

ST. ELMO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

*Our purpose is to be a Spiritual Family that Knows, Lives Out of, and
Proclaims the Wonder of God's Grace in Jesus.*



July 26, 2026

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409
423-821-1424 • www.stelmopres.org

THE MINISTRY and the MISSION

This Week at St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and Community and Live streaming on YouTube

Sunday July 26

10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 27

6:30pm Softball tonight

Wednesday July 29

7:00pm Ecumenical Community Group meets — Contact Carol Wildeman or Diane Reichmann

Nursery

Worship Service

July 26 Jennifer Webster and Jessica Novikoff
August 2 TBD

Little Lambs

SummerPlease check the "Busy Bags" in back

TO VOLUNTEER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSERY, WORSHIP NURSERY, OR LITTLE LAMBS:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/Y9AW7H4A](https://tinyurl.com/y9aw7h4a)

***Navigate between sign ups through the tabs at the top of the page*
Or you can contact Ashlee Wells.**

RUF-UTC Sunday, August 16

Davis Mooney will be speaking at 9:45am in the Adult SS room downstairs. Davis is with RUF (Reformed University Fellowship) at UT Chattanooga. SEPC has been supporting him financially for several years.

As before there will be no official nursery, but SS will be planned for 3-year-olds through 5th grade. Youth 6th grade and up are encouraged to join the adults.

Please come join us to hear about God's work right here in our city. Coffee will be available and Hans might bring donuts!

SUMMER SOFTBALL

Summit Softball Complex (SSC)
4900 La Collina Way, Collegedale, 37363

July 27, Mon.....6:30pm and 7:30pm

July 30, Thurs.....6:30pm and 7:30pm

August 3, Mon.....8:30pm and 9:30pm

Any other games in AugustTBA

THE MESSAGE

WORDS OF MEDITATION

You can obey the tiniest details of the law, and know it backwards and forwards...but until you understand the gospel motivation we now have of redeeming grace, you'll never begin to truly, sincerely obey it. - John Colquhoun

Prelude

Announcements

Musical Preparation

JESUS WELCOMES US

Greeting

Call to Worship

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.

It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.

For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore. (Psalm 133)

Invocation

Hymn of Praise: Praise My Soul the King of Heaven (#77)

JESUS RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF

Corporate Confession of Sin

O Maker and Upholder of all things, day and night are thine; they are also mine from thee—the night to rid me of the cares of the day, to refresh my weary body, to renew my natural strength; the day to summon me to new activities, to give me opportunity to glorify thee, to serve my generation, to acquire knowledge, holiness, eternal life. But one day above all days is made especially for thy honour and my improvement; The sabbath reminds me of thy rest from creation, of the resurrection of my Saviour, of his entering into repose. Thy house is mine, but I am unworthy to meet thee there, and am unfit for spiritual service. When I enter it I come before thee as a sinner, condemned by conscience and thy Word, For I am still in the body and in the wilderness, ignorant, weak, in danger, and in need of thine aid. But encouraged by thy all-sufficient grace let me go to thy house with a lively hope of meeting thee, knowing that there thou wilt come to me and give me peace. My soul is drawn out to thee in longing desires for thy presence in the sanctuary, at the table, where all are entertained on a feast of good things; let me before the broken elements, emblems of thy dying love, cry to thee with broken heart for grace and forgiveness. I long for that blissful communion of thy people in thy eternal house in the perfect kingdom; these are they that follow the Lamb; may I be of their company! ("Lord's Day Morning" in The Valley of Vision)

Silent Confession of Sin

Hymn of Confession: Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy (Rejoice #22)

Assurance of Pardon

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." - Lamentations 3:22-24

Hymn of Assurance: O Love That Will Not Let Me Go (Rejoice #82)

JESUS RECEIVES OUR GENEROSITY

Offering of Gifts and Thanksgivings

Gloria Patri

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. Amen. Amen.

Covenant Children's Lesson

Children may use the activity bags located in the back of the sanctuary during the service

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: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 & Romans 10:9-13

Preaching of the Word: "Lift Up Your Hearts: Meeting With Jesus in Worship // Jesus Hears our Pledge of Faith" (Rev. Daniel Wells)

JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Confession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. (The Apostles' Creed, 2nd Cent)

JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of Departure: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (#598)

Benediction



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

- ☐ Jonathan and Kristin Taylor
- ☐ Moses Taylor
- ☐ John David Tinholt
- ☐ Luke Tinholt

- ☐ Elijah and Ashlee Lubben
- ☐ Mission to the World

- ☐ Our U.S. Senators
- ☐ **THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN LIBYA (9)**
- ☐ Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors

Gospel Generosity: Jesus and his person, work, and heart are the reason to be a cheerful giver, see 2 Corinthians 8:9, 9:7. Let's commit ourselves to the Message, Ministry, and Mission of SEPC.

