



August 30, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

www.fpctopeka.org

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August 30, 2026

Order of Worship

14th 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) — Pastorella in F Major (I. Pastorale; II. Musette) — J. S. Bach

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

PRELUDE — “Kremser” (“We Praise You, O God”) — Charles Callahan

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times;

People: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me;

People: And let us exalt God's name together.

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #612 — “We Praise You, O God” (8:30 vv. 1 and 3)**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you created us to live in relationship with you, to love and serve one another regardless of age, ability, or status, and to care for all your creatures. Yet, in the hardness of our hearts, we dismiss your commandments and seek to go our separate ways. Lord, have mercy on us. Redeem, restore, and re-create us, for the sake of Christ our Savior.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #575

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA #583**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT — Sherry Lundry (10:30 only)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Psalm 131 — p. 574 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Joel 2:12-17 — p. 847 in OT

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING — Mark 10:13-15 — p. 46 in NT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE — “Do Not Stop Them”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***APOSTLES' CREED** (10:30 only; pg. 17 in *Glory to God* hymnal)

***HYMN #188** — “Jesus Loves Me” (10:30 only)

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

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “For Everyone Born” — Brian Mann

© 2006 Brian Mann

(10:30) — “Let the Children Come” — Niki Lott

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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 (8:30) #188 — “Jesus Loves Me ”**

(10:30) #769 — “For Everyone Born” (vv. 1, 3, and 5)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #702 — “Christ Be Beside Me” (10:30 only; v. 1)**

***POSTLUDE — “Little” Fugue in G Minor — J. S. Bach**

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Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

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

Liturgist: Herman Jones

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Guest Musician: Elizabeth Cochrane

Fellowship Hosts: Phil and Betty Baker

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Operations and Systems Manager:

Treven Broxterman

Intergenerational Ministry Coordinator:

Sherry Lundry

Facilities Manager: Steve Johnson

Financial Secretary: Penny Allton

M.O.D: Becky Foster

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen