



# *Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Ocala*



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## **Our Vision**

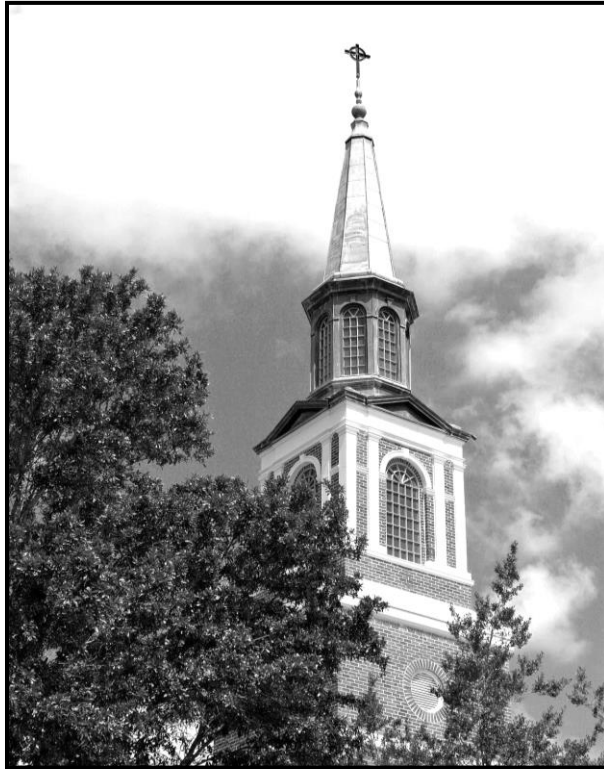
To be a church that shares God's love through Jesus Christ with everyone.

## **Our Mission**

We are an inclusive historic downtown community of Christian faith.

We seek to welcome all people through prayer, meaningful worship, and supportive groups while sharing our talents and resources with those in need.

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**166 YEARS IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN OCALA**

July 28, 2024

## Today's Sermon "Esther, a Brave Woman"

Rev. Dr. Walk Jones

Rev. Dr. Walk Jones, Transitional Pastor

Phyllis Von Ebers, Choir Director

Dr. Kosumo Morishita, Organist

Leslie Athanason, Vocalist

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[www.fpcocala.org](http://www.fpcocala.org)

[Facebook.com/fpcocala](https://www.facebook.com/fpcocala)

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# SUNDAY WORSHIP

## THE LORD'S DAY

July 28, 2024

10:00 a.m.

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### We Gather with Others in God's House

Words of Welcome

### We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Prelude

"Service Prelude in F"

Eugene Thayer

### We Give Praise and Adoration to God

Opening Prayer

Steve Vincent, Liturgist

**Dear Lord, we come again to gather as your followers. As we worship you, please do not give us the blessings we want but the ones we most need. Satisfy us with the truth that we may need, though such truth might be most comfortable, and confront us with your holy beauty, that brings us healing. Through Christ Jesus your joyful Son. Amen!**

\*Hymn

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

#440

Confession of Sin

**Good and gracious God, we confess that we run ourselves ragged. We are busy and preoccupied with so many things. We neglect to be still and know that you are God. Even our sabbath time can be filled with "busy-ness." Forgive us, Lord, for not accepting your gift and guidance of rest and restoration. Help us to put on the yoke of Jesus and walk in the way he models for us, mindful of our spiritual health and responding with compassion to the needs of our neighbors. We pray through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. (silent prayer)**

Assurance of Pardon

\*Passing the Peace

\*Doxology

#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.**

First Reading

Esther 2:5-7, 15-17 (OT pg 550)

Children's Sermon

Dr. Jones

Song

"Shall we Gather at the River"  
Leslie Athanason, vocalist

#375

Song

“Firm Foundation (He Won’t)”  
Leslie Athanason, vocalist

by Maverick City Music

*Verse 1:*

Christ is my firm foundation  
The rock on which I stand  
When everything around me is shaken  
I've never been more glad  
That I put my faith in Jesus  
'Cause He's never let me down  
He's faithful through generations  
So why would He fail now?

He won't  
He won't

*Verse 2:*

I've still got joy in chaos  
I've got peace that makes no sense  
I won't be going under  
I'm not held by my own strength  
'Cause I've built my life on Jesus  
He's never let me down  
He's faithful through every season  
So why would He fail now?

