

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary were given to the glory of God by Rod and Carol Graham in honor of their 51st wedding anniversary and in celebration of their birthdays.

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Saturday, July 25 to Monday, August 3

Rev. Doughton will be away on a family vacation

Sunday, August 2 - Guest Preacher, Rev. Dr. Josh Maddin

The 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 4

7:00 p.m. – Final Summer Meeting of the Presbyterian Women.

They will meet at Joe’s Pizza & Italian Grill,
305 S Belt Line Rd., Mesquite, TX 75149

Wednesday, August 5

5:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 9 - Blessing of the Backpacks at 11:00

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

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

Monday, August 10

7:15 p.m. - Evaluation, Strategy, and Planning Committee will meet in the Crossroads Classroom

Tuesday, August 11

7:00 p.m. - Christian Education Committee Mtg. - Crossroads Classroom

7:30 p.m. - Worship Committee Meeting in Sr. High Classroom

Wednesday, August 12

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 16 Rally Day

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

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

12:00 p.m. - Indoor Picnic in Wilbanks Hall

Tuesday, August 18

7:15 p.m. - Joint Officers Stated Meeting in Genesis Classroom

Wednesday, August 19

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 23

7:30 a.m. - Men’s Council Breakfast - Youth from Mission Trip (speakers)

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

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

2:00 p.m. – L.I.F.E. Youth & Faith Builders Pool Party at Woodcreek

Monday, August 24

7:00 p.m. – Church Officer Nominating Committee Mtg. - Crossroads Class

Tuesday, August 25

6:30 p.m. - Presbyterian Women Kick-off Dinner for 2026-2027

Wednesday, August 26

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 30

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

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

THOSE WHO SERVE

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

About the Guest Preacher

Josh grew up in Lubbock, TX and is a proud Red Raider. He graduated from Westminster Theological Seminary and received his Doctorate in Youth, Family and Culture from Fuller Seminary. He married Rachael in 2005, and they have two beautiful children, Peyton and Preston. Josh has served various roles in Student Ministry & Pastoral ministry for 25 years. He is currently providing Pulpit Supply to First Presbyterian Commerce and providing logistical support to Christian missionaries through HighPoint.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday,
August 9,
2026



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

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!



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 July was **117 items. Thank You!**

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

August 2, 2026

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

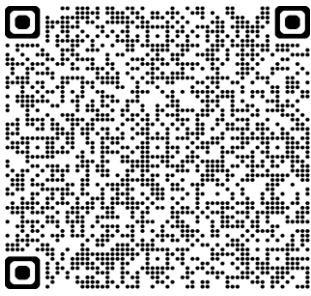
Cover Picture

Rev. Dr. Maddin returns to the pulpit today. He will speak about the Kingdom of Heaven as described in Matthew 13. His passage follows the well-known parable of the Sower and the Seeds. The views include a tree (the Goat Tree) from Dauphin Island, Alabama and a tree found outside of Cheyenne Lodge in Mesquite, Texas.



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

When Morning Gilds the Sky

arr. Lloyd Larson

INTROIT 243

Be Not Afraid

Jacques Berthier

Be not afraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Philippians 1:2

Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also, to you.

All praise to You, God our Father Who loves us with an everlasting love, all praise to You, Jesus Christ-Who gives us grace without end, all praise to You, Holy Spirit Who brings us together as a fellowship family of faith; All Praise to You Holy Trinity, three in one Amen.

*HYMN 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy, Mighty, and Merciful God, we confess that we have failed to love You with all our heart, soul, and mind. We have ignored Your commandments, and we have strayed from Your ways. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We fail to reach out to those in need We confess that we are slow to follow Your leading. We prefer to do things our own way and ignore Your presence in our lives. Have mercy on us, forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve You and honor Your holy name. 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

Piano Piece played by Ryoji Shimpō

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

All-knowing God-as we hear Your word read and preached may it startle us from our status quo, may it heal us where we are wounded, and may it inspire us where we are discouraged. May it light our paths and lead us to a new day in Jesus’ name Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON #

Matthew 13:31-52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable He told them nothing. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "I will open My mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world." Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples approached Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen! "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And He said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11:00)

Children and Youth are asked to come forward at this time.

*HYMN 688

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

SERMON

Kingdom of Heaven

Rev. Dr. Maddin

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

Ryoji Shimpō, pianist

arr. Mark Hayes

*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 542

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE 544

Bless the Lord

Jacques Berthier

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, Who leads me into life.

POSTLUDE

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr. John Purifoy

Please be seated as the Postlude begins.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # - Gracy Thomas (8:45); Meg GarverHamilton (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers † - John Futrell, Campbell Futrell,
Larry Thomas (8:45);
John Futrell, Campbell Futrell,
Liz Ramsey, and Elna Singleton (11:00)