PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CELL PHONES ARE TURNED OFF.

Welcome and Announcements — Sara Wood, Lay Reader

Prelude — "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #35

Pouring the Waters of Baptism: a reminder that we are baptized children of God.

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 103) — Sara Wood

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,
ALL: Bless God's holy name.
L: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live,
ALL: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!

*Hymn — "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" #35

Confession and Assurance of Pardon — Sara Wood

L: The promise of our faith is this: for all who call out in truth, God is near. Therefore, let us honestly confess our sin, praying first silently, and then together. (*Silence*)

ALL: God of creation and renewal, we confess that sometimes we are hesitant to rest in you. Forgive us when we strive for things that are unworthy of our calling or when we forget to remember the Sabbath. Help us to learn from you, that we may lay down the heavy burdens of the world and accept your easy yoke. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

L: Sisters and brothers: hear the good news: God is gracious, merciful, and abounding in steadfast love, and gives us forgiveness and grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn — "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines On Me" #582

Gloria Patri, arranged by Paul M. Vasile

Prayer for Illumination — Sara Wood

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:8-11 — Sara Wood

Special Music — "Nocturne" #2 — John Field

Second Scripture / Homily: Matthew 11:28-30 — Pastor Betsy

Moment for Meditation

*Affirmation of Faith — *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.

Offertory — "We've Come This Far by Faith" #656

September/October Dollars for Mission will support Doctors without Borders.

*Doxology (#606) and Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People — Pastor Betsy

*Hymn — "We Gather Here in Jesus' Name" #510

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. *(Prayer continues)*

… For all these things we praise you, joining our voices to the whole company of heaven, who sing together:

(Sing together, #562)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer (with "debts/debtors")

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn	"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"	#182
*Charge and Benediction		Pastor Betsy
*Postlude		Frank Armato, Church Musician

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Lael Wilson, "the waters;" Jerry Blaydes, sound system; Chuck Dishman, candle lighting.

The congregation is invited to read the print in **BOLD**.

Cover photo: "Loaves and Fishes," by John August Swanson,
from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library.

First Presbyterian Church

growing in Faith, serving with Hope, sharing God's Love

September 6, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

26 Church Street | Franklin, NC 28734 | 828-524-3119
www.fpcwnc.org | fpcfranklinnc@gmail.com

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Betsy Stow | Music Director: Frank Armato
Lay Reader: Sara Wood