For Online Giving for Your Tithes and Offerings



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

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158

Permission to show movies/videos: CVLI# 505553334

THE MISSION

Elijah and Ashlee Lubben Japan

Praises

- ☑ Hidaka-san, an older woman who has been studying the Bible at our church the last few months has accepted Christ recently and been baptized.
- ☑ The Lord has provided new opportunities to connect with people in our area and study the Bible with non-Christians.
- ☑ The work is difficult, but God continues to provide strength and ability. Improvement in our language ability has been noticeable recently (though we'd love to keep growing here too!)

Prayer

1. Please pray for our church's ministry to students at the local nursing university, especially Seina and Momoko who have been asking more questions about the Bible.
2. Please pray for wisdom as we slowly look to the transition from spending more time in language study to more time in ministry.
3. Please pray for strength for our family, the discipleship of our children, the unity of our marriage, and for plans to begin homeschooling sometime in the next year.
4. Please pray for further connections in our community — pray for Masa, Satomi, Kazuyo, and Yuki.

PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN LIBYA (9) **LIFE AS A FOREIGN CHRISTIAN IN LIBYA**

Source: Persecution.org, April 7, 2026

In April 2015, ISIS executed 30 Christian Ethiopians in Libya.

Foreign Christians...began to fall prey to kidnapping for ransom or forced hard labor. There was even a return of open slave markets. Amid such circumstances, the years following the "Arab Spring" saw as many as 90% of Christians in Libya leave the country.

Now, 15 years after its revolution, Libya is a politically fragmented state with various militias vying for power in much of the country. At this point, Christians in Libya typically just "pray secretly in their homes behind closed doors so that no one sees them," said "Nathaniel," who came to Libya last year to work in Benghazi, the country's second-largest city. He said he received verbal abuse and threats just for talking online about wanting to attend one of the country's few remaining open churches. Things could have become worse yet had he broached the subject in person.

"Every religion or belief other than Islam is met with harsh condemnation here," he added. Though most of the people he interacts with at his workplace are fellow foreigners, Nathaniel actually had some good things to say about the Libyans he has encountered. "If you need help," he said, "they help you." He also finds them reasonably sociable "as long as you do not make your beliefs known." He said he does not personally know any Christians in Libya who have faced serious problems based on their religion.

But multiple coworkers have told him about young Libyan Muslims who went abroad, often for university, and, while in an environment almost inevitably less restrictive than their homeland, expressed viewpoints online that "conflicted with Islam." Having expressed such opinions, they "were reported to state authorities by relatives or friends who remained in the country," Nathaniel said. "After that, those authorities contacted these individuals and warned them ... that if they returned, they would face consequences."

In Libya, the distribution of Christian religious materials to Muslims technically can be punished with the death penalty. But in reality, it usually results in the deportation and banishment of the offenders.

However, if the offenders are actual Libyans, then the consequences become more severe... 🇵🇸

**Indeed, all who desire to live a
godly life in Christ Jesus will be
persecuted, 2 Timothy 3:12 ESV**

THE MINISTRY and the MESSAGE

Q. 10. Where is God?

A. God is everywhere.

Q. 11. Can you see God?

A. No; I cannot see God,
but he always sees me.

Q. 12. Does God know all things?

A. Yes; nothing can be hid from God.

Q. 13. Can God do all things?

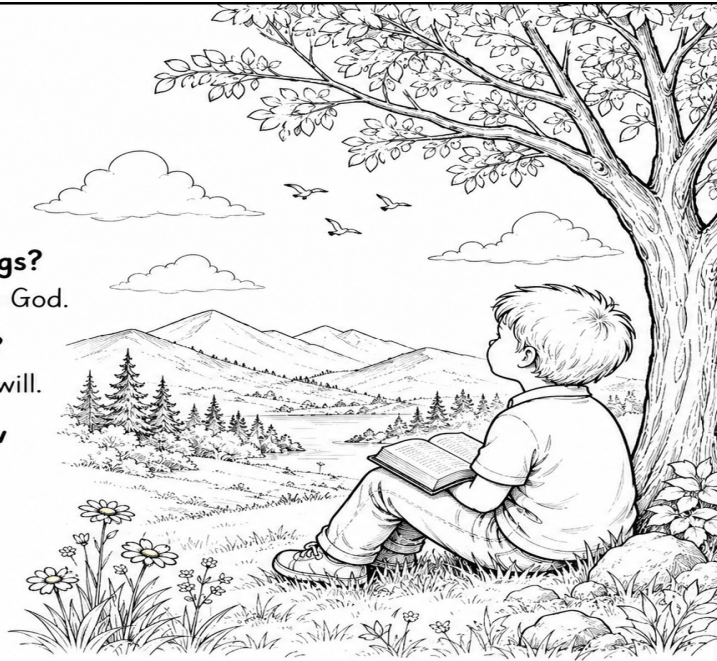
A. Yes; God can do all his holy will.

