

Sunday Worship
September 27, 2026

*Nursery care is available for children up to age 3
in the Nursery on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.*

Prelude

arr. Cathy Moglebust

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

First Delray Ringers with Kathleen Shelton

Welcome

Ring of the Bell

The original church bell is rung in memory of Walter (1928-2018), Nancy (1926-2025), and Robert (1958-2013) Teninga, who are honored in our Memorial Garden.

Opening Prayer

First Scripture Reading (p. 749)

Psalm 105:1-6

“Give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make his deeds known to all people! Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord; dwell on all his wondrous works! Give praise to God’s holy name! Let the hearts rejoice of all those seeking the Lord! Pursue the Lord and his strength; seek his face always! Remember the wondrous works he has done, all his marvelous works, and the justice he declared— you who are the offspring of Abraham, his servant, and the children of Jacob, his chosen ones.”

“Come, Christians Join to Sing”

“Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;

Praise is his gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high; Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;

His love shall never end; Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,

Singing forevermore, 'Alleluia! Amen!'"

Prayers of the People

The 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.”

Time with the Children

Gathering Song: "Jesus Loves Me"

"Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong; they are weak but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so."

Children up to 3 years old may go to the Nursery (Nursery Rm)

Children 3 years old through kindergarten are excused for Bible Bunch (Bible Bunch Rm)

Children in grades 1 through 4 are excused for Primary Sunday School (Sunday School Rm)

Children in grades 5 and up are excused for God Squad (Youth Rm)

Offering

. . . "Freely we have received, freely let us give."



Scan the QR code using your phone to give to First Delray online.

Offertory Anthem

Traditional spiritual arranged by Howard Helvey

"Ezekiel Saw The Wheel"

"Ezekiel saw the wheel, way up in the middle of the air.

The big wheel runs by faith,

and the little wheel runs by the grace of God,

A wheel in a wheel, way in the middle of the air.

Better mind my sister how you walk on the cross,

Way in the middle of the air.

Your foot may slip and your soul be lost, way in the middle of the air.

Let me tell you brother what a sinner will do,
Way in the middle of the air.
He'll talk about me and he'll talk about you,
Way in the middle of the air.

You say the Lord has set you free, way in the middle of the air,
Why don't you let your neighbor be, way in the middle of the air."

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

"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."

Ministry of the Church

Special Music

arr. Allen Webber

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Allen Webber, baritone

"Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above."

Second Scripture Reading (p. 1436)

Colossians 3:12-17 (ESV)

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Sermon

Glenn Barton

"Dress to Attest"

***Closing Hymn No. 489**

Unser Herrscher

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

“Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion. Let me enter there.
Where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee, come thou also down to me;
Where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be;
To my heart O enter thou, let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed;
May I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows, here is balm for all our woes.”

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

*The congregation is invited to stand, in mind or in body.

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Instructions on using our **Hearing Assistance System** to enhance your worship experience are available at the Welcome Center in the lobby.

For more information about **connecting with our church**, please complete the card in the pews.

Use your smartphone or tablet’s camera to access the **QR Code** in the bulletin to make an online donation to the church.

The **flowers** that beautify the Chancel this morning are given by the Deacons, in loving memory of Rev. George Sidney “Sid” Bouldin, father of Deacon George “Rocky” Bouldin.

Our **guest preacher** this morning is Glenn Barton.

The Deacons host today’s **Fellowship by the Sea**. Come outside the Lobby doors, enjoy a bite to eat, and say hello after worship.

Today is our **Pennies from Heaven Offering**. Since September 2012, we have raised \$90,177.51 to help feed hungry people in our community.

October is one of our **food drive** months, when we collect unopened, unexpired, non-perishable food for CROS Ministries. You can bring your donations to the church or donate by check, payable to *CROS Ministries*.

Join the First Delray Team for the **Hustle to End Hunger 5K Walk** for Christians Reaching Out to Society (CROS) Ministries’ food programs **this Saturday, October 3rd**. Registration is required. Visit our website for more information.

Stop by the Welcome Center to purchase **First Delray Concert Series tickets for the final concert of the 2026 concert season: “Lights, Camera, Music!”** on Sunday, **October 25th** at 4 p.m. [\$20 each]; and to purchase tickets for the **2027 season: “My Favorite Things”** on Sunday, **February 21st** at 4 p.m. [\$25 each]; **“Having a Good Time with the Matt Calderin Big Band”** on Sunday, **April 11th** at 4 p.m. [\$30 each]; **“Peter and the Wolf & Other**

Animal Tales” on Sunday, **April 25th** at 4 p.m. [Adults & Teens \$10 each; children 12 and under \$5 each]; and “Wicked Good Music” on Sunday, **October 24th** at 4 p.m. [\$25 each].

