

April 28, 2019

Eleven O'clock

2nd Sunday of Easter
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME

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 *Prelude and Fugue in C* Craig A. Penfield

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 98:7-8

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy!**

With all the earth, let us worship God.

*HYMN 247 *Now the Green Blade Rises* NOEL NOUVELET

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

O God, in sovereign love you created the world good and make everyone equally in your image, to live as one community. But we rebel against you, hiding from our Creator. Ignoring your commandments, we violate your image in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. Forgive us, O God. In your grace, re-create us to be good and faithful stewards of this beautiful earth that you have made.

Silence is kept...

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA 589 *Alleluia* HONDURAS ALLELUIA

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN Patti Winter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Acts 5:27-32

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALTER, 33 *Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show* Psalm 150

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4-8

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *For The Beauty Of The Earth* John Rutter

THIRD READING John 20:19-31

In your light, we see light.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Signs of Life* Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 713 *Touch the Earth Lightly* TENDERNESS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Victor Johnson

*THE DOXOLOGY 609
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 80 *You Shall Go Out with Joy* THE TREES OF THE FIELD

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Crown Him Lord of All* G. Martin

*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?