

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST IS PREEMINENT

August 23, 2026

582 Southwood Drive, Eden, NC, 27288
www.fpceden.org | 336-623-3962

IN PREPARATION

Who is Jesus Christ? This is now the question the crowd is forced to answer in this passage. The crowd has been silenced by the authorities during the Feast of Tabernacles, but now Jesus teaches openly in the temple. Do the authorities secretly believe that Jesus is the Messiah? Could this be the promised one in the midst of the temple during this festival? Is Jesus the fulfillment of the end-times Feast of Booths promised in Zechariah 14? Who is Jesus?

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Welcome, Announcements, & Congregational Greeting

Gospel Greeting

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whoever will come – this church opens wide her doors
and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Meditation: *Genesis 3:15*

(Recite in Unison)

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

Introit & Silent Preparation

* Call to Worship: *Psalms 118:28–29*

Leader: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

All: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

* Prayer of Invocation

* *Doxology* – Trinity Hymnal #731

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.

* Please stand if you are able.

* *Before the Throne of God Above* – Sing! Hymnal #121



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me of the
3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb! My per - fect, spot - less



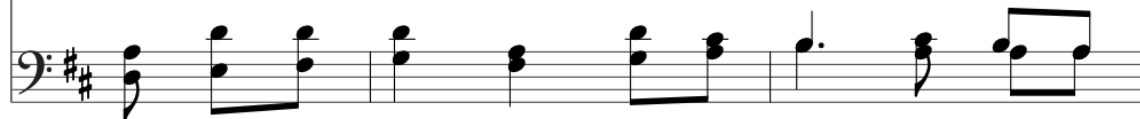
per - fect plea, a great High Priest whose name is "Love," who ev - er
guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see him there who made an
Righ - teous - ness; the great un - change - a - ble I AM, the King of



lives and pleads for me. My name is grav - en on his hands;
end to all my sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died,
glo - ry and of grace! One with him - self I can - not die;



my name is writ - ten on his heart; I know that
my sin - ful soul is count - ed free; for God the
my soul is pur - chased by his blood; my life is



while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can bid me thence de -
 Just is sat - is - fied to look on him and par - don
 hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Sav - ior and my

part; no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
 me; to look on him and par - don me.
 God; with Christ my Sav - ior and my God!

Words: Charitie Lees Smith, 1863; alt. Vikki Cook | Music: Vikki Cook
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BEFORE THE THRONE
 LMD

*** *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* – Sing! Hymnal #415 / *Jesus, All for Jesus* –
 Sing! Hymnal #450**

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de -
 2. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; the world be -
 3. Though none go with me, still I will fol - low; though none go

cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low
 hind me, the cross be - fore me; the world be - hind me, the cross be -
 with me, still I will fol - low; though none go with me, still I will

Je - sus; no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 fore me; no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 fol - low; no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

Words: Anonymous

Music: Indian folk melody

ASSAM

1. Je - sus, all for Je - sus, all I
 2. All of my am - bi - tions, hopes, and plans, I sur -

am and have ren - der these and ev - er hope to be. be. hands.

For it's on - ly in your will that I am free;
 for it's on - ly in your will that I am free.

Words: Robin Mark, Jennifer Orr

Music: Robin Mark

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ALL FOR JESUS

Reading of the Law: *Matthew 19:17b*

If you would enter life, keep the commandments.

Corporate and Personal Confession of Sin

(Recite in Unison)

O Father in Heaven, I am a poor sinner who has rebelled against You in thought, word, and deed. My conscience accuses me. The Devil accuses me. The Law accuses me. Yet, I come to Your throne through Jesus Christ, the Great High Priest, seeking pardon. I abhor my sin and beg of Your grace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *Psalm 145:8-9*

(Recite in Unison)

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Choir: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

*** Gloria Patri**

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.

The Pastor's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

(Recite in Unison)

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Children's Sermon

***** Children Return to Your Seats with Your Parents*****

*** Here is My Heart**



Mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, gra - cious Re - deem - er, slow in Your
an - ger, rich in Your love; Full of com - pas - sion,
long - ing to heal and bless, You will for - give all of my
sin if I will con - fess. Here is my heart, Lord, I lay it
o - pen; search ev - 'ry cor - ner, cleanse ev - 'ry
part. Here is my heart, Lord, yield - ed and bro -
ken; Mer - ci - ful Lord, come and re - store, here is my heart.

*** Prayer of Illumination & The Reading of God's Word**

The Preaching of God's Word

JOHN 7:25-31— IS JESUS THE CHRIST?

* *But for the Cross of Christ* – Sing! Hymnal #169



1. What is the truth that ev - er an - chors me a - midst the
2. He bore my sin; I bear his righ-teous-ness. Oh, what a
3. How do I walk with hum-ble con - fi - dence? I look to
4. When I am weak and stum-ble in - to sin, there is an
5. One day I'll stand be - fore the King of kings. One day I'll



waves of all my guilt? That Christ has shed his blood and
 glo - ri - ous ex - change! The wrath of God laid on the
 Christ who is my peace. He sealed my hope and my in -
 ev - er - flow - ing stream. His cleans-ing blood re - vives my
 see him face to face. For Je - sus rose; death lost its



par-doned me at the cross, at the cross.
 spot-less Lamb; oh, what grace! Oh, what grace!
 her - i - tance at the cross, at the cross. Be-hold the cross,
 soul a - gain. Oh, what grace! Oh, what grace!
 bit - ter sting. Christ has won! Christ has won!



there is no great-er love: heav-en's Son laid down his life for us.

