



the
SIGN
we
NEED

February 8, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

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February 8, 2026

Order of Worship

5th Sunday After Epiphany

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC — “We Come to You for Healing, Lord” — Leo Sowerby

© 1956 H. W. Gray Company

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE (8:30) — “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” — Ron Boud

© 1972 Hope Publishing Company

(10:30) — “God, Reveal Your Presence” — Roberta Bitgood

© 1953 H.W. Gray Company

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who carry worry and hope in the same hands.

People: We come seeking healing and grace.

Leader: Jesus speaks life even before we see the outcome.

People: Teach us to trust your word, O God.

Leader: Come, for Christ meets us right where we are.

All: We worship the God who brings life, hope, and new beginnings. Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #412 — “God Reveal Your Presence” (8:30 vv. 1 and 3)**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we often want proof before trust and answers before surrender. Like the official who came to Jesus, we bring you our fears and our urgent prayers, yet we struggle to believe when healing feels distant or your timing feels slow. We admit that we cling to what we can see, that we doubt your work when the road home is long, and that we forget your word is already moving ahead of us. Forgive us for our small faith. Restore our hope. Teach us to walk forward trusting your promises, even when we cannot yet see the outcome. Speak your life into us again, O Christ, and shape us into people who believe, who follow, and who live in gratitude for your grace...

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 — “Laudate Dominum” — W. A. Mozart

© 1963 G. Schirmer

*Jessica Crowder, soloist

*Praise the Lord, all nations. Praise God, all peoples. God has bestowed mercy upon us.
And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Psalm 40:4-5 — pg. 5134 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — John 4:46-54 — pg. 96 in NT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN #684 — “Faith Begins by Letting Go” (8:30 vv 1 and 3)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (pg. 13 in the *glory to God* hymnal)

OFFERING

(8:30) — “There Is a Balm in Gilead” — James E. Clemens

© 1995 Harold Flammer Music

(10:30) — “Psalm 92” — David Childs

© 1996 by Abingdon Press

*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 #307 — “God of Grace and God of Glory”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION — “The Grace of the Lord Jesus” — Hal Hopson

© 1978 Harold Flammer, Inc.

POSTLUDE (8:30) — “God Will Take Care of You” — Phillip Keveren

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(10:30) — “God of Grace and God of Glory” — Paul Manz

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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: John Conlee

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Steve Crouch

Fellowship Hosts: Hank and Eileen Ernst

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