



August 30, 2026

WE GATHER IN
GOD’S PRESENCE

You’re invited to explore the hymnal
before today’s service to suggest songs
for our “5th Sunday” Hymn Sing
this morning.

:: HYMN SING ::

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Ron Tingle

CHIMING THE TRINITY

PRELUDE “Variations on ‘O, For a Thousand Tongues’ ”
Diane Combs arr. Robert Hobby

CALL TO WORSHIP, responsive From Psalm 105:1-5
Leader: O give thanks to the LORD; call his name, make
known his deeds among the peoples.

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his
wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the
hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Leader: Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence
continually.

All: Remember the wonderful works he has done, the
miracles, and the judgments he has spoken!

*OPENING HYMN:
“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven” #619, Vs. 1-3

1. Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
Glad of heart your carols raise;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who, like me, should sing God’s praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!

2. Praise Gods for the grace and favor
Shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
Show to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing our Maker’s faithfulness!

3. Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame,
Gladly all our burdens bearing,
Still to countless years the same.
Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God’s name!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, in unison
Merciful God, we come before you as people who have long
memories and keep lists of grievances. We admit that we are
quick to receive grace, but too often slow in offering it. Forgive
our shortsighted view of your expansive mercy toward others—
and toward ourselves. Help us to believe that they and we are
more loved than we ever dared imagine. We pray this in the
name, and for the sake of our savior Jesus. Amen.

:: A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION & PRAYER ::

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI
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.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, in unison Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived
by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pon-
tius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into
hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended
into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Al-
mighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the
dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection
of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

:: PASSING THE PEACE ::

And now, as people who are loved and forgiven by the grace of God,
we pass the peace of Christ, remembering God’s command
to love and forgive one another.

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM “They Shall Soar Like Eagle” Laura Manzo
Sanctuary Choir

FIRST SCRIPTURE: Exodus 3:6-15 Ron Tingle

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:21-26

SERMON: “Who Am I? Who are You?”
Rev. Dr. Paul Koptak

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF RESPONSE
“Incline Your Ear, O Lord, to Me” #844

1. Incline your ear, O Lord, to me,
For I am poor, and need your care,
My God, the anchor of my trust,
The truest answer to my prayer.
2. You, Lord, have shown to me your grace,
In ways beyond my mortal sight.
Before your face, I lift my soul;
To sing your praise is my delight!
3. With steadfast love and mercy sure,
God hears confession and forgives;
Redeemed, the soul in which God dwells,
And blessed, the heart in which God lives!
4. All nations shall proclaim you Lord,
And at your name all knees shall bend
To glorify your righteousness
And sing your praises without end.

:: PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ::

THE LORD’S PRAYER, in unison
Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy
kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS
Please accept the offering plate and pass it
along to the other end.

OFFERTORY “Blessed Assurance” arr. Matthew H. Corl
Diane Combs



***DOXOLOGY**
Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN**
“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” **#435**

1. There’s a wideness in God’s mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There’s a kindness in God’s justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt
Than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth’s failings
have such kindly judgment given.

2. For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
We would gladly trust God’s Word,
And our lives reflect thanksgiving
For the goodness of our Lord.

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:**
“God Be With You Till We Meet Again “ **#542 Vs.1**

God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd’s care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

***POSTLUDE** “Trumpet Tune in D” Lani Smith
 Diane Combs, organ

** Please stand as you are able for these portions of the service.*

Prayers for the family of Rev. Jim Moseley on the
recent passing of his mother.



Our Deacons
Merry Matlock, Moderator 828-508-8604 (2027)

Sherry Blount	828-736-1449 (2026)
Judy Bryson	704-999-5344 (2028)
Janie Oakley	828-400-0276 (2028)
Brenda Sites	954-675-6176 (2027)

Our Church Elders

<i>Clerk of Session</i>	RON TINGLE	828-400-6900
<i>Building & Grounds</i>		
<i>Discipleship</i>	LAURA JANSON (2026)	828-712-7938
<i>Elder for Deacons</i>	MERRY MATLOCK (2027)	828-508-8604
<i>Fellowship</i>	MELONIE GROSS (2026)	773-405-5889
<i>Finance</i>	STAN BRIGGS (2028)	941-544-8100
<i>Missions</i>	PAT BRIGGS (2027)	828-550-8432
<i>Personnel</i>	RON TINGLE (2026)	828-400-6900
<i>Worship</i>	CHARLOTTE CASEY (2028)	828-246-5557



Church Staff
Rev. Jim Moseley, Interim Pastor
Diane Combs, Music Director & Organist
Merideth Sanders, Choir & Chimes Choir Director
Anthony (“Tony”) Caldwell, Sexton
Kristi Siplon, Office Manager
Morgan McNeil, A/V Tech



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA

AUGUST 30, 2026



WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

WELCOME, REV. DR. PAUL KOPTAK—GUEST PREACHER

If you are visiting today, we’re delighted to have you!
Please stay on after worship for
coffee and conversation in the Fellowship Hall.

