



January 18, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

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January 18, 2026

Order of Worship

2nd Sunday After Epiphany

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — “My Lord! What a Morning” — Raymond H. Haan

© 1994 MorningStar Music Publishers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE — Prelude on “Abbott’s Leigh” (“God Is Here!”) — Carl D. N. Klein

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***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Wherever Jesus is,

People: There we meet God.

Leader: Wherever the Body of Christ is,

People: There we meet God.

Leader: With or without the trappings and traditions,

People: Wherever two or three are gathered, we can meet God.

***OPENING PRAYER**

***OPENING HYMN #409 — “God Is Here!” (8:30 vv. 1 and 4)**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ, we confess that we do not love every story about you. Your zeal knocks us off balance. Your teachings make us uncomfortable when we let them really sink in, for your ways are not the ways of this world. Forgive us for not taking you seriously when you show us how to live, how to be in community, how to worship, and how to use our resources. Help us make your priorities our priorities, O Lord, not just in the distant future, but right here, right now. In the name of the Word who turns everything upside down, we pray . . .

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 — “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” — Lani Smith

© 2009 Harold Flammer Music

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Psalm 127:1-2 — pg. 573 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — John 2:13-25 — pg. 93 in NT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Apostles' Creed; pg. 35 in the *Glory to God* hymnal)

***HYMN #756 — “O God of Every Nation”** (10:30 only)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “O God of Every Nation” — Trad. Welsh Folk Melody

Public Domain

(10:30) — “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”

— Phoebe Palmer/arr. William Cutter

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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 #352 — “My Lord! What a Morning!”**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION — “God Be with You Till We Meet Again” — Tomer

Public Domain

POSTLUDE — “Joshua Fit de Battle ob Jericho” — Fela Sowande

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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*

Soloist: David Lundry

Fellowship Hosts: John and Zelma Gould

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Facilities Manager: Steve Johnson

Financial Secretary: Penny Allton

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen