



**"Come to me, all you who are weary and are
carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."**

Matthew 11:28

August 9, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

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August 9, 2026

Order of Worship

11th 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) — “Nettleton” (“Hear the Good News of Salvation”)

— Charles Callahan

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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 — “How Lovely, Lord” — Michael Burkhardt

© 1983 and this arr. 1998 by Hope Publishing Co.

***CALL TO WORSHIP — Janet Weatherhogg**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord; call upon God's name.

People: Let us make God's name known to all people!

Leader: Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord!

People: Let us dwell on all God's wondrous works.

Leader: Give praise to God's holy name.

People: Let the hearts of all those who seek the Lord rejoice!

***OPENING PRAYER**

***OPENING HYMN #402 — “How Lovely, Lord”**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that, like your first disciples, we have doubted—even after having seen your mighty works in us and around us. We have doubted your promise never to leave us or forsake us, and have dwelt anxiously on things that worry us, rather than trusting your promise to work all things for the good. Forgive our unbelief. By your Spirit, grant us faith, that we may demonstrate our trust in you by being at peace, even when all around is in turmoil, to the glory of God in whose everlasting arms of love we live, worship, and serve.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #575

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA #441 — “Hear the Good News of Salvation” (v. 1)**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

CHILDREN’S MOMENT & BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (10:30 only)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Matthew 11:28-30 — p. 12 in NT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Ephesians 4:25-32 — p. 194 in NT

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING — Matthew 14:22-33 — p. 16 in NT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON — “Safe at Last!” — Neil Weatherhogg, Pastor Emeritus

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***THE APOSTLES’ CREED (pg. 17 in *Glory to God* Hymnal)**

***HYMN #185 — “Lonely the Boat” (10:30 only; Verse 1 sung by Brandon Bayless)**

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

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “Lonely the Boat” — Dong Hoon Lee

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(10:30) — “God of the Deep” — Dan Forrest

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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 #463 — “How Firm a Foundation” (vv. 1-3)**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #463 — “How Firm a Foundation” (v. 5)**

***POSTLUDE — “How Firm a Foundation” — Dale Wood**

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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: Carolyn Little (8:30)

Janet Weatherhogg (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*

Guest Musician: Brandon Bayless

Fellowship Hosts: Chris and Jeff Gustin

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