



# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CLEVELAND

MAY 31, 2026  
TRINITY SUNDAY  
10AM Sanctuary Worship

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

*Bless God's Holy Name*

Andrae Crouch

*Congregation*

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, Bless God's Holy name**

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

*O Living God*

Larry Johnson

O living God, whose presence now surrounds us  
and fills our hearts with joy and hope and peace,  
help us to see that in your world around us,  
your spirit breathes, your love will never cease.  
But weary souls, that love not comprehending,  
still need to know that your love brings release.

\* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

God's Spirit is moving through our gathering,  
creating and recreating, judging and empowering.

**Let God's light break forth to illumine us  
and the shadows be dispelled.**

The earth brings forth life-giving food,  
and our need for nourishment is supplied.

**We give thanks for the sustenance God provides  
and seek to share it with all humankind.**

God grants us dominion over the planet's resources  
and calls us to be stewards of the earth.

**We seek insight and willpower  
to use God's gifts with prudence and imagination.**

God pronounces all creation good  
and joins us for a day of renewal.

**We rejoice in our sabbath opportunities  
as we celebrate this resurrection day.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Triune God, known to us in more ways than we can count,  
we marvel at the mystery of life,  
and wonder at your attention to our lives.  
As we ponder the vast expanse of space,  
we are fascinated by distances too extensive to understand.  
The times we have measured are a tiny ripple in your eternity.  
Yet you have honored this planet by revealing yourself  
in the life and ministry of Jesus  
and the empowerment of your Holy Spirit.  
Let us experience your presence in this time of worship.  
Amen.**

\* HYMN #1

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA



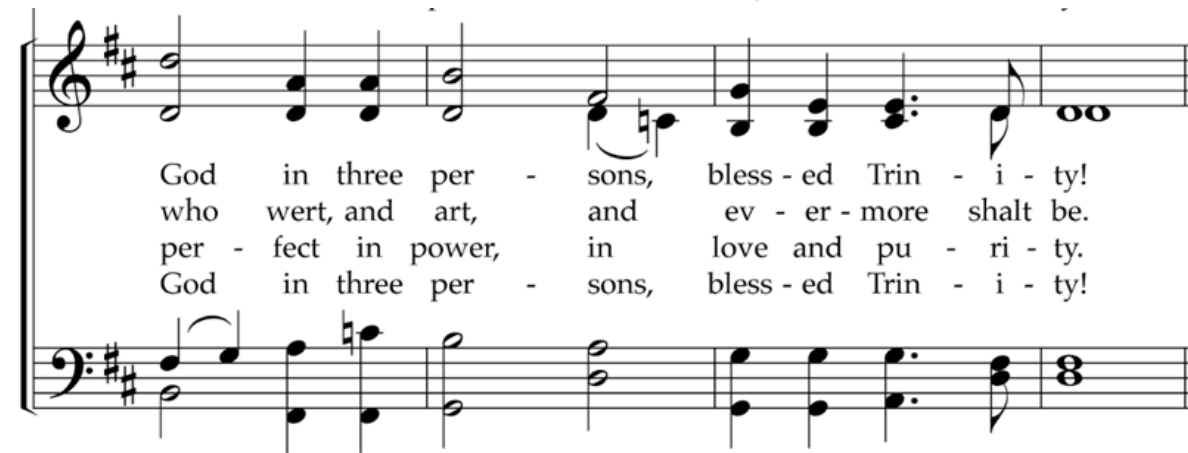
1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,  
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

Forrest Diehl

We are invited to examine ourselves,  
 to see whether we are holding to our faith. Is Christ alive in us?  
 Are we living the truth?  
 Let us give public testimony to the state of our faith, as we confess our sin.  
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,  
 followed by time for silent personal confession.  
 Thus, we pray:

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Triune God,  
we acknowledge you as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.  
You grant us opportunities to be co-creators,  
but we cling to our ruts and routines.  
You expand the horizons of our caring,  
only to have our prejudices and selfishness  
intrude on your generosity in Christ.  
You send your Spirit to empower us,  
and we waste the power you supply in meaningless activity.  
Awaken us from our apathy, forgive our laziness,  
and rechannel our priorities, we pray in Jesus' name.**  
*(moment of silent confession)*

\* KYRIE

*Choir*

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

*Congregation*

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

\* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God promises to be with us, to redirect our ways, to grant us peace.  
We are forgiven. We are loved. We are united with one another.  
We are strengthened to mend our ways.  
May the God of love and peace abide with us.  
**Alleluia and Amen!**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us offer a sign of peace to one another.

