

March 24, 2019

Eleven O'clock

Third Sunday in Lent
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 *Herzlich tut mich verlangen* J. Brahms

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Everyone who thirsts for righteousness,
Many: come to the waters of life!
One: Everyone who is hungry for justice,
Many: come and be fed by the Spirit!
One: We follow the One who offers us living water,
Many: the One who shares the bread of life.
All: Let us worship God together.

*HYMN 388 *Come All You People* UYAI MOSE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Creation,
You pour out life abundant for us, but we fill our cups with that which can never satisfy. You call us to care and to share what we have, but we think only of ourselves: our needs, our wants. The ground of our being is parched – we cannot bear good fruit. Forgive us! Have patience as we amend who we are, that we might become who you call us to be. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

*KYRIE 578 *O Lord, Have Mercy* ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ



O Lord, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer-cy; O



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA 447 *We Are Forgiven* WE ARE FORGIVEN



We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to



God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.



We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN Patti Winter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:1-9

One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *My Song is Love Unknown* J. D. Edwards

*GOSPEL READING Luke 13:1-9

One: Holy wisdom, holy word
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Got Any Good Fruit?* Rev. Cat Goodrich

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 800 *Sometimes a Light Surprises* SALLEY GARDENS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from The Belhar Confession*

We believe that the unity of the people of God is manifested and made real when together we come to know the height, breadth, and depth of the love of Christ; when together we know and bear one another's burdens; when we suffer with one another for righteousness' sake; and when we pray together and together serve God in this world.

FOCUS ON MISSION Rise Against Hunger

SUNG PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, 470 *There Is a Longing...* LONGING

During the singing, you are invited to come forward and add a stone to the prayer mosaic.

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 *Cross of Sorrow* S. Keeney

*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 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Allegro* P. Prancheschini

*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 Scott Pierce.

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. 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?