



All are welcome, because God is Welcome!

We hope you feel the warmth of God's presence and a genuine welcome here. If this is your first time with us, we are honored to have you and look forward to seeing you again soon!

Connect with First Church by scanning the QR code or visiting our website. There are wonderful things happening here, and we would love for you to find your place in our community of faith!

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Portions of worship services are recorded and available on Facebook and our church website.

*Indicates that the congregation may stand. **Words we all say are in bold print.**

We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month and on special occasions. **All are welcome at the table of our Lord.**

Offering plates are available in the Narthex (sanctuary entrance) before and after worship, or you can give online by scanning the QR code. Your support enables First Church to make a meaningful impact within our community and beyond. As we often say, we are truly **"blessed to be a blessing!"**

During this season of transition, as we seek both an interim and eventually a called and installed pastor, we will be blessed by a variety of guest preachers. We invite you to embrace this opportunity to hear God's Word proclaimed through many different voices.

CONNECTION, LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

WE ARE A CONGREGATION IN CONNECTION WITH

The Presbytery of Florida
The Synod of South Atlantic
The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

THE SESSION

The Rev. Mark Broadhead, Moderator, **Bob Plank**, Clerk of Session

Elected spiritual leaders of this congregation:

Ann Fyfe ('26), **Jennifer Hedges** ('27), **Steven McPherson** ('28),
Bob Plank ('26), **Tami Valdez** ('28), **Kathy Welsh** ('27)

CHURCH STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Bradley Thoreson
Music Director, Organist
bradfpclh@gmail.com

Terri Boardway
Administrative Assistant
firstpresbylh@gmail.com

For emergency pastoral care, contact Kathy Welsh:
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Lynn Haven, FL 32444

Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 8 AM-12 PM
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www.firstchurchlh.org

GOD WELCOMES US IN LOVE

Prelude 'O God Beyond All Praising' THAXTED, arr. Kristina Rizzotto

Chiming the Hour

Words of Welcome

Bob Plank

*We Rejoice in God's Welcome

From the noise of the world, God welcomes us into holy presence.

We rejoice in God's welcome and gather in hope.

From the mountain of glory, God speaks a living Word.

We rejoice in God's welcome and open our hearts to listen.

"This is my Son, the Beloved—listen to him."

We rejoice in God's welcome and follow Christ in trust.

Let us worship the God who still speaks.

***Hymn 193 'Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain'** UNSER HERRSCHER

*Prayer of Praise

Glorious and gracious God, we praise you for light that breaks through the clouds, for truth that still speaks in a noisy world, and for love that calls us by name.

You revealed your glory in Jesus Christ—not to dazzle us for a moment, but to guide us for a lifetime. You welcome us not because we understand fully, but because you love completely.

We praise you for the voice that still speaks—calling us to listen, to trust, and to follow. Receive our worship, O God, as we rejoice in your holy presence. Amen.

Song of Preparation (Hymn 458)

'Thy Word is a Lamp unto my Feet' THY WORD

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear, as long as You are near;
Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Call to Confession

The voice that spoke from the cloud is a voice of truth and love. It invites us not to fear, but to listen—and to be honest about where we have turned away.

Let us bring our whole selves before God and confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we are not always good listeners. We fill our lives with noise—noise of worry, noise of certainty, noise of distraction.

You speak words of truth and grace, but we listen for voices that tell us what we want to hear. You call us to follow Jesus, but we resist the way of the cross.

Forgive us when we stop listening. Still our hearts. Clear our hearing. Help us listen again—for the voice that still speaks, the voice that leads us into life. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

The voice that thundered from the cloud is the same voice that speaks mercy to us now:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and made new.
Thanks be to God!

*Joyful Response (Hymn 582)

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

GOD INVITES US TO LISTEN

Epistle 2 Peter 1:16-21

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Solo 'Speak, O Lord'

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Message 'The Voice That Still Speaks'

Julian Wells

GOD MOVES US TO RESPOND

*Hymn 452 'Open the Eyes of My Heart'

OPEN THE EYES

*Declaration of Faith

Adapted from the Confession of 1967 and Brief Statement of Faith
We believe in Jesus Christ, the Beloved Son, in whom God's glory is made known. He is God's Word spoken to us—calling us to listen, to follow, and to live in love. Through him, God still speaks light into our darkness and hope into our fear. We trust his voice and follow where he leads. 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.