At the risk of sounding like a coach, there will be a **“Call-Out Meeting”** in Fellowship Hall **next Sunday, October 4th**, following the worship service for all current members of the **Fellowship Team** and anyone who is interested in becoming a member. We will be discussing upcoming events. If you're interested but unable to attend, contact Connie Timmons (765-652-0798) with any questions.

Sunday, October 18th, marks the **conclusion of our 100th anniversary celebration!** As we look back with gratitude and forward with hope, we invite everyone to sign the memory book in the lobby. We will place the book in our time capsule to be opened in the future, allowing those who come after us to remember this special milestone in our church’s life. Please take a moment to add your name and be part of our history!

Our First Families are **Puttin’ Into Fall** on **Sunday, November 8th** from **1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** The cost is \$20 per person, with a family cap of \$40. Reservations are required and can be made at the Welcome Center or on our website.

On **Sunday, December 13th at 6 p.m.**, our children and youth choir are celebrating Jesus’ birthday from a child’s perspective at our **Annual Christmas Pageant**.

Holly House is accepting **holiday decorations and paper bags with handles** for their Holiday Gift Shoppe. You can drop off your donations at Holly House on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

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Stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a copy of the **Executive Summary** of our Congregation Assessment Tool **(CAT) results**.

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What will your legacy be? Please remember the church in your will and beneficiary designations, and become a **Legacy Partner**. Contact Colleen O'Rourke, Finance Manager (colleen@firstdelray.com) for more information.

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As of September 22nd, we have raised \$3,903,761.32 for our **Renew & Rejoice Capital Campaign**. More information is available in the lobby or on our Capital Campaign page on our website, where you can view completed and ongoing projects, watch the campaign video, and learn how you can help us renew our church facilities.

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Our **Stephen Ministers** listen to, care for, and walk with those going through difficult times. If you or a loved one needs a Stephen Minister, contact Laura DeBrita, Stephen Minister Coordinator, at 954-591-0439.

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Nursery Care for children up to age 3 is available in the Nursery on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

Bible Bunch for Children, ages 3 through kindergarten, meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Bible Bunch Room on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

Primary Sunday School for Children in 1st through 4th grade meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Sunday School Room on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

God Squad for 5th grade and up meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Youth Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

Youth Sunday School meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Coastal Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsals begin **next Sunday, October 4th** at **11:15 a.m.** in the Children's Music Room on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

Youth Group meets on **Sundays at 11 a.m.** in the Youth Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

Monday Morning Women's Bible Study meets Monday mornings at **10 a.m.** via Zoom. Contact Maria Graham (mmg2352@gmail.com) for more information.

Hosts Dolores McNaboe and Kathy Wilsher invite you to **Women's Lunch by the Sea at noon** on the **second Tuesday** of the month at Boheme Bistro.

Contact Kathy Wilsher (561-252-0709) with any questions. The next lunch is on **Tuesday, October 13th**.

The **Holly House Workshops** meet on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings** at 9:30 a.m. in the Holly House.

Men's Fellowship meets **Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m.** at The Original Pancake House (1840 S. Federal Hwy) for a warm breakfast, meaningful conversation, and fellowship. Contact Fred McNaboe (561-350-4294) for more information.

Women's Discipleship Group next meets on **Thursday, October 8th, at 10 a.m.** in the Meeting Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies. Contact Pamela Kent-Balasco (561-414-7552) for more information.

First Delray Ringers meets on **Thursdays at 6 p.m.** in the Bell Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

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Read Dr. Doug Hood's weekly **Nurture Faith** meditation on our website under Resources.

Visit our website (www.firstdelray.com) for more information about our ministries.



*The following meditation was written by Hannah Anglemyer,
a college student Furman University, studying International Affairs.*

The Therapy of Prayer

READ: Philippians 4:6, 7(Common English Bible)

“Don’t be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.”

REFLECT:

School cafeterias are always alive with conversation. During a single lunch period, a walk through the room might reveal heated debates about an upcoming football game, dramatic complaints about a lengthy homework assignment, animated retellings of weekend adventures, and countless other exchanges all competing to rise above the noise. The vast majority of these conversations are quickly forgotten, fading into the background of an ordinary school day.

