

February 24, 2019

Eleven O'clock

7th 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 *Choral Prelude on "Rock of Ages"* Alec Rowley

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

CALL TO WORSHIP Adapted from Carter Heyward, *Our Passion for Justice* (Pilgrim Press, 1984)

One: We are called together to live in love, but love doesn't just happen.

Many: **Love is a willingness to be present to others without pretense.**

One: Love is a conversion to full humanity—a willingness to participate with others in the healing of a broken world and broken lives.

Many: **We gather to be converted, so that we may live lives of holy healing.**

\*HYMN 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, we seek your grace but we do not offer it to others. Though we have received compassion, we extend condemnation. Though we have received inclusion, we build up walls. You look upon the world and see your children; we look beyond our camp and see only enemies. Forgive us, O God. Soften our hearts and clear our vision to see others as you do: blessing even those who hurt us, and praying for the day when all may dwell together as one family in your love. 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 Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 45:3-11, 15

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER Psalm 37 Hymn 706

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 15:35-38

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Lo, My Shepherd's Hand Divine* Haydn

GOSPEL READING Luke 6:27-38

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *On the Other Side of Grace* Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

**DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

\*HYMN 795 *Healer of Our Every Ill* Healer of Our Every Ill

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Brief Statement of Faith*, section 3 (Hymnal, pp. 37-38)

**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 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* arr. D. Wagner

\*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 339 *Lift Every Voice and Sing* LIFT EVERY VOICE

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

\*POSTLUDE *Toccata* J. P. Sweelinck

\*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](http://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](http://www.fpcbham.org).

The **LITURGIST** for today is Emily Burt.

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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@faal.org](mailto:daniel@faal.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, Carillonist

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?*