

FLOWERS

Both flower arrangements were given to the glory of God by John and Paula Kusewitt, in memory of the Dallas Five. These five brave souls selflessly gave their lives for the safety of others on July 7, 2016, during the ambush in Dallas. In their memory, please take a moment to thank a police officer today for their service.

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Sunday, July 6

Lord's Supper will be observed at both Worship Services

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, July 8

7:00 p.m. - Christian Education Committee Meeting in Crossroads Class

Wednesday, July 9

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsals

Sunday, July 13 - Our Next Blood Drive

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Carter BloodCare Mobile Unit will be here

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, July 15 through Tuesday, July 29

Rev. Doughton will be away on a family vacation

Wednesday, July 16

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsals

Sunday, July 20 - Guest Preacher, Rev. Diane Pennington

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Wednesday, July 23

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsals

Friday, July 25

The church office will be closed

Saturday, July 26

11:00 a.m. - Memorial Service for Rod Graham's mother, Pat Jensen, and his brother, Roger Graham. Lunch will be provided after the service.

Sunday, July 27 - Guest Preacher, Rev. Kenny Rigoulot

7:30 a.m. - Men's Council Breakfast

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Wednesday, July 30

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsals

Sunday, August 3

Lord's Supper will be observed at both Worship Services

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, August 5

6:30 p.m. - Presbyterian Women will meet at Joe's Pizza and Pasta
308 S. Belt Line Rd., Mesquite, TX - just down the road

Wednesday, August 6

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsals

Sunday, August 10 - Blessing of the Backpacks

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, August 12

7:00 p.m. - Christian Education Committee Meeting in Crossroads Class

7:30 p.m. - Worship Committee Meeting in the Enquiry Classroom

Wednesday, August 13

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsals

Help a neighbor by donating blood.

Local donors save local lives: Carter BloodCare donors made the difference for many Texas patients.

Our next Blood Drive will be Sunday, July 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please roll-up your sleeve and give the gift of life.

Schedule Your Appointment Now!



Elder Sign-up Sheet for the second half of the year has been posted in the hall by Rev. Doughton's Office. Please sign-up today!

Having trouble hearing during worship?

We have listening devices available in the Welcome Center, if so desired.

Having trouble reading the hymnal?

We also have hymnals with large print available.

Ushers will be glad to assist you with any and all your needs.

Blessing
of the
Backpacks

Sunday,
August 10, 2025



SUNDAY, AUGUST 17,
2025

THE CHALLENGE



The 100 Can Challenge continues . . .

Let us carry on THE CHALLENGE to collect can goods and other non-perishable items. The donated items will be given to Sharing Life, as they feed those in need in our community. Our total collected in June was **152 items**.
Thank You!

THOSE WHO SERVE

Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor
Ryoji Shimpo, Director of Music Ministries/Organist & Pianist
Renee Stormer, Administrative Assistant
Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Wilbanks, Pastor Emeritus

