



September 28, 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

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September 28, 2025

Order of Worship

16th Sunday After Pentecost

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — “Here I Am, Lord” — Dan Schutte, arr. Marianne Kim

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE — “The God of Abraham Praise” — Flor Peeters

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In every day gone by,

People: God has been faithful.

Leader: Here and now, today,

People: God knows us.

Leader: For every tomorrow, to the end of the age,

People: God is already present, fulfilling God's covenant.

Leader: In every time and place, not bound by calendars or clocks,

People: God IS, and so we worship the One who was, who is, and ever shall be.

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #49 — “The God of Abraham Praise” (8:30 vv. 1 and 4)**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors, we confess that sometimes we wonder if you are as close to us as you seemed to be for people in the past. We hear stories of your mighty works and intimate conversations, your care and attention in times of trial, and we wish for that, too. When you reveal yourself today—for you have promised to be among us whenever we gather—make us ready to perceive. Forgive us our conflicted hearts, confused minds, and desires that pull us this way and that. Overwhelm us with your presence, with a sure sense of your attention to our lives and our prayers. Grant us the power to walk in your way. We ask in the name of the One who walked among us, bringing the kingdom of heaven to earth, Jesus the Christ.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #551

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

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA — #582**

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.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC — “Fight the Good Fight with All Thy Might” — John Gardner

© 1964 Oxford University Press

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Exodus 2:23-25 — pg. 50 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Exodus 3:1-12 — pg. 50 in OT

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING — Exodus 3:13-15; 4:10-17 — pg. 50 in OT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN #65 — “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” (10:30 only)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “Cwm Rhondda” (“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”) — Wilbur Held

© 1993 Morning Star Music Publishers

(10:30) — “Faithfulness” — Gordon McQuere

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***Doxology — #607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN #69 — “Here I Am Lord”** (8:30 vv. 1 and 3)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION — “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”** — arr. Walter Pelz

© 1987 Morningstar Music Publishers

POSTLUDE — Fanfare — Kenneth Leighton

© 1966 Oxford University Press

Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgist: Jamie Corkhill

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Vocalist: Steve Crouch

Violinist: Kenya Patzer

Fellowship Hosts: Faith and Flour

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Facilities Manager: Steve Johnson

Family Ministries Coordinator: Herman Jones

Financial Secretary: Penny Allton

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen