

April 8, 2018

Eleven O'clock

Second Sunday of Easter
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 *Dwell with Us, O Lord* Johann Pachelbel

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The tomb could not hold him:

All: **Christ is risen!**

One: He flings open the locked doors of our hearts,

All: **speaking words of peace and offering forgiveness.**

One: We gather to worship our risen Lord

All: **whose life is our life; whose peace, our peace**

*HYMN 231 *Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers* SUO GAN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy one, you who roll away the stones that stand between death and life, hear us as we pray. We are more comfortable with what we can see and touch and feel than the news of resurrection – so we cling to doubt, hide in fear, and remain in the ways of death. When we live as if Christ had not been raised, despising the weak, passing by the poor, and ignoring those who mourn – forgive us! Help us to trust your promise of new life. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

*KYRIE 576 *Lord, Have Mercy* SINGAPURA
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy, on us.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Please share the peace of Christ with one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you."
And responding, "And also with you."*

*GLORIA 589 *Alleluia* HONDURAS ALLELUIA
*Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Now the Lord has risen indeed.*

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON CHILDREN Patti Winter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:32-35

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Now God Be Praised* Vulpius

*GOSPEL READING John 20: 19-31

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Doubt* Rev. Cat Goodrich

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 253 *Alleluia! Christ is Arisen* SANTO DOMINGO

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from The Confession of 1967*

We believe the reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.

His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.

In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are.

They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

FOCUS ON MISSION FPC Foundation

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.

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.*

OFFERTORY *Pastorale* J. S. Bach

*THE DOXOLOGY 606
*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.*

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 238 *Thine Is the Glory* JUDAS MACCABEUS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune and Air* J. Aubert

*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 FLOWERS in the church today are dedicated by Mark and Diane Aldridge to the memory and in honor of those who made the First Presbyterian Church Foundation possible. Their love for this place is a reflection of God's glory, which is eternal.

The LITURGIST for today is Liam Youngblood.

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. KYLE CRIDER, Acting 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. JULIE POTTS, Youth Director

MS. KANDIE WILEY, Sexton

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

Have you remembered the church in your will?