

# ST. ELMO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

*Our purpose is to know, live out of, and proclaim  
the wonder of God's grace in Jesus.*



March 30, 2025

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409  
423-821-1424 • <http://www.stelmopres.org>

**This Week at  
St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and Community  
March 30, 2025  
and Live streaming on YouTube**

**Today**

9:15am Sunday School for all  
10:30am Worship Service  
6:00pm Youth Group meets — Contact Brad Roberts, sepcyouthgp@gmail.com

**Monday March 31**

7:00pm Boy Scouts meet — Contact Ed Sunder or Mark Slavovsky

**Tuesday April 1**

10:00am Women's Bible Study meets — Contact Amy Daugaard or Shelley Madueme

**Wednesday April 2**

6:00pm Greens' Small Group meets — Contact Jay or Beth Ann Green  
7:00pm Flintstone Small Group meets — Contact John or Kathy Tucker  
7:00pm Wednesday Night Small Group meets — Contact Jim or Carol Wildeman

**Thursday April 3**

12:30pm Men's Bible Study meets — Contact Chris Dodson

**Saturday April 4**

9:00am Easter season choir practice — Contact Jeff Hall

**Sunday School Nursery**

**March 30** Beth Ann Green and Kathy Tucker  
**April 6** Kathy Tucker and Ellie Potter

**Worship Service Nursery**

**March 30** Noah and Sarah Pendergrass and Brooklyn Sunder  
**April 6** Betsy Sunder, and Seth and Lydia Mayberry

**Little Lambs**

**March 30** Betsy Sunder and Claire Slavovsky  
**April 6** Kim Roberts and Ashlee Wells

**Upcoming**

**Thursday, April 17** Maundy Thursday service at 7:00pm at church  
**Friday, April 18** Good Friday service at 6:00pm at church  
**Sunday, April 20** Easter! Easter Breakfast at 9:00am  
**Sunday, April 20** Easter Egg Hunt on side lawn 9:45-10:15am  
**Sunday, April 27** BUDGET REQUESTS DUE! Email Mark Slavovsky at sepctreas@gmail.com  
**Sunday, June 15-19** VBS!

Why stand gazing at the toys of this world, when Christ is offered to you in the gospel? Can the world die for you? Can the world reconcile you to the Father? As Christ is all in all, let him be the complete object of your desire, hope, faith, love, and joy. - John Stott

## **Prelude**

## **Announcements**

## **Musical Preparation**

### **JESUS WELCOMES US**

#### **Greeting**

#### **Call to Worship**

Then the Lord awoke as from sleep, as a warrior wakes from the stupor of wine.

*But he chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which he loved. He built his sanctuary like the heights, like the earth that he established forever.*

He chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens;

*From tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance.*

*(Psalm 78)*

#### **Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise:** "From All That Dwells Below the Skies" (#7)

### **JESUS RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF**

#### **Confession of Sin**

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. - Psalm 51:1-5*

#### **Silent Prayer of Confession**

**Hymn of Confession:** "Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me" (#500)

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. - Psalm 51:10-12

**Hymn of Assurance:** "Amazing Grace (Rejoice! #4)

### **JESUS RECEIVES OUR GENEROSITY**

#### **Offering of Gifts and Thanksgivings**

#### **Doxology**

*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!*

#### **Covenant Children's Lesson**

3 and 4 year-olds may go downstairs to Little Lambs

### **JESUS INTERCEDES FOR US**

#### **Intercessory Prayer & 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.*

### **JESUS SPEAKS HIS LOVE TO US**

#### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Reading of the Word:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

**Preaching of the Word:** "Credo: A Study of the Nicene Creed // Part 7 - On the Third Day" (Dr. Hans Madueme)

### **JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH**

#### **Confession of Faith**

Q. 52. How was Christ exalted in his resurrection?

*A. Christ was exalted in his resurrection, in that, not having seen corruption in death (of which it was not possible for him to be held), and having the very same body in which he suffered, with the essential properties thereof (but without mortality, and other common infirmities belonging to this life), really united to his soul, he rose again from the dead the third day by his own power; whereby he declared himself to be the Son of God, to have satisfied divine justice, to have vanquished death, and him that had power of it, and to be Lord of quick and dead: all which he did as a public person, the head of his church, for their justification, quickening in grace, support against enemies, and to assure them of their resurrection from the dead at the last day.*

*(Westminster Larger Catechism, 1647, Q. 46, 51)*

### **JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING**

**Song of Departure:** "All Glory Be to Christ"

#### **Benediction**



### **All Glory Be To Christ**

1. Should nothing of our efforts stand  
No legacy survive,  
Unless the Lord does raise the house  
In vain its builders strive;  
To you who boast tomorrow's gain  
Tell me what is your life, a mist that vanishes at dawn all  
glory be to Christ!