Oh, my soul would be lost with no hope to find, but for the cross of Christ.

Words & Music: Bryan Fowler, Kristyn Getty, Jessica Waterman

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BUT FOR THE CROSS

10 8 10 3 with refrain

* **Benediction:** *Numbers 6:24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

* *Threefold Amen* – Trinity Hymnal #740

* **Postlude & Dismissal**

Although the gathering has ended, service to Christ continues; let us go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, serving our Lord as His ambassadors in both the demonstration and the proclamation of the Gospel!

PRAYER REQUESTS

****If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Jeni Hartley at jhartley@fpceden.org****

Our Congregation

- Frank Parker
- Stuart Peele
- Gloria Shropshire
- Jonathan Smith
- Rick & Debbie Taylor
- Tristen Wittman and the 109th MP Battalion

Our Missionaries

- Stephanie Black – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Ben and Ellie Childs – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Al and Joy Doomy – Outreach to Asia Nationals
- Bradley and Jessica Long – Frontier Fellowship
- Brent and Marianne Pilson – Café 1040

Operation World – Maldives

Tourists see the Maldives as an island paradise, but a darker reality hides below the surface. Powerful social and official forces limit freedom of expression and belief. The Maldives has one of the highest divorce rates in the world. Crime rates and gang activity both continue to rise. Child abuse and teenage drug abuse (among up to 70% of teens) indicate deep problems. Islam is the only recognized religion, and the government forbids open practice of all other religions. But beyond Islamic beliefs, many people follow occult practices called fanditha. Pray for the light of the gospel to shine among Maldivians. Pray against strongholds of pride, fear, and selfish pursuit of physical pleasures.

HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Question & Answer #12

Question: *Since, then, by the righteous judgment of God we deserve temporal and eternal punishment, how may we escape this punishment and be again received into favor?*

Answer: God wills that His justice be satisfied (Ex. 20:5; Ex. 23:7); therefore, we must make full satisfaction to that justice, either by ourselves or by another (Rom. 8:3–4).

Father, help us to be a God-glorifying, Christ-exalting, Spirit-led, Bible-saturated, Mission-driven, and Fellowship-focused people.

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

The Lord's Supper

Our next celebration of the Lord's Supper will be on September 6.

Session

Bruce Nooe – Stated Clerk (2027)
Kenny Mabe (2028)
Everall Peele (2028)
Bill Robertson (2028)
Carter Combs (2029)
Pastor Brad Milks

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bradley Milks
Pastor's Email: brad@fpceden.org
Church Administrator: Jennifer Shafer
Administrator Email: office@fpceden.org

Committee Leaders

Building: Bruce Nooe
Missions/Outreach: Paul Sasser
Congregational Life: Pat Smith

Contact Information

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www.youtube.com/@FPCEden

Ministries

Sunday School | Sunday 9:00am
Public Worship | Sunday 10:00am
Pastor's Study | Wednesday 10:00am
Church Prayer | Wednesday 6:30pm
Choir Practice | Wednesday 7:00pm
Puritan Fellowship | Thursday 7:00am
Romans | Saturday 7:15am

Stewardship – Thru July

Operational Budget

YTD Received \$155,092.14
YTD Expenses \$175,904.61
Budget YTD -\$20,812.47

Building Fund

Building Need: \$89,522
Building Received: \$65,625.84
Building YTD -\$23,896.16

Pennies for Hunger Offering (Missions/Outreach)

Sunday, September 6

Sign Up for Our Emails

Scan the code with your phone and
sign up to receive our emails.



NEW TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

We are thankful that you have gathered with us this morning to worship the living triune God, seeing and savoring His glorious grace in the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We pray you encounter the Lord's presence and glory through singing, the fellowship of God's people, and the preaching of His Word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carter Combs Installation. Be sure to join us on September 6, 2026, during our morning service as we ordain and install Carter Combs as an elder. During this service, we will take a break from the Gospel of John, and we will have a special sermon on eldership from Titus 1:5-9. We are so thankful that Christ has set aside Carter to be an under-shepherd of First Presbyterian Church.

Walk for Life. We are thrilled that the Walk for Life will begin at First Presbyterian Church this year! The walk will be on October 3, 2026, with a start time of 9:30am. If you would like to join the walk team, please contact Sue Parker.

Summer Social. Join us this evening at 6:00pm for a time of fellowship and song before the school year begins! Bring a dessert; homemade ice cream is great, but we would love anything sweet or non-sweet. We have a music surprise in store that might even involve a sing-along. Be sure to invite a friend!

Fall Fest. Saturday, October 31, from 7:30am to 2:30pm. We are thankful that we have already received some larger prizes as donations! We currently need silent auction, red-ticket, and door prize items. We have just a few basket items but need many more. Many of our items come from local merchants, so please see the list on the table and sign up to call on one or two (or more) of them. Most of these organizations have been generous to us in the past. We have a tax receipt we can provide them if they wish. Finally, if you have items at your home that you'd like to add to the yard sale, there is still time to add them to Fall Fest. If you are able to assist, please pick up a sign-up sheet from the table in the sanctuary and note how you can help. Contact Pat Smith with questions, if you can help this year, or if you have ideas for items to secure for the prizes at 336-707-3350. Don't forget to pray!

To parents with children: We are glad you, your family, and your children are here this morning. Children are a blessing from the Lord. Sometimes they wiggle and squirm throughout the service. Children are not a distraction to the church. They are a gift from the Lord.

To children: If you want to doodle all over this bulletin – go for it! We are glad you are with us.