GOD SENDS US TO LIVE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

***Hymn 192** 'Shine, Jesus Shine'

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

***Benediction and Three-fold Amen**

Postlude 'Postlude on All People That on Earth Do Dwell' *Paul Fey*

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY:

The Chancel Choir
Bradley Thoreson, Organist, Director of Music
Bob Plank, Lay Leader, Clerk of Session
Julian Wells, Guest Preacher and Worship Leader

ASSISTING TODAY:

Jan Raines and John Deegins, Greeters
Bruce Mackay, Church Safety Volunteer

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK:

Deb and Bill Mease, Greeters
Bill Mease, Church Safety Volunteer

GOD CALLS US INTO COMMUNITY

Welcome to worship on this Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday—the final Sunday of the Season of Epiphany. Today we stand with the disciples on the mountain, where Christ's glory is revealed and God's voice speaks from the cloud: *"This is my Son, the Beloved—listen to him."* In a world filled with noise and competing voices, we gather to rejoice in God's welcome, to listen for the voice that still speaks, and to be renewed by Christ's light and grace. As we prepare to enter the season of Lent, may our worship today open our hearts to listen more deeply, trust more fully, and follow more faithfully.

We are grateful to welcome back our own Julian Wells as our guest preacher and worship leader today.

Join us this Tuesday, February 17 at 5:00 p.m. for our first Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper—breakfast for dinner, good company, and plenty of fun. Donations will support the Presbyterian Women's partnership with Sue Bowen, who works with Bay County high school students experiencing food and housing insecurity. Sue will also share a brief update about this important ministry.

Begin the Season of Lent with us on Wednesday, February 18 at 5:00 p.m. for a brief, reflective Ash Wednesday Evening Prayer service. The imposition of ashes will be offered as we enter this holy season with humility, reflection, and hope.

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation to be held at the close of worship on Sunday, February 22, 2026, for the purpose of electing an elder to fill an unexpired term on the Session.

DURING THIS SEASON OF TRANSITION:

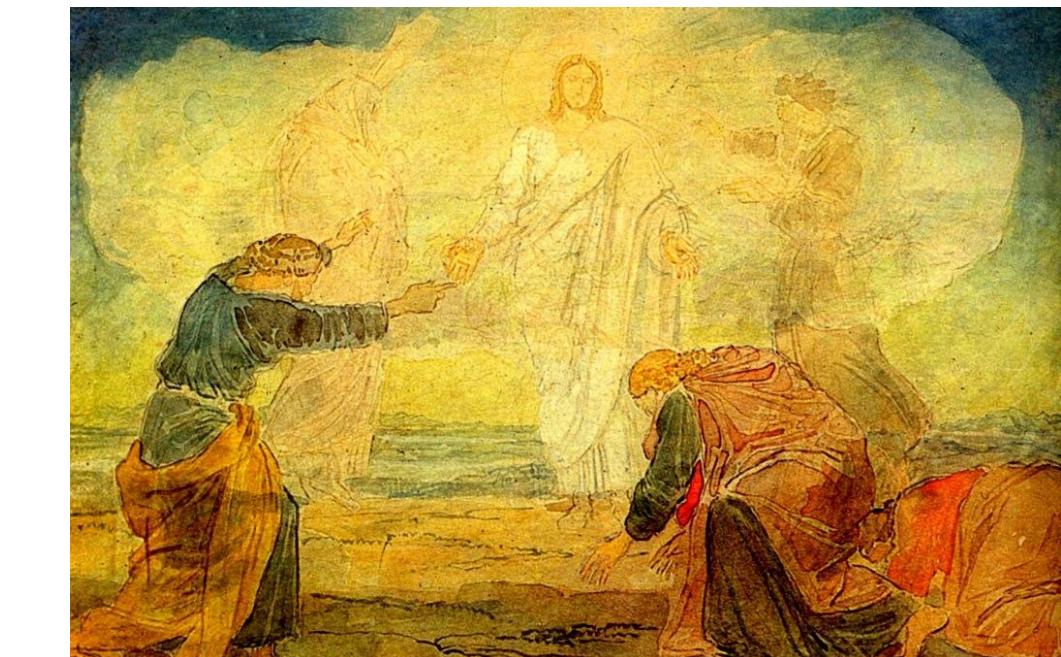
If you have a prayer request, please contact Kathy Welsh, Congregational Care Chair, at 850-866-0019. Your requests will be kept confidential and shared only in the manner you prefer.

Have an announcement for the bulletin or website? Please send it to Terri Boardway (firstpresbylh@gmail.com) by noon on Wednesdays so we can keep our church family informed and connected.

If you are interested in church membership, please speak with Bob Plank, Clerk of Session, or any ruling elder. We are eager for you to find your place in the life of First Church!



Stay connected! Sign up for This Week @ First Church, the Friday e-Alert, worship links, prayer updates, and more by scanning the QR code.



TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

MORNING WORSHIP

February 15, 2026
10 AM