

3rd Sunday after Pentecost
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME

We're delighted that you're here! Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubts, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that includes you.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* William Kirkpatrick

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT 388 *Come, All You People* UYAI MOSE

*Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; (3x)
 come now and worship the Lord.*

CALL TO WORSHIP Job 12:7-10

Ask the animals, and they will teach you;
 the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
 ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;
 and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

Who among these does not know
 that the hand of God has done this?

**In God's hand is the life of every living thing
 and the breath of every human being.**

Let us worship God.

* HYMN 19 *God of Great and God of Small* GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of life, you made us out of the stuff of the earth, to share this home with every creeping and flying and swimming creature; but we have destroyed precious habitat and driven our fellow creatures to the edge of extinction and beyond. Forgive our thoughtless destruction, we pray. Fill us with reverence for the wonders of each living being, that we may restore the balance of creation and live in harmony with all you have made, for their sake and for our own. *(Silent Confession)*

*KYRIE 48 *Rain Down* RAIN DOWN

*Rain down; rain down;
 rain down your love on your people.
 Rain down; rain down;
 rain down your love, God of life.*

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*GLORIA 589 *Alleluia* HONDURAS ALLELUIA

*Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.
 Alleluia, alleluia. Now the Lord is risen indeed.*

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

(Please greet one another with: "The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you.")

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN

Patti Winter

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION 692

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
 As you love, may I love, in receiving and in giving.
 Spirit, open my heart.*

FIRST READING

Proverbs 30:18-19, 24-28

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord arr.F.B.Price
 Alicia Germany, soprano

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:14-26

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE 692

*Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
 In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.
 Spirit open my heart.*

SERMON

Caring for God's Creation: *Learning from Lizards*
 Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 713 *Touch the Earth Lightly* TENDERNESS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Adapted from a speech by Chief Seattle, 1854,
 and Genesis 2:4-23. From Janet Morley, *Bread of Tomorrow*

Every part of this earth is sacred.

Whatever befalls the earth befalls the children of the earth.

The air is precious;
 for all of us share the same breath.

**This we know, the earth does not belong to us:
 we belong to the earth.**

All things are connected,
 like the blood that unites one family.

**Our God is the same God,
 whose compassion is equal for all.**

For we did not weave the web of life:
 we are merely a strand in it.

**Whatever we do to the web
 we do to ourselves.**

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. To be directed to our online giving site, scan here:



OFFERTORY

I Need Thee Every Hour Robert Lowry

***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.*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**INVITATION TO THE TABLE****THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise....

... And with planets, and stars, oceans and sea creatures, wind and birds and singing saints, we lift our voices in eternal praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

... Through sharing in this holy meal, make us one with you and with them, strengthened to bring new life to this world that your Son loved with every breath and every cell; as we join in singing the prayer that he taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ICET

Setting by David Haas

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

To receive, please come forward to the station nearest you, take a piece of bread, dip it in the juice, and eat. The center station contains gluten-free, dairy free bread.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 37 *Let All Things Now Living* ASH GROVE

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BENEDICTION 80 (XX=clap two times)

*You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy,
and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands [XX];
the trees of the field will clap their hands [XX];
the trees of the field will clap their hands [XX];
while you go out with joy.*

*POSTLUDE *I've Got Peace Like a River* arr. Paul Johnson

*Please stand as you are able.

WE WELCOME VISITORS Your presence enriches our community. We hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. To learn more about opportunities for spiritual growth and service, visit us on the web at www.fpcbham.org.

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 are also available: *Nursery* is provided for infants (at least six weeks old) and toddlers. After the *Focus on Children*, children ages 3-7 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 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.

ASSISTING in worship is the Rev. Jim Stanford.

The LITURGIST for today is Scott Pierce.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

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, Director of Music/Organist

JEFF HAIRRELL, Music Coordinator

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