

September 15, 2019

11:00 a.m.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

Shine on Me

arr Rollo Dilworth

THIRD READING

Luke 15:1-10

14th 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 means you.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Service Prelude in A flat

Tillcard

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*INTROIT 399 *God Welcomes All* (first time, choir; second time, all)

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

When we are lost,

God seeks us.

When we wander,

God calls our name.

In this space and time for worship, we are reminded:

Who we are, whose we are, and where we belong.

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shepherding God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your laws of justice and love. We have left undone those things we ought to have done, and have done those things we ought not to have done.

God, have mercy on us! Forgive us and restore us, we pray, that we may find our way back to your path, and follow it with steps that do not waver. *Silent Confession.*

*KYRIE 698

Take, O Take Me As I Am

*Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Cat Goodrich

*GLORIA 598

Amen, We Praise Your Name

AMEN SIAKUDUMISA

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name, O God.

*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.")

SUNG INVITATION

Part of the Family (refrain)

Come in, come in and sit down,
you are a part of the fam - ily.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the fam - ily.

FOCUS ON CHILDREN

Patti Winter

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken*

Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the
One who is close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be -
gan cre - a - tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALTER

(Please read responsively)

Psalms 14

Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;

there is no one who does good.

God looks down from heaven on humankind

to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;

there is no one who does good, no, not one.

Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers

who eat up my people as they eat bread,

and do not call upon God?

There they shall be in great terror,

for God is with the company of the righteous.

You would confound the plans of the poor,

but God is their refuge.

O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!

When the God restores the fortunes of the people,

Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Lost and Found

Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 649

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsive)

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love, God created the world good

and makes everyone equally in God's image,

male and female, of every race and people,

to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments,

we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,

accept lies as truth,

exploit neighbor and nature,

and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love,

the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people

to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry,

God delivered the children of Israel

from the house of bondage.

Loving us still,

God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,

like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,

God is faithful still.

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.

FOCUS ON MISSION

Serving at First Light

Camille Bryson

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:*



THE OFFERTORY *I need Thee Every Hour* arr Robert Lowry

***THE DOXOLOGY 608**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Tri-une God, whom we adore.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 547** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* AR HYD NOS

***BENEDICTION**

***GOING FORTH 543** *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me
God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O, Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

***POSTLUDE** *As Lately We Watched* Austrian Melody

*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.

The LITURGIST for today is Mark Aldridge.

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@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

MS. PATTI WINTER, Director of Christian Education

DR. HYE SOOK JUNG, Director of Music/Organist

JEFF HAIRRELL, Music Coordinator

MS. ROBIN VINES, Carillanist

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