



8:30am and 11am Worship Services
through Sunday, May 10, 2026



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORMAL

October 12, 2025

8:30am Worship Service

**If you're NEW, see the
Welcome Center for
your FREE gift**



We affirm that all people are children of God and are created in the image of God. Believing this, we welcome all individuals into the life, community, and ministry of First Pres. This includes people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental ability, economic status, political belief, background, and past experience. No one is excluded, marginalized, or held outside the warm welcome of this congregation. You can find our full statement of affirmation & inclusion on our website.

OCTOBER 12, 2025
8:30AM ORDER OF WORSHIP
(When you see the * you are invited to stand)

PRELUDE Rhosymedre (R.Vaughan Williams) Phil Enge, organ

INTROIT Jesus, Be with Us Now (D. Haas) Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON PSALM 98) Sammie Ott

L: We sing because God does marvelous things!

P: God opened salvation to all and revealed divine righteousness to the world.

L: Make joyful noise the Lord, all the earth!

P: We join in joyous song and sing God's praises!

L: It's not only us, but the sea, the rivers, even the mountains rejoice out loud.

P: The whole cosmos sings because the Lord is coming to establish justice on earth!

***HYMN #297** O Lord of Every Shining Constellation

CALL TO CONFESSION Sammie Ott

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, your will is for all creation to have abundant life. We confess that sometimes we do not understand your way, often preferring to walk our own way. We confess that sometimes we have received your good gift, then allowed that gift to become our god. We confess that it is easier to ask you to bless what we want to do, rather than to ask for the courage to do what you are blessing. Forgive our hard hearts and closed minds. Silence every voice in us but your own, that we may be your faithful people. Free us to follow your way of justice, peace, and love. We pray in the name of the One who lived every moment in obedience to you, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

CHORAL RESPONSE Take Me As I Am

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Sammie Ott

L: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. From before the beginning until long beyond our imagination, God's love endures. Know that you are forgiven, loved and free.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***HYMN #579** Gloria Patri

SCRIPTURE Genesis 1:24-31 Sammie Ott

TIME WITH CHILDREN Aimee & Sammie Ott

ANTHEM Take Now My Voice (D.Nolan) Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22:15-22 Pastor Karol Schilling

MESSAGE Property of: God

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From The Confession of 1967

***HYMN #366** Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

COMMUNITY PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER Ann Lamkey

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Sammie Ott

OFFERING All Things Bright And Beautiful (M. Burkhardt) Phil Enge, organ

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Sammie Ott

ANNOUNCEMENTS Carol Morris

***HYMN** You Made Us In Your Image

***BLESSING** Pastor Karol Schilling

POSTLUDE Praeludium in g (A.M. Brunckhorst) Phil Enge, organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark you calendars and get plugged in!

OCT. 15 | HOPE BAGS FOR CEDAR RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Join us on Wednesday, October 15, at either 11am (to unpack food) or 4pm (earlier than usual, to fill bags). We will meet in the Great Hall. Please sign up online if you can help. We'll deliver the snacks to Cedar Ridge on Thursday morning.

OCT. 19 | HOUSING OUR NEIGHBORS STUDY THROUGH NOV. 2

The Adult Discipleship Committee is excited to bring you this timely learning opportunity featuring local guest speakers offering a look at local housing needs and solutions. Join us on Sundays in the Great Hall at 9:45am. Contact Doug Schwalm or Pastor Karol with questions.

OCT. 26 | DONATIONS FOR COLLEGE STUDENT CARE PACKAGES!

Our children and youth will be putting together finals care packages for college students! During the month of October, we will be collecting the following items: rice krispie treats (individually wrapped), candy, cookies, breakfast bars, granola bars, highlighters, sticky notes, pens, pocket size notebooks or coloring books. Please place donations in the basket outside the sanctuary (marked "care package donations") by October 26. Thank you for supporting our students! College student addresses requested: If you are a parent or family member of a current college student who would benefit from a care package, please contact Kelli Owens with the most current address for your student (kowens@firstpresnormal.org.)

OCT. 26 | STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & POTLUCK

Last week the church office mailed out the Stewardship Mailer and Commitment Card. We invite you to fill it out and bring it back to the church on Stewardship Sunday - October 26. We will have one 10am combined service followed by a Congregational Meeting (to approve the 2026 Pastors' Terms of Call) and we'll have a chili luncheon. If you can't bring your card back in person, you can also mail it to the church. Thank you!

OCT. 28 | JOY (JUST OLDER YOUTH) LUNCH (AGE 60+)

The JOY Group is meeting for lunch and fellowship at Olive Garden on Tuesday, October 28 at 11:30am. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the website or contact Rob Kelley at (309) 532-8859 or grc.kelley@gmail.com by Sun, Oct. 26.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun. Oct. 12	8:30am 9:30am 9:45am 11am 2pm 5:30pm	Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary Coffee Fellowship Sunday School/Discipleship for All Ages Contemporary Worship Service Sanctuary Youth Group Destination Unknown Alpha Small Group Library
Mon. Oct. 13	6pm 7pm	Blessings Hebrews Study Lounge Adult Discipleship Zoom Meeting
Tue Oct. 14	2:45pm 5:30pm 6pm 6:30pm	PASS After School Program Great Hall Property Committee Library Missions Super Committee Great Hall Handbell Rehearsal Lounge
Wed. Oct. 15	11am 1pm 4pm 4:30pm 5:30pm 6:30pm	Sorting Hope Bags Great Hall Bible in a Year Discussion Group Library Packing Hope Bags Great Hall Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary Ethics & Boundaries Training Great Hall Chancel Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
Thu. Oct. 16	9am 2:45pm 6pm	Book Group Library PASS After School Program Great Hall New Women Small Group Library
Fri. Oct. 17	11am	Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary

CONTACT OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor - Matt Wilcox (on sabbatical, Oct. 1-Dec. 31)..... mwilcox@firstpresnormal.org
 Associate Pastor, Acting Head of Staff - Karol Schilling..... kschilling@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Music - Phil Enge peng@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Family Ministry - Kelli Owens kowens@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Playmates Preschool - Robin Schaefer rschaefer@firstpresnormal.org
 Childcare Coordinator - Tristan Bishop tcb.bishop@gmail.com
 Financial Coordinator - Barb Lemmon blemmon@firstpresnormal.org
 Administrative Assistant - Anne Lunt alunt@firstpresnormal.org
 A/V Technician - Tyler Gatto tgatto@firstpresnormal.org
 Property Manager - John Anderson janderson@firstpresnormal.org

WEBSITE



 (309) 452-4459

FACEBOOK



 info@firstpresnormal.org

INSTAGRAM



 firstpresnormal.org

SIGN-UPS





Scan the QR code with your phone's camera. When a link pops up, tap it with your finger.