



Good News

May 17, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

www.fpctopeka.org

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May 17, 2026

Order of Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” — Max Reger

Public Domain

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” — Healey Willan

© 1957 C. F. Peters Corporation

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen! Alleluia!

People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

PRELUDE (8:30) — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” — James E. Clemens

© 1995 Harold Flammer Music

(10:30) — “Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun” — Jan Bender

© 2003 Hal Leonard Corporation

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Spirit calls us together, the people of God—

People: To be a community grounded in Christ's love.

Leader: The Spirit calls us together, the people of God—

People: To be a community reflecting God's image to the world.

Leader: The Spirit calls us together, the people of God—

People: To turn our minds and hearts until we are in line with the word.

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #299 — “You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim” (8:30 vv. 1 and 2)**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous God, out of love, you lowered yourself to be with us in the flesh. And so you also transformed this life, lifting up what we call lowly. In our world, self-interest wins the day, image is prized more than character, and compassion is viewed as weak. By your Spirit, set us right. Gather us together, and turn us towards you, that where you look, we might look, what fills your mind might fill ours, and the ones you love become the ones we love. Give us the will and courage to pursue your vision, that we too might reveal your grace and glory to the world. We ask in the name of the risen Christ, whom you exalted and whom we call Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #575

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA — #581 “Glory Be to the Father”**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, 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 (10:30 only)

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10:30 only) — “The Servant Song” — David Schwoebel

© 2007 MorningStar Music Publishers

Please see insert for the final verse.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Luke 6:43-45 (Common English Bible)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Philippians 2:1-16a (Common English Bible)

Leader: We are witnesses to these things—the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN #264 — “At the Name of Jesus” (10:30 only)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (pg. 35 in *Glory to God Hymnal*)

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “O Worship the King” — Phillip Keveren

© 2001 Augsburg Fortress

(10:30) — “Draw Thou My Soul” — Janet Sanborn

© 1964 Fred Bock Music Company

***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 #372 — “O for a World” (8:30 vv. 1, 2, and 3)**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION — “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” (excerpt) — John Rutter

© 1981 Oxford University Press

POSTLUDE (8:30) — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” — Anne Krentz Organ

© 2009 Augsburg Fortress

(10:30) — “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” — Jack W. Jones

© 1978 Broadman Press

Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

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

Liturgist: Julie Ford (8:30)

Norma Pettijohn (10:30)

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 Host: Susan Palmer

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Operations and Systems Manager:

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