#### **(Refrain)**

**All glory be to Christ our king!  
All glory be to Christ!  
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,  
All glory be to Christ!**

2. His will be done, His kingdom come,  
On earth as is above,  
Who is Himself our daily bread,  
Praise Him the Lord of love!  
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price;  
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,  
All glory be to Christ!  
**(Refrain)**

3. When on the day the great I Am,  
The faithful and the true;  
The Lamb who was for sinners slain  
Is making all things new!  
Behold our God shall live with us  
And be our steadfast light; and we shall ere his people be  
all glory be to Christ!  
**(Refrain x2)**

#### **Please take this with you to pray for these individuals and groups this week:**



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cal and Susan Boroughs                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Our Mayors and City/County Officials           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philip, Emma, Penelope, and Vincent Bunn | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN ERITREA (6)</b>    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marylu Carl                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philip and Emily Cox                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our Arts and Aesthetics Ministry Group   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank and Cindy Sindler: EFI             | <input type="checkbox"/> Israel-Gaza                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chattanooga Christian School             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ukraine  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHOICES Pregnancy Center                 |   |

## **Pray for the Persecuted Church in ERITREA (6)**

### **YOU CAN HELP ERITREAN CHRISTIANS ENDURING SAVAGE PERSECUTION**

Source: Barnabasaid.org, March 21, 2025

When Pastor “Mebrahtu” was finally released from prison, there was just one thing he wanted to do – go back to proclaiming the Gospel. “He headed straight to the mission field to preach,” explains a member of the Barnabas Projects team, “even before going home to be with his family.”

“The Gospel is advancing,” says Mebrahtu. “God is doing amazing things in this country.” Mebrahtu has served multiple prison sentences. His crime? To preach Christ crucified and minister to the Lord’s people in Eritrea. Persecution of Christians here is amongst the most savage in the world. The scale of human rights abuses is so high that the country has earned for itself the epithet “Africa’s North Korea”. Yet the sacrificial ministry of Pastor Mebrahtu demonstrates that our brothers and sisters are willing to continue following Christ despite the desperate hardships they face.

#### **Prison or Poverty**

Most churches are completely outlawed in Eritrea. Even those that are permitted face harassment and persecution. Many believers are in prison. In an interview, another pastor described forced labor, cramped and overcrowded cells, beatings and torture. “Whenever you go into prison, they don’t tell you how long you will stay,” he said. Many will never be released. Thousands of Christians are enduring these abuses right now. Pastors and church leaders often receive the worst treatment.

Those not in prison minister in underground churches. They live with the constant risk of arrest, often in desperate poverty. Many believers have had no choice but to escape into neighboring countries. Already impoverished (Eritrea is one of the world’s poorest countries), they are now in urgent need. Barnabas Aid is working with partners in the region to supply the needs of 300 refugee families, as well as 25 pastors of underground churches in Eritrea itself.

#### **Prayer**

*Lord God and Heavenly Father, we pray that You will draw near to our Eritrean brothers and sisters. Please sustain their faith and their confidence in You despite their suffering. Please be especially close to those in prison and those forced to leave their homes behind. We pray that You will meet their material and spiritual needs at this time, because we ask it in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 🙏*

### **Ministry Groups/Committees/People**

#### **Budget Requests are due April 27th!**

Please meet with your groups or email each other as soon as you can and get your budgets together.



You can email them to Mark Slavovsky at [sepctreas@gmail.com](mailto:sepctreas@gmail.com) and CC: Ed Sunder at [edsunder@gmail.com](mailto:edsunder@gmail.com).

**Frank and Cindy Sindler  
Equipping Farmers International**

**Praise**

- Testimonies of conversions continue to come in from different parts of the world from people who have attended our farmer training.

Here is one I received today from Liberia

"There are many different means, but one goal; that all may know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. I was so blessed today when the brother in the below picture, one of the EFI 2023/2024 beneficiaries said, "Martin, I want you to know that I did not like going to church, but when one of your pastors invited me to attend the Equipping Farmers International Training, I stayed and today I am a Christian and serving in the church faithfully. " It is wonderful that even through agriculture training, people are coming to Christ."



- A door is opening to potentially serve in North Korea.

**Prayer**

1) We are a bit behind on funding and need to see some increases to not have to pause our training during times of peak demand. We will need to see as much funding of our almost \$500k budget as possible come in early in the year to keep cash flow positive. We now have both monthly matching (about 3k remaining) and one time matching (58k remaining to help us meet our cash flow needs. Both are available on this link. <https://www.efi-intl.org/giving>

3) We have over 100 trainings scheduled for the first 3 quarters of 2025. This will allow us to reach about 5000 farmers and train 1500 trainers. Pray we can meet the demand and for the Lord to refresh our staff in this busy season.

4) Pray for God to give wisdom on how to proceed with difficult places like North Korea.

5) Pray as EFI continues our strategic planning process so set the direction for the next 3, 5, and 10 years. Our vision is to expand to all 140 countries in the global south and see us reach the place where we can impact millions each year. Only God can give us wisdom and means to do that.

**Presbyterian Church in America PCA General Assembly 2025  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
June 23-June 27 Convention Center**

It will be hosted by our local presbytery (Tennessee Valley Presbytery. It is a wonderful time to invite people from across the nation to our beautiful community and to promote Covenant College, through whom our church is so blessed.