\* GLORIA #582      *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**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.**

## OFFERTORY INVITATION

Please be seated.

What will we return to God

for all the bounty of the universe we have been given to enjoy?

We cannot count the blessings of life which God supplies to us.

The mandate of Christ is clear: "Go and make disciples of all nations."

That means we must, first of all, accept our own discipleship  
in wholehearted obedience and self-giving service.

God expects no less than all we have and all we are.

The offering will now be received.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The Lord's Prayer*

arr. Lloyd Larson

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.

### \* DOXOLOGY #609

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise, God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit one.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### \* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Forrest Diehl

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**You created a universe and entrusted this planet to us, Great God.**

**We have received life and abilities from your hand**

**and return these offerings to further your reign among us.**

**Only you know how adequately we are responding.**

**May what we dedicate here, and the cause that engages our attention,  
represent an improvement in our stewardship.**

**Amen.**

### \* OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*Grant Us Lord*

STUTT GART

Grant us, Lord, the grace of giving with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living we may offer unto thee. Amen.

# WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Sing into our ears, O Spirit, the holy word of life.  
Tell us who we are and to whom we belong  
so that we may live with gratitude  
for all that you have done. Amen.**

## THE READINGS

Torah

Genesis 1:1-2:4a (Inclusive Bible)

In the Beginning God created the heavens and the earth. But the earth became chaos and emptiness, and darkness came over the face of the Deep—yet the Spirit of God was brooding over the surface of the water.

Then God said, “Light: Be!” and light was. God saw that light was good, and God separated light from darkness. God called the light “Day” and the darkness “Night.” Evening came, morning followed—the first day.

Then God said: “Now, make an expanse between the waters! Separate water from water!” So it was: God made the expanse and separated the water above the expanse from the water below it. God called the expanse “Sky.”

Evening came, and morning followed—the second day.

Then God said, “Waters under the sky: be gathered into one place! Dry ground: appear! So it was. God called the dry ground “Earth” and the gathering of the waters “Sea.” And God saw that this was good. Then God said, “Earth: produce vegetation—plants that scatter their own seeds, and every kind of fruit tree that bears fruit with its own seed in it!” So it was: the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed, and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. And God saw that this was good.

Evening came, and morning followed—the third day.

Then God said, “Now, let there be lights in the expanse of the sky! Separate day from night! Let them mark the signs and seasons, days and years, and serve as luminaries in the sky, shedding light on the earth.” So it was: God made the two great lights, the greater one to illumine the day, and the lesser to illumine the night. Then God made the stars as well, placing them in the expanse of the sky, to shed light on the earth, to govern both day and night, and separate light from darkness. And God saw that this was good.

Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

God then said, “Waters: swarm with an abundance of living being! Birds: fly above the earth in the open expanse of the sky!” And so it was: God created great sea monsters and all sorts of swimming creatures with which the waters are filled, and all kinds of birds. God saw that this was good and blessed them, saying, “Bear fruit, increase your numbers, and fill the waters of the seas! Birds abound on the earth!” Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.

Then God said, “Earth: bring forth all kinds of living soul—cattle, things that crawl, and wild animals of all kinds!” So it was: God made all kinds of wild animals, and cattle, and everything that crawls on the ground.”

Humankind was created as God’s reflection: in the divine image God created them; female and male, God made them.

God blessed them and said, “Bear fruit, increase your numbers and fill the earth—and be responsible for it! Watch over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things on the earth!” God then told them, “Look! I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the earth, and every tree whose fruit carries its seed inside itself: they will be your food; and to all the animals of the earth and the birds of the air and things that crawl on the ground—everything that has a living soul in it—I give all the green plants for food.” So it was. God looked at all of this creation, and proclaimed that this was good—very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed.

On the seventh day God had finished all the work of creation, and so, on that seventh day, God rested. God blessed the seventh day and called it sacred, because on it God rested from all the work of creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Holy Spirit has a word for each of us today.

