

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HENDERSON, TX
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

—Gathering —

PRELUDE **I Will Arise and Go to Jesus** **Jack Brooks**

WELCOME **Liturgist: Kathy Porter**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me.
Bless God’s holy name.
God forgives. God heals. Gods transforms with steadfast love.
Bless God’s holy name.

***HYMN #65** **Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

CALL TO CONFESSION
Before we can hear God’s truth spoken in love, we must free ourselves from all that obstructs us from honestly acknowledging our wrongdoing. Let us examine our hearts and confess our sins to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Nurturing God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you desire to gather your children. But division and disagreement plague us. We cling to rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We walk away from conflict, rather than working through it. Forgive us, Holy God. Help us grow in faith, mature in relationship, and be transformed through your steadfast love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed and restored to God’s path of righteousness. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI #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. Amen, amen.

—Word—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Open us, Eternal God, to your Word read and proclaimed. Help us not to turn from your truth or avoid your message. Help us be receptive to the wisdom you offer. Amen.

FIRST READING **Exodus 14:19-31** Bible p. 58-59, Lg p. 76
The Word of God.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 18:21-35** Bible p. 19, Lg p. 24-25
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON **Both, And** **Crosby Fleming**

—Response—

***HYMN #435** **There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from Book of Common Worship)
***We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God’s purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE LORD’S PRAYER
Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name,