*chorus:*

He won't  
He won't  
He won't fail  
He won't fail

*bridge:*

Rain came, wind blew  
But my house was built on You  
I'm safe with You  
I'm gonna make it through  
(repeat)

(repeat verse 1, chorus, bridge)

*outro:*

I'm gonna make it through  
'Cause I'm standing strong on you  
I'm gonna make it through  
'Cause my house is built on You

Pastoral Prayer and 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**

Anthem

“Be Thou My Vision”  
JoAnn Brandt, hand bells and Kosumo Morishita, piano

arr. Christine Anderson

Second Reading

Esther 8:1-8 (OT pg 555)

Sermon

“Esther, a Brave Woman”

Dr. Jones

Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

The 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 Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; 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.**

**We Depart to Live and Love as Christian Disciples**

\*Hymn

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#12

\*Benediction and Offering

(After service, ushers will be standing by the doors with offering plates  
to receive your tithes and offerings)



*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of  
Tom and Evelyn Weaver's 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary, July 30<sup>th</sup>*

## TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We Welcome Visitors** - Thanks for worshiping with us! Please complete a yellow card and bring it to an usher in the back after worship.

**Congregational Meeting** has been called for today, after church, to elect a nominating committee to find Elders and Deacons for the class of 2027. Members proposed are Mary Moore, Kathy Hart, Jim Yancey, Van Akin, Jackie Albright, Pat Greaves, Bentley Johnson, and Bill Tucker as chair.

**Its Moving Time!** Over the next few weeks we will be worshiping in the fellowship hall while we get new carpet and a new air conditioner in our beautiful sanctuary. After the congregational meeting Pastor Walk will ask for your help moving Bibles and hymnbooks to the aisle.

**Please join your FPC Deacons in their church-wide July Drive for Open Arms Village.** Today is the final date for donations, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. If you can still donate items, please talk with one of the deacons this morning to make arrangements.

**Children's Sunday School is looking for teacher volunteers starting in August.** If anyone is interested they can contact Sandra Dailey at [ocalikids@gmail.com](mailto:ocalikids@gmail.com) or 352-895-5299.

## PRAYER LIST

**Esther Arango-Palencia**

**Pat Bishop**

**Bill Blackwell** (brother of Mary Kauffman)

**Linda Blount** (cousin of Janice Kelly, broken hip)

**Andy Carlisle**

**Billy Davis** (grandson-in-law of David Demarest)

**Linda and Randall Dayton**

(sister and brother-in-law of Annette Pickard)

**Mina DiGeronimo** (in hospital)

**Charline Drake** (stroke)

**Ruth Fraser**

**Gabby Gates** (friend of Dave Bice)

**Joe Glenn** (friend of Mary Kauffman)

**Dorothy Halliwell** (sister-in-law of Pat Interdonato)

**Bill and Barbara Harrel**

**Betty Hamilton** (neighbor of Evelyn Yorlano)

**Victoria Johnson** (great-granddaughter of Christine)

**CJ Jones** (nephew of Margaret Trump)

**Lloyd Kauffman** (husband of Mary)

**The Kelly family** (on the death of Janice)

**Jose Kornmann** (cancer, friend of Julia Wirono)

**Lanier Lance** (sister of Bill Tucker)

**Pete Martel** (friend of Margaret Trump)

**Judith Martin**

**Gloria Miller**

**Jodi Miller** (daughter-in-law of Ginny Miller)

**Bruce Moore**

**Susan Mulligan** (friend of Mary Kauffman)

**The O'Hart family** (on the death of Ann)

**Barbara Parks**

**Theresa Poteet** (broken hip)

**Susan Raffa** (several infections)

**Fritz Rain** (friend of Marybeth Olson)

**Ruthanne and John Reiss**

**Vicki Roberts** (broken femur)

**Michael Rou** (cousin of Dr. David Albright)

**Rosalie Scettini** (sister of Chris Longo)

**Debra Tomkins** (sister of Rusty Juergens)

**Ann VanDenburgh**

**Bill Wiechmann** (husband of Peggy, hip surgery)

**William Wright**

**Thomas Yorlano** (brother-in-law of Evelyn Yorlano)