

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 here and inspired. May you be 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 *A Solemn Melody* Walford Davies

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP Hebrews 4, Mark 10

One: The kingdom of God is at hand.
All: We want to enter this kingdom.
 One: The mercy of God is made known.
All: We want to receive this mercy.
 One: The grace of God is abundant for all.
All: We praise you, O God, for your compassion and your love. Accept our grateful praise as we come to worship you today.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 401 *Here in This Place* GATHER US IN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy and Merciful God, We confess that we long for you, yet put our faith so many other things. We worry about things we cannot change and yet refuse to change the things we can. Hear our confessions as we pray for all the times we have doubted you, and for all the ways we have ignored your words of wisdom. Hear now our silent prayers of confession and hope of forgiveness.

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*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

EPISTLE READING Hebrews 4:12-16

One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Faithful Soldier (Sacred Harp)* William Walker

GOSPEL READING Mark 10:17-31

One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The Poor Ole Prisoner* Rev. Catherine Oliver

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

COMMISSIONING CHILDREN AND YOUTH GOING TO CAMPS AND CONFERENCES THIS SUMMER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Confession of Belhar

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. That unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain. That this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another.

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 *Arioso* Johann Sebastian 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.*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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....
 One: We join our voices with the faithful of every time and place who forever give glory to your name:
All: 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....
 One: Great is the mystery of faith:
All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

We are serving communion by intinction today. There are two stations at the front of the sanctuary. Please come to the station nearest you, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and eat. Gluten free, dairy free bread is in a small dish on each plate.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 716 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Fantasia in G Major* Johan Sebastian Bach

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*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 **ORGANIST** for today is James Dorroh.

The **LITURGIST** for today is Mark Aldridge.

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?