**Q. 14. Where do you learn how
to love and obey God?**

A. In the Bible alone.

Q. 15. Who wrote the Bible?

A. Holy men who were taught
by the Holy Spirit.





We are responsible to tell others about Jesus so they can believe in Him too.

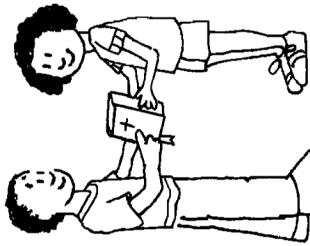
Add and subtract words and letters to fill the blanks.

1.  -at +  = _____
2.  -t +  -ba = _____
3.  -l +  -kt +  -glo = _____
4.  -cu +  -te +  -wt = _____

How can they 2) _____ on Jesus if they do not 3) _____ in Him.

They cannot believe in Him unless they 1) _____ about Him.

They cannot hear about Him unless someone will 4) _____ to them.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

July 26, 2026 • Romans 10:8-13

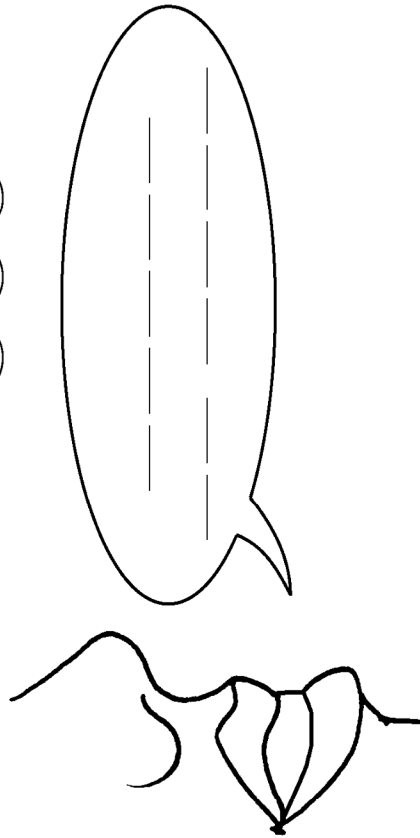
Belonging to Christ

We proclaim the word of faith.

Unscramble the 4 words.

Then write the circled letters in order on the blanks.

- shiny ... JLWEES   
- relative ... NIUSCO   
- not often ... MOLDES   
- edge ... ROBDER   



Welcome to St. Elmo Presbyterian Church pca

Sunday School for Children and Adults

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:15am. Adults have two options: one class meets in the Adult Sunday School room downstairs, the other class meets in the Fellowship Hall. Children, 3 y/o through 12th grade, begin with a time of fellowship in the Sunday School wing, before proceeding to their classes. Sunday School breaks for the summer months.

Little Lambs

During Worship, children from 3 through 4 years old are welcome to attend their own Bible Lesson time downstairs after the Covenant Children's Lesson in the Sanctuary. Busy Bags in the back are available in the summer months.

Nursery Available

During Sunday School and Worship, the nursery is available for babies through 2 y/o, when they are ready for Little Lambs. A Mother's room adjacent to the Nursery is also available.

Youth Group

Youth Group for Middle and High School students meets on Sunday nights from 6 - 8pm, and typically taking a break on the first Sunday of the month. Youth Group meets once a month during the Summer months.

Christian Education Contact Information

Director of Youth and Children's Ministry:
TBD

- Nursery & Little Lambs: Ashlee Wells, sepcnursery@gmail.com
- Youth & Children's Ministry: sepcyouthgp@gmail.com

Parent Committee Chair: Lance Wescher



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



Find us on Facebook:

St. Elmo Presbyterian Church - pca

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



To join the St. Elmo Presbyterian Church Email List:

1. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3hpenxju>
2. Enter your email address in the gray box
3. Enter your name in the gray box
4. Password is optional
5. 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.

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