's people, forgiven and freed.

†RESPONSE

Hymn 698

***Take, o take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal up on my heart and live in me.***

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN (11:00)

ANTHEM (11:00)

Walk Humbly With Your God

Joel Raney

*What can I bring when I come before the Lord?
What gift, what offering, what perfect song to sing?
When I bow down before my God and King?*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

pg. 959 N.T.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 23:1-12

pg. 58 N.T.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

What Others Don't See

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia

SILENT REFLECTION

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere, the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and our neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

†HYMN 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.**

A MOMENT OF STEWARDSHIP: EXPERIMENTAL HOPE

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

Simple Gifts

Wilbur Held

†RESPONSE

Hymn 606

***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.***

LITANY OF DEDICATION FOR THE 2024 COMMITMENTS

Almighty and everlasting God, we give you thanks this day as we gather and present these gifts of generosity.

We bring them before you with eager anticipation and hope.

For those whose lives have been touched by your Spirit, who have pledged their commitment once again or for the first time. For those whose lives are in transition or turmoil and who feel they cannot pledge but who continue to be a vital part of our community.

We all return to God portions of what God has given us: our time, our dreams, the fruits of our labors, our commitment, and our hope.

We dedicate our offerings toward the ministry God has given us.

Let us praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Amen.

†HYMN 320

The Church of Christ in Every Age

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

You may remain seated and enjoy the postlude or politely exit and visit with friends in the Narthex.

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune in D Major

C.S. Lang



Thank You for Serving Today

WORSHIP LEADERS

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, Pam Cooper, the Gray Family, June Rye,
Timothy Huchton, John Mallory, Seth Lafler, Sabrina Adrian, Bill Swart.

USHERS

8:30-Bill & Pam Cooper, Susan Junkin

11:00-Paulette Graves, Donna Brewton, Deda Garlitz, Dayton Baublitz, Ed & Nancy Wallace

MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir



Families in Worship

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Special Children's Worship Bags are available in the narthex. Parents are encouraged to use the things found in the Worship Bags to help their children prepare for and participate in worship.

Many of our young children participate in worship until after the Conversation with Children. After the Conversation with Children, a member of our child care staff will meet the children in the narthex and take them to the appropriate room.

Childcare is available for infants through children who are in kindergarten in Room 504, in the Family Life Center. An usher can direct you to these rooms.

Easy ways to give to the ministries of FPC

- Use the green giving envelope located in the pews. Drop the envelope in the offering plate.
- Use secure online giving to First Presbyterian. Sign up today at www.fpckerrville.org and click on the Giving tab.
- You can also "text to give" right from your phone. Simply text to **45777** and type in **KERRFPC**. Follow the prompts. It is secure and convenient.

Contact Mary Stone at the church office with any questions.

First Presbyterian Church

Pastors:

Rev. Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, Sr. Pastor
Head of Staff
Rev. Susan Montoya, Parish Associate
Eldon Sheffer, Commissioned Ruling Elder

Support Staff:

Mary Stone, Business Administrator
Alicia Martin, Asst. Administrator
Alfred Valero, Facilities Manager
Wes Lane, Media Specialist

Ministry Staff:

Dr. Sabrina Adrian, Organist
Seth Lafler, Choir Director
Shannon Tuschak, Care Coordinator
Audrey Mitchell, Dir. of Children's Ministry
Emily McAllister, Dir. of Youth & Young Adult Ministry
Alysse O'Brien, Children's Music Director
Scott Russell, Children's Corner Director
Ann Reynolds, YES Center Director
Ministers — All Our Congregation



Bulletin Notes

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.

†Please rise as able in body and spirit.

Bold type indicates unison response.

To view past worship services please visit
(<http://fpckerville.org/worship/video-archive>).



Please take time to silence your cell phones so we may all be fully present in this time and space.



Let Us Pray

...for our troops, especially for those serving in war-torn countries, and for refugees all over the world.



Worship Notes

Both the *Call to Worship* and the *Confessional Sequence* are taken from "Call to Worship". *Affirmation of Faith* from "A Brief Statement of Faith." The cover artwork is "Fire Chalice" by Peace Peg.



Welcome, Visitors!

For more information about our church and its missions, visit our website at www.fpckerville.org. If you would like to be contacted by phone or email, please submit a contact request form on our website, or call the church office. You may also fill out the Connect Card located in the pew pocket, or the Friendship Pad (located at the end of each pew). Please place the Connect Card in the offering tray or give it to an usher.

Prayer or Praise Request? Prayer request cards can be found in the pews, or you may complete your request on our website at www.fpckerville.org and it will head right to our prayer team, which meets on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

To join the membership of FPC: Contact the church office or visit us online and send us an email inquiry. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome to be part of this church family! Members of the Session meet with prospective members each second Sunday of the month in Ryan Hall immediately after the 11 o'clock service."

Calendar Highlights at First Presbyterian

For a full listing of church events,
log on to www.fpckerville.org and click on "Calendar."

