

November 18, 2018

Eleven O'clock

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we are honored that you have chosen to worship today at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel welcome, inspired, and strengthened by the power of God to meet the challenges of your daily life.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We begin worship with the musical prelude and lighting of the candles, reminding us of Christ's presence with us. Please use this time to make the transition from getting here to being here.

PRELUDE *In dulci jubilo* J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is faithful: Christ is coming,
Many: to lift up the lowly, and to raise the poor from the dust.
One: God is faithful: Christ is coming,
Many: to feed the hungry, and to bring good news of great joy to all people.
One: God is faithful: Christ is coming,
Many: with grace and glory, to judge and rule the earth.

*HYMN 100 *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout* STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you know there is much wrong we have done, and much good we have left undone. For the times we have fallen short, we ask your forgiveness. We are complicit with systems that exploit, and we resign ourselves to live with the world as it is instead of looking expectantly toward your coming kingdom; have mercy on us! Use our hands and hearts to build a more equal, just, and loving community. Hear now our silent prayers of confession...

*KYRIE 577 *Lord, Have Mercy* KYRIE ELEISON (Reindorf)

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

Glo-ry to God, whose glo-ry shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has par-doned me, and to the Spir-it, whose love has set me free. As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING 1 Samuel 2:1-10

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Ave Maria* Jacob Arcadelt

*GOSPEL READING Mark 13:1-8

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The End of The World As We Know It* Rev. Cat Goodrich

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from the PCUSA Study Catechism*

One: What is the mission of the church?

All: **The mission of the church is to bear witness to God's love for the world in Jesus Christ. Mission takes a wide variety of forms, including evangelism, work for social justice, and ministries of care. Yet the center is still the same: Jesus Christ. In every case, the church extends mercy and forgiveness to the needy in a way that points finally to him.**

FOCUS ON MISSION Stewardship

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

*HYMN 710 *We Lift Our Voices* OFFERING

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Part of your offering today is the gift of your presence. Please acknowledge your presence by signing the welcome book at the end of your row. Please write something you commit to offer to God through our church or in the world in 2019. Then bring your offering, along with your pledge (if you haven't already made one), and leave it in the church at the front of the sanctuary.

OFFERTORY *Noel en Duo* N. Gigault

*THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.*

* LITANY OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION FOR 2019 PLEDGES
(Please respond "...we give you thanks, O God")

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* GREEN TYLER

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Let All Things Now Living* arr. Lloyd Larson

*Please stand as you are able.

**If you would like to make a gift electronically, scan here to be directed to our online giving site:



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LET THE BELLS PLAY! Our 37-bell Rushton Memorial Carillon was the first such instrument in Birmingham and the third in the United States, when installed in 1924.

WE WELCOME GUESTS and celebrate that you are worshiping with us today. Your presence enriches our community. We hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. If you are returning to a distant home, we wish you the Lord's grace and a safe journey. However, if you live in the area and are seeking a faith community, we hope you will return soon so that we may get to know you better. To learn more about opportunities for spiritual growth and service, visit us on the web at www.fpcbham.org. May God's peace and blessing be with you.

IF YOU ARE SEEKING A CHURCH HOME, our Session meets on the *first Sunday of the month* in the Chapel following the 11:00 worship service to welcome new members. If you are looking for a faith community, we hope you will make First your home.

FOR CHILDREN: Children's bags and bulletins are available in the Narthex (ushers can locate them for you). Please empty and return the bags after worship. While all children are welcome in worship, the following alternatives also are available: *Nursery* is provided for infants (at least six weeks old) and toddlers. After the *Focus on Children*, children ages 3-7 will go to the balcony, where they experience a little of what worship is like while doing learning activities related to the scripture with coloring, puzzles, books, children's bulletins and more. When the sacraments of the Lord's Supper or Baptism are celebrated, children will return to the sanctuary. We invite those in second grade and above to remain in the sanctuary and participate in the entire worship service.

PRAYER REQUESTS Please use the Prayer Request and Information Change cards, found in the pew rack, to relay information to the church office. Print your name and any other information you may need to relay to the office and place it in the offering plate.

SERMONS are available from our website at www.fpcbham.org.

The **LITURGIST** for today is Susan Davenport.

MISSION CENTERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST LIGHT, INC. is a mission center of FPC, giving shelter and support services for homeless women and children. If you would like to help, speak to our pastors or call Ruth Crosby, Executive Director (323-4277). First Light's website: www.firstlightsbelter.org

RUTH AND NAOMI SENIOR OUTREACH (RNSO) has as its mission to become spiritual companions to isolated older adults and to call, equip, and support others to do so as well. Contact chaplain@ruthandnaomi.org.

THE RUSHTON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER provides quality childcare in a loving, nurturing environment – accredited by NAEYC and licensed by the Department of Human Resources. Call the CDC office at 322-8310. The Center's website is www.eprcdc.com

FAITH IN ACTION ALABAMA, a faith-based community-organizing effort FPC shares with faith communities throughout the city, works to improve quality of life for all our citizens. Faith in Action is a PICO network affiliate and can be reached at daniel@fiaal.org.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION provides support to First Presbyterian Church for the maintenance and upkeep of this historic sacred space built in 1889. 10% of the Foundation's annuity payment aids mission selected by session. Contact Mark Aldridge for more information.

THE REV. CATHERINE GOODRICH, Pastor and Acting Head of Staff

THE REV. CATHERINE OLIVER, Interim Associate Pastor

THE REV. JIM STANFORD, Parish Associate

MS. PATTI WINTER, Director of Christian Education

DR. TIMOTHY THOMAS, Director of Music

DR. HYE SOOK JUNG, Organist

MS. EMILY BURT, Youth Director

MR. OWEN BLOMELEY, Administrator

MS. LAURA H. ROBERTSON, Office Administrator

MS. DEBBIE BOONE, Bookkeeper

MS. KANDIE WILEY, Sexton

THE REV. DR. ROBERT S. CRUTCHFIELD, Pastor Emeritus

Have you remembered the church in your will?