**With God’s help we are listening.**

Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20 (Inclusive Bible)

The Eleven made their way to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had summoned them. At the sight of the risen Christ they fell down in homage, though some doubted what they were seeing. Jesus came forward and addressed them in these words:

“All authority has been given me both in heaven and on the earth; go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of Abba God, and of the Only Begotten, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always, even until the end of the world!”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“God—Three in One!”

\* NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**


LIGHTING OF CANDLES, PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We ask all these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...


**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.**




1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
2 My coun-try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.  
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-2, Lloyd Stone; stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, alt.

MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt.

Text St. 1-2 © 1934, ren. 1962 The Lorenz Corp.; St. 3 © 1964 The Lorenz Corp.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

FINLANDIA

11.10.11.10.11.10

\* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

God's Spirit sends us into the world  
to live creatively and faithfully.

**We will walk in the light  
and celebrate the goodness of God.**

Be faithful in your stewardship  
and fruitful in your teaching.

**We heed Christ's call to make disciples  
in all lands, among all peoples.**

Discover and build on agreements among you,  
and find ways to promote true peace.

**We commit ourselves anew to live  
as truth-seekers and peacemakers.**

The grace of Jesus Christ and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Amen*

African American

POSTLUDE

*O God Beyond All Praising*

Gustav Holst

*“My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”*

*Psalms 73:26*



**We continue to keep in our prayers:**

Corine and Joseph McCalpine, Laurie Thomson, Tom LaRosa, Reene,  
Carlos, Priscella, Anthony Buccino, Rosa Buccino, Sandy Colombo, Tralaina Davis,  
Dorland, Addie Singleton, Rajvinder Kaur, Mary Orr, Sue Blazek,  
Gwen and Elizabeth Baus, JoAnn Hood, the Teasley family, the Jackson-Dix family  
Drs. Peter and Rebekah Stafford and family

We pray for the repose of the soul of Linda Marsh,  
may her memory be a blessing.

We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, homebound or in need.

*Names are generally removed after four weeks unless there is a continuing need.*



Please join us for Communion following the service this morning in the Chapel.

## @ The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland

### Sunday May 31 Trinity Sunday

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**12:00PM** Holden Arboretum Tour/Western Reserve Room

**1:40PM** Guardians-Red Sox/Progressive Field

### Tuesday June 2

**12:15PM** Tuesday AA Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

### Wednesday June 3

**11:00AM** Stirring Up Hope Soup Pantry

**12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

### Saturday June 6

**9:00AM** Pride in Cle/Public Square

### Sunday June 7 Pride Sunday

**10:00AM** Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Plant Exchange/Memorial Hall

### Tuesday June 9

**12:15PM** Tuesday AA Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

### Wednesday June 10

**11:00AM** Stirring Up Hope Soup Pantry

**12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

### Thursday June 11

**2:00PM** Worship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

### Sunday June 14

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**12:00PM** Psalms Bible Study/Gallery

**12:30PM** Chair Yoga/Chapel

**1:40PM** Guardians-Tigers/Progressive Field

### Tuesday June 16

**12:15PM** Tuesday AA Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

### Wednesday June 17

**11:00AM** Stirring Up Hope Soup Pantry

**12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

**6:00PM** Welcoming & Fellowship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:86 Online:290



There are many ways to support The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland

Online Giving:

[firstprescle.org/giving](http://firstprescle.org/giving)

Mail to:

The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland  
Attn: Financial Office  
1380 Ontario Street  
Cleveland, OH 44113

Scan the QR Code with your phone.



Checks should be made payable to "The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland."

All contributions are tax-deductible and will be appropriately acknowledged at year-end.

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CLEVELAND**

*LOVING CHRIST, SERVING CITY—SPIRITUALLY, SOCIALLY, CULTURALLY—SINCE 1820*

91 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2058

**Phone:** 216-241-6145 **Fax:** 216-241-6149

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Music copied under ccli#1638695

oneline#A-742406

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

**Parish Associate:** Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

**Minister of Music:** Evan M. Collins

**Choir**

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Anthony Steward, *tenor*

Cali Jacobs, *alto*

Christopher Clark, *bass*

**Church Elders:**

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

Class of 2026  
Beth Buchanan  
Judy Macuga  
Melissa Maffia  
Harriet Niles  
Marty Vassel

Class of 2027  
Michelle Baron  
Bernard Medie  
Bob Reid

Class of 2028  
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Don Urban

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Forrest Diehl  
Pam Daly  
Ruth Finley  
Alyssa Niepokny  
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