Years ago, I overheard a more unusual cafeteria comment that has stayed with me ever since: “Wouldn’t it be great if there were a kind of therapy where you could just talk to God?”

My first thought was simple: that’s called prayer. Ironically, that thought pointed out something I had not learned to live.

Those words came during a particularly difficult season of life, marked not by a single crisis, but by a persistent, quiet inner struggle that left me feeling anxious, discouraged, and distant from God. Doubt often outweighed faith. I hid the vast majority of that struggle from everyone. For a while, I tried to hide it from God too.

But that cafeteria conversation lingered in the back of my mind. As time has gone on, I have come to appreciate the wisdom hidden in that seemingly casual remark. It was spoken by someone I did not know well and who, to my knowledge, was not especially interested in religion. Yet, it captured a truth I desperately needed to learn—that prayer is an invitation to bring every fear, struggle, and burden before him. Prayer does not need to be polished or elegant, only honest. Throughout Scripture, God welcomes prayers marked by all kinds of emotions—joy, confusion, sorrow, fear, and even anger. Prayer is not a performance for God’s approval; it is a conversation with a Father who already knows our hearts.

And when I began to approach prayer in that way, talking to God through brokenness, allowing God into my struggles, something began to shift, not suddenly, not in a way that removed every difficulty, but gradually the weight of carrying everything alone began to subside. God was not absent in my struggles; he was inviting me to surrender them into his hands.

That is the invitation Scripture gives us in Philippians 4:6. We are told to “bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks.” We are not told to only bring that which is resolved, easy, or understandable. Scripture tells us to bring “all.” All that feels heavy. All that is unresolved. All that we do not yet have the words to describe. Bring those struggles to God, and give thanks that God is with us in everything. Gratitude may feel unnatural when anxiety is pressing in, but giving thanks gently redirects our attention, reminding us that the God who has been faithful in the past remains faithful now.

And then there is the promise of Philippians 4:7, “Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.” Scripture does not promise that there will be no hardship. What we are promised is peace in our hearts and minds. A peace which does not depend on circumstances or things being “easy, ” but a peace that remains with us even when questions are unanswered. It rests not in our control or knowledge of the future, but in the certainty of God’s presence within it.

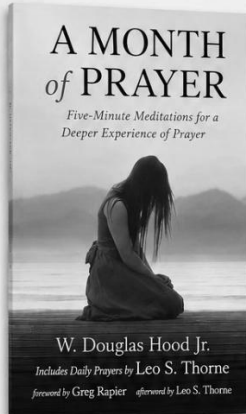
What burdens have you been carrying alone? What worry have you replayed repeatedly in your mind but rarely surrendered to God? Maybe it’s concern for a loved one, your health, a strained relationship, or financial uncertainty. Maybe it’s a worry you do not yet have the words to describe. Whatever they are, Scripture’s invitation is the same: bring them all before God. Bring them with honesty and gratitude. Then trust that the God who hears our prayers will do what he promises, guarding our hearts and minds with a peace that surpasses anything we can understand.

RESPOND:

1. How has this scripture or meditation spoken to you? **Pray:** *“What would you have me hear, O Lord?”*
2. What one specific act do you intend to take, an attitude to change, a person to see, or prayer to pray? **Pray:** *“What would you have me do, O Lord?”*

Spiritual Resources

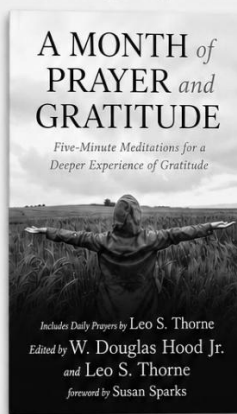
*Simple practices. Deeper connection.
Stronger spirit.*



PRAYER

*Five-minute meditations
for a deeper experience
of prayer.*

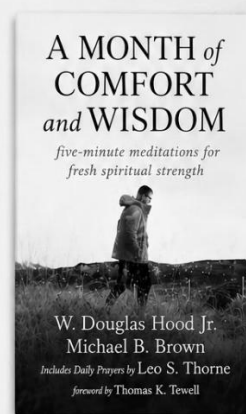
\$5



PRAYER & GRATITUDE

*Five-minute meditations
for a deeper experience
of gratitude.*

\$10



COMFORT & WISDOM

*five-minute meditations
for fresh spiritual
strength.*

\$10



There is a 3% service charge
for credit card payments