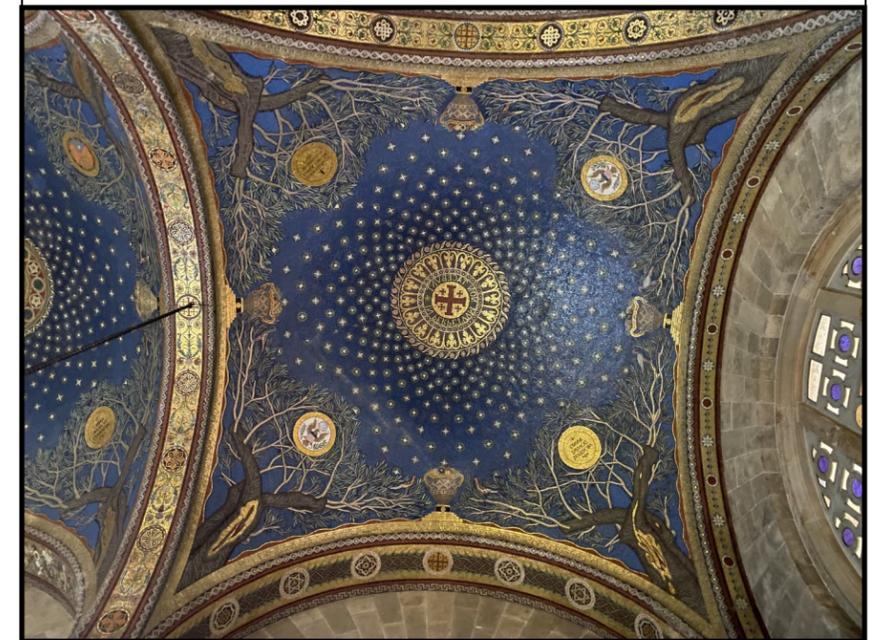
GUIDE TO WORSHIP

July 6, 2025

8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

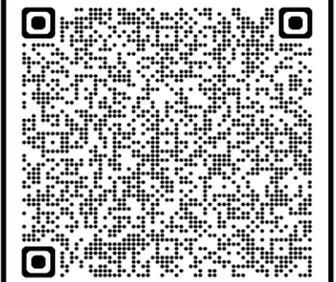
Cover Picture

The Church of the Nations is built next to a reconstructed Garden of Gethsemane. Throughout the church one can see national symbols. These represent the nations from which the building donors came. One can see American symbols in this picture. Today let us reflect on our country, its legacy (both the high points and the low points), and let us pray for its future.



ONLINE GIVING OPTION

Have you ever thought of giving online? If you would like to give online you may scan the QR Code, this will take you to the giving button on our website.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 SOUTH BELT LINE RD

MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602

www.fpcmesquite.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *The Washington Post* J.P. Sousa
arr. D. Coates

INTROIT 341 (v.1) *O God, Show Mercy to Us* Gustav Holst
O God, show mercy to us, and bless us with Your grace;
and cause to shine upon us the brightness of Your face,
so that Your way most holy on earth may soon be known,
and unto every people Your saving grace be shown.
Let all the peoples praise You; let all the nations sing;
in every land let praises and songs of gladness ring.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2*
Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
And also to you.
As the deer pants for the water, so do our hearts long after You;
You alone are our souls desire and we long to worship You. Let us worship God.

*HYMN 327 *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Almighty, Holy, and Gracious God; we confess that we have not followed the light of Your word. We have not searched for signs of Your love in the world or trusted Your good news to be good. We have refused Your peace on earth, we have expected little, and we have hoped for less. Forgive our doubt and renew in us all fine desires and godly ambitions, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE (Hymn 581)
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. A—men. A—men.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

ANTHEM *America the Beautiful* Katherine Lee Bates
Chancel Choir arr. Mark Hayes

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.
O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.
O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than send their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine.

(continued)

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees, beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam, unlimited by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea. America!

READING *Prayers for the Nation*
(Adapted from prayers given by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson,
Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt)

*HYMN 337 (v. 1-3) *My Country, Tis of Thee* Samuel Francis Smith

READING *Prayers for the American People*
(Based on prayers given by Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan,
and George H.W. Bush)

*HYMN 338 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* Katharine Lee Bates

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

All-knowing God, Your Word is sharper than a two-edged sword. As we hear it read and preached today, may it pierce any walls that would keep us from hearing Your Word to us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Psalms 46:1-7*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Matthew 7:24-27*

"Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *God Bless America* Irving Berlin
Chancel Choir arr. Keith Christopher

God bless America, land of that I love.
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above.
From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam.
God bless America, my home, sweet home.

SERMON *The God Who Gives Foundation* Rev. Doughton

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Tune is "Thaxted"
And there's another country, I've heard of long ago! Most dear to them that love her; Most great to them that know; We may not count her armies; We may not see her King; her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering; And soul by soul and silently; her shining bounds increase; And her ways are ways of gentleness; And all her paths are peace. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Reflections on 'America'* Hugh S Livingston, Jr
Ryoji Shimpō, pianist

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION †

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Reception of the Sacrament

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN 329 *God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE (v.4) *My Country Tis of Thee* Samuel Francis Smith
Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to Thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
protect us by Thy might, great God, our King.

POSTLUDE *The Stars and Stripes Forever* J.P. Sousa
arr. D. Coates

*Following the Response we will have our Postlude.
Please be seated as the Postlude begins.*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # - Sheila Hammer (8:45); Meg GarverHamilton (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers † - John Futrell, Campbell Futrell,
and Larry Thomas (8:45);

John Futrell, Campbell Futrell,
Linda Fricke and Elna Singleton (11:00)