

**13th Sunday after Pentecost
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

WELCOME

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we are honored that you have chosen to worship today at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel welcome, inspired, and strengthened by the power of God to meet the challenges of your daily life.

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* Charles Geisser

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life."

All: Those who believe in him, even though they die, will live.

One: Jesus said, "I am the living water."

All: All who drink the cup he offers will not thirst.

One: Let us worship the One who is the way, the truth, and the life.

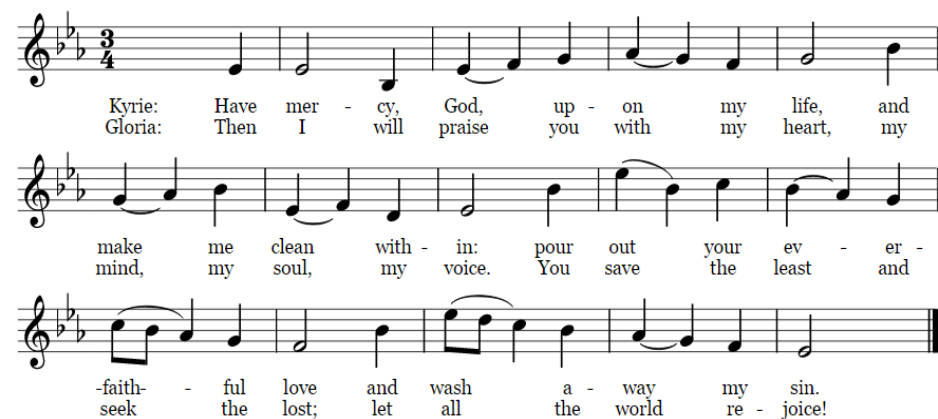
All: Alleluia! Amen.

***HYMN 401** *Here in This Place (Gather Us In)* GATHER US IN

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, you call to us, offering the way to life abundant. And here we are, seeking to respond, but the sins we bear are too real to hide, too heavy to carry, and too deep to undo. Remind us that by your grace, you hear our prayers. Forgive us the sin which binds our hearts, that we might enter the freedom of the resurrection. We open ourselves to you in silent prayer...

***KYRIE 421** *Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life v.1* IRISH



Kyrie: Have mer - cy, God, up - on my life, and
Gloria: Then I will praise you with my heart, my
make me clean with in: pour out your ev - er -
mind, my soul, my voice. You save the least and
-faith- - ful love and wash a - way my sin.
seek the lost; let all the world re - joice!

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***GLORIA 421** *Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life, v.5* (see above) IRISH

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN Patti Winter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 47:1-14

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *How Great Thou Art* How Great Thou Art
Bill Phillips, solo

GOSPEL READING John 11:1-43, selected verses

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Unbound Rev. Cat Goodrich

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN 246** *Christ is Alive!* TRURO

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *from The Study Catechism of the PCUSA*

One: What is God's purpose for our lives?

All: God wills that we should live by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, for the love of God, and for the communion of the Holy Spirit.

One: How do we live for the love of God?

All: We love because God first loved us. Amazed by grace, we live for the Lord who died and rose again, triumphant over death, for us. Therefore, we take those around us to heart, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for us.

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.

One: Let us give thanks to the lord our God.

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

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.

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.

OFFERTORY *Air* J. Chamboniere

***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 312** *Take Us As We Are, O God* ENDLESS FEAST

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Fughetta in C* Buxtehude

*Please stand as you are able.

**If you would like to make a gift electronically, scan here to be directed to our online giving site:



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

WE WELCOME GUESTS and celebrate that you are worshiping with us today. 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 the Lord'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. While all children are welcome in worship, 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.

OPPORTUNITY INSERT Please use the Opportunity Insert to relay information to the church office, including reservations for church events. Print your name and any other information you may need to relay to the office, fold the insert and put 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. CATHERINE GOODRICH, Pastor and Acting Head of Staff

THE REV. CATHERINE OLIVER, Interim Associate Pastor

THE REV. JIM STANFORD, Parish Associate

MR. OWEN BLOMELEY, Administrator

MS. LAURA H. ROBERTSON, Secretary

MS. DEBBIE BOONE, Bookkeeper

MS. PATTI WINTER, Director of Christian Education

DR. TIMOTHY THOMAS, Director of Music

DR. HYE SOOK JUNG, Organist

MS. KANDIE WILEY, Sexton

THE REV. DR. ROBERT S. CRUTCHFIELD, Pastor Emeritus

Have you remembered the church in your will?