Sunday, November 12

- 8:30 Worship—Sanctuary
- 9:00 Alternative Gift Market (9:00-2:00)—Ryan Hall
- 9:45 Parents' Fellowship Hour—Room 206
- 9:45 Children's Sunday School—Room 210
- 11:00 Worship—Sanctuary & Live Streamed
- 5:00 MS/HS Youth Group & Dinner—FLC Gym

Monday, November 13

- 11:00 Congregational Care Meeting—Pastor's Office
- 4:00 Planning & Training—Room 206
- 5:30 Personnel Committee—Room 204

Tuesday, November 14

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study—Room 207
- 10:00 CCP Chapel—Sanctuary
- 4:00 Missional Outreach Committee—Zoom
- 4:30 Children's Corner Preschool Committee—Room 204
- 5:30 Yoga For Community (Beginner/Gentle)—Ryan Hall

Wednesday, November 15

- 9:00 Prayer Group—Zoom
- 10:00 Yoga For Community (Chair)—Ryan Hall
- 10:30 Staff Meeting—Congregational Care Office
- 3:00 Adult Discipleship Committee—Library
- 5:15 Officer Training—Room 208
- 5:30 All Church Dinner—Family Life Center
- 5:30 Children's Ministry Team—Room 210
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

Thursday, November 16

Friday, November 17

- 10:00 Grief Support Group—Ryan hall

Saturday, November 18

- 9:00 Pop Up Market—Family Life Center Parking Lot
- 12:00 HOPES Kitchen—Family Life Center

Sunday, November 19

- 8:30 Worship—Sanctuary
- 9:30 Fellowship Coffee Time—Ryan Hall
- 9:45 Adult Sunday School—Ryan Hall, Room 208
- 11:00 Worship—Sanctuary & Live Streamed
- 12:00 Angel Tree Shopping—San Antonio
- 3:00 Schreiner University Music Department
"Fall Showcase"—Sanctuary



First Presbyterian Church

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- **Sunday, November 12 - 9:00-2:00, Alternative Gift Market**

The Alternative Gift Market is Back!! Ryan Hall is filled with displays of beautiful, handcrafted items made by 3rd world artisans. Gifts purchased can be given to honor a friend or loved one, or purely be your generous way to help those who have little hope for a safe and healthy future. All gifts are tax free with 100% going to the groups represented at the market. You can also give through the church website, under the OUTREACH tab. There you will find more information on the missions represented at the Alternative Gift Market and ways you can donate to the work they do.

- **Wednesday, November 15 - 5:30pm, FLC, All Church Dinner**

The Property team invites you to come celebrate a Friendsgiving with your church family. Turkey and ham will be provided by the church, please supplement with your favorite side dish, salad, or dessert. We look forward to enjoying good food, fellowship and games together!

- **Saturday, November 18 — Food Bank Pop Up Market**-FPC has partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank to help distribute food to over 100 Kerr County families. We will gather at 8:00am at the YES Center for the next food distribution. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Shannon Tuschak, stuschak@fpckerrville.org.

- **Sunday, November 19, 3:30, Sanctuary — Schreiner University Music Department "Fall Showcase"**

Come enjoy Schreiner University music department's semester ending student performance. You will hear the string orchestra, choir and band, in addition to the Outstanding Student Recitalist Award Winners.

- **Monday, November 20, 4:00pm, Hill Country Youth Ranch Thanksgiving Dinner**

The youth have been asked to serve the Thanksgiving dinner for all the children and staff at the Hill Country Youth Ranch. We would like to invite the whole church to join us in service and celebrate this holiday with them! If you would like to help, please meet in the church bus parking lot at 4 pm to carpool to the Ranch and we should be back around 8 pm, happily fed. Please contact Emily at emcallister@fpckerrville.org if you have any questions

- **Thursday, November 30– 7:00pm, Sanctuary, Tivy High School Fine Arts Performance**

Come enjoy the Tivy High School Band, Choir and Orchestra's concert "Sounds of the Season".

- **Saturday, December 2-Sunday December 3 - All Church Retreat at Mo-Ranch**

Check-in is Saturday morning at 9:00am. There will be activities for all on Saturday during the day (Advent crafts from 2:00-4:00). Staying overnight is not required but if you choose to stay, there is plenty of room. We will all return for worship at 11:00am in the FPC sanctuary. For more information, contact Emily at emcallister@fpckerrville.org.

- **Tuesday, December 5, 5:30p.m. Kerrville Ministerial Alliance Christmas Walk:** Make plans to celebrate this Christmas season by joining us on a unique night of Christmas services in five downtown Kerrville churches beginning at First Baptist Church on Washington Street. Walking paths to and from each church will be illuminated for visibility and safety. There is no cost for this event.

Thursday, December 14, 6:00pm, Sanctuary, Children's Corner Christmas Program: Please join us for a very special Christmas program celebrating our wonderful CCP children, followed by a reception in Ryan Hall.