You are invited to attend the three worship services and to observe the business of the Assembly, which is a vital part of caring for this part of Jesus' Church. And you are also invited to help make this important event happen by volunteering in one of the many needed areas. Some of our members have already signed up to help, but many more are needed. If you would like to join in and serve, please follow the instructions below. If you have questions about which area of service you are interested in, feel free to contact Jeff Hall or Amy Daugaard.

**The PCA General Assembly host committee needs your help. As we prepare to host thousands of visitors in Chattanooga this June, we have over 400 opportunities for volunteers to serve throughout the course of the week. We need people to help load and unload, stuff bags, serve in the nursery, chaperone youth events, greet people, prepare communion elements, and much more. The service opportunities range from two hours to all day.**

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/4n4xx2d5>

**or use the QR code below to access our volunteer registration portal. You can view the opportunities, the schedule, and select your desired way to serve.**



Credo: 1700 Years After Nicaea  
And Was Crucified  
(1 Corinthians 15:1-8)

**1 Corinthians 15:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.

<sup>2</sup>By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

<sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

<sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas and then to the Twelve.

<sup>6</sup>After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.

<sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

<sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

# Sermon Notes for Kids

Today is \_\_\_\_\_

**Who is the preacher today?**

What is the scripture for today?  
\_\_\_\_\_



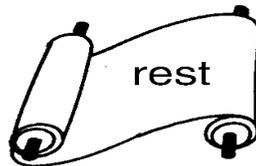
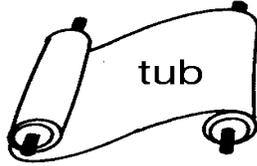
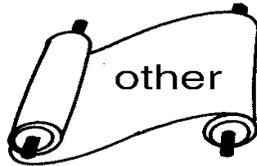
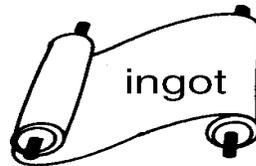
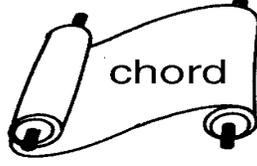
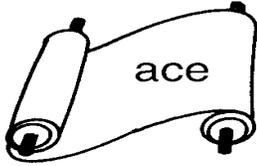
My favorite songs today:


**...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day...**

A large empty rectangular box with a double-line border. At the top center, there is a small blue dot with two lines extending upwards, suggesting a hanging mechanism or a place to attach a string.


The things that had happened to Jesus, happened ...

Remove 1 letter from each small word, then combine and write the remaining letters in order to complete the sentence.



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VBS is only 3 months away! Fill out the volunteer interest form by scanning the QR code with your phone, or go to this link: <https://tinyurl.com/rnuvekm4>



# Welcome to St. Elmo Presbyterian Church pca

## Sunday School for Children and Adults

Sunday School begins at 9:15am. Adults meet in the Adult Sunday School room downstairs and kindergarten through youth group begin in the Fellowship Hall for snacks before proceeding to their rooms in the Sunday School wing. Sunday School breaks for the summer months.

## Little Lambs

Children from 3 through 4 years old can attend their own worship service downstairs after the offering is taken.

## Nursery Available

Nursery is available during Sunday School and worship for babies and for toddlers until they are old enough for Little Lambs. If you can help us in our nursery, please contact: Brad Roberts.

Sign up to volunteer in the nursery at: [stelmopres.org](http://stelmopres.org). Click on "Connect-Grow-Serve" then "Nursery..." then scroll down to Sign up for "Sunday Nursery...".

You can also go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yp8tree>

## High School and Middle School Youth Group

Youth Group meets Sunday nights from 6:00pm-8:00pm except for the first Sunday of each month.

## Christian Education Staff/Volunteers Contact Information

- Nursery Director: Brad Roberts;  
sepcnursery@gmail dot com
- Director of Youth and Children's Ministry: Brad Roberts: sepcyouthgp@gmail dot com,  
704-776-zero 1 zero6



Online donations/offerings:

You can use this QR code or you may go to -  
<https://tinyurl.com/mr7h9e89>

## Past Sermons and Church Calendar

Sermons online: <https://soundcloud.com/SEPC4400/sets>

Calendar online: [www.stelmopres.org/events](http://www.stelmopres.org/events)



Find us on Facebook:  
St. Elmo Presbyterian Church - pca

<https://www.facebook.com/StElmoPresPCA>

To join the St. Elmo Presbyterian



Church Email List: Go to:  
<https://tinyurl.com/3hpcnxju>

1. Enter your email address in the gray box
2. Enter your name in the gray box
3. Password is optional
4. Click "Subscribe" and you will be added to the list. You will receive an email with directions for sending an email to the list and also unsubscribing. If you have difficulty signing on, please email Jay Green at [jay.green@covenant.edu](mailto:jay.green@covenant.edu).

## Parking

*Please do not park in front of driveways, or IN driveways, or in front of garages.  
Please try to park on the side streets and not on St. Elmo Avenue (painted bike lanes).*

Also, park to the right of the road (in the direction you are going) so that you are not ticketed by the police.

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158