

February 17, 2019

Eleven O'clock

6th Sunday after Epiphany
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME HOME

We're delighted that you're here! With the open arms of Christ, we welcome those of every age, ability, income, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity fully into the life of the church, just as we have been welcomed.

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 *Aria and Fugue* Healey Willan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 1:1-3
Adapted from *The Psalter* (Chicago, IL: Liturgy Training Publications, 1995)

One: If you would be happy: never walk with the wicked,
Many: never stand with wrongdoers, never sit among cynics, but delight in God's teaching and study it night and day.
One: You will stand like a tree planted by the stream, bearing fruit in its season,
Many: its leaves never fading, its yield always plenty.

*HYMN 35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Giving God, our lips say that we trust in you, but our lives tell a different story. We stockpile money, hoard possessions, and judge our own worth by the level of our income. Forgive our misplaced values, O God. Help us to let go of fear and greed so that we may live in freedom and gratitude, knowing the ourselves and our neighbors to be your beloved children, safely in your care. In silence, we open our hearts to you...

*KYRIE 576 *Lord, Have Mercy* SINGAPURA



*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA



PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN Terry Hamilton-Poore

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 17:5-10
One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER Psalm 1 Hymn 457

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Heavenly Armor* William Walker

GOSPEL READING Luke 6:17-26
One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Strange Blessings* Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 172 *Blest Are They* BLEST ARE THEY

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Brief Statement of Faith, section 1* (Hymnal, p. 37)

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

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



OFFERTORY *O Food To Pilgrims Given* Johann Walther

*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.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 100 *Canticle of the Turning* STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Praise To The Lord, The Almighty* Johann Walther

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS 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 God'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. We love having kids in worship, but 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.

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.

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 Mark Aldridge.

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.firstlightshelter.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. TERRY HAMILTON-POORE, Pastor and Head of Staff

THE REV. CATHERINE GOODRICH, 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. ROBIN VINES, Carillonneur

MS. EMILY BURT, Youth Director

MR. OWEN BLOMELEY, Facility Manager

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?