† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
The Apostles' Creed (Traditional) | Hymnal, pg. 14

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
We approach God in prayer not as strangers, but as beloved children, baptized in Christ Jesus,
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS, DEBTORS)

SENDING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
"Lord of the Dance" | Don Hart
No. 302 Hymnal

† DOXOLOGY (592)

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time and our possessions. Use us, and what we have; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen

† CLOSING HYMN
"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers" | No. 15

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE
Where you see the † , please stand if you are able.

PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE TODAY:
Sermon | Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers
Liturgist | Gary Harper
Music Director | Mark Brooks
Audio/Streaming Technician | Claudia Droste
Ushers | Marcia Gaskill & Debbie Miller

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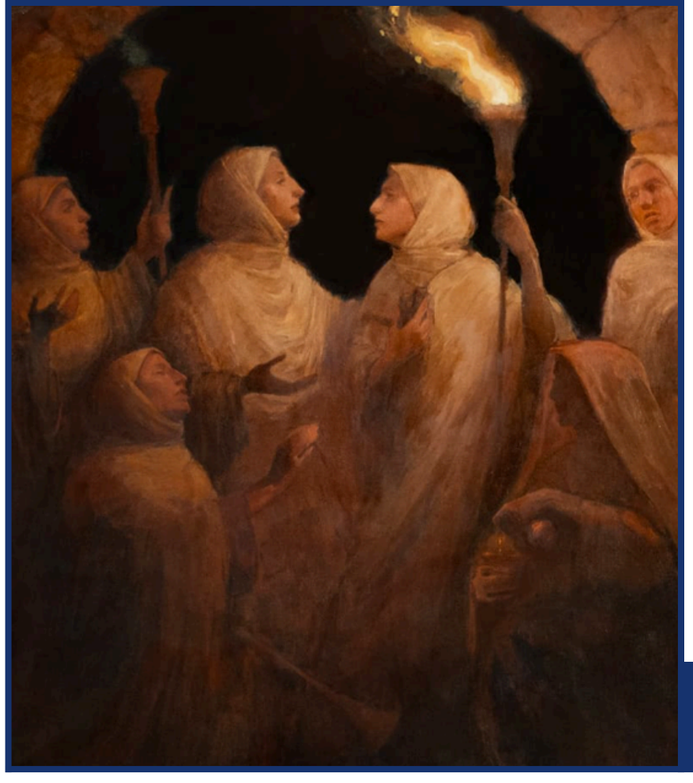
Cover art: "The Torchbearers" by Emma Earle (2026)

Welcome to

First Presbyterian Church of Alton

Sunday Worship Bulletin
November 8, 2026



CHURCH OFFICE

4th & Alby Streets
618-465-3592
Office Hours Mon-Fri
9:00-1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY EVENTS

9:00 Bible Study
Library

10:00 Worship
Sanctuary

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday Soup's On
11:30 am | *Fellowship Hall*

Wednesday Bible Study
10:00 am | *Library*

Wednesday Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm | *Music Room*

Saturday Café
11:30 am | *Fellowship Hall*

FIRSTPRESALTON.ORG

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP
Choose this day whom you will serve.
We will serve and obey the Lord our God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
O God, your blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of evil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life. Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen**.

† OPENING HYMN
"Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim" | No. 477

CALL TO CONFESSION
Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

CONFESSION OF SIN
Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS
Because we were buried with Christ in these waters, we are also raised to life with him. Believe the gospel! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen**.

THE PEACE
Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**
All are encouraged to share the Peace in a manner they feel comfortable.

† GLORIA PATRI (579)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
Amos 5:18-24 | Pg. 854 (Pew Bible)
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 70
(Insert)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON
1 Thessalonians *4:13-18 | Pg. 204 (Pew Bible)*
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL LESSON
Matthew 25:1-13 | Pg. 28 (Pew Bible)
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON
"Check your Oil?" | Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers

† HYMN OF REFLECTION
"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" | No.379