

6th 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 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 *Chaconne in G minor* L. Couperin

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

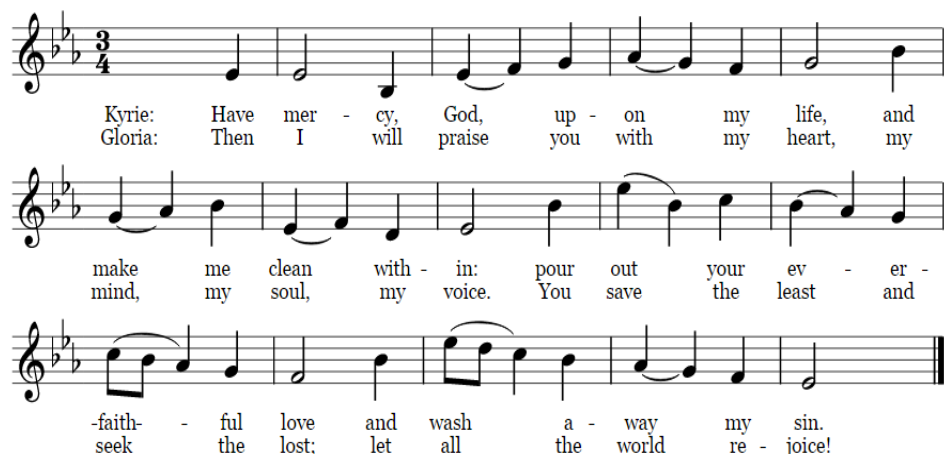
One: Blessed are the poor in spirit,
All: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 One: Those who exalt themselves will be humbled,
All: and those who are humble will be exalted.
 One: Lift up your hearts and open your minds,
All: let us worship God together.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you give us to one another for care and support, to live as one human family. Yet, as a family we are often dysfunctional at best. Relationships are fractured; selfish and suspicious, we fail to trust each other. In Christ, we are brothers and sisters, knit together by the Spirit for the renewal of the world. Look on us with compassion, and offer your forgiveness, that we might be healed, connected, and set free to serve you with joy. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

*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

PSALTER READING Psalm 146

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

ANTHEM *Whitman Introits, numbers 1 and 4* Alec Davis

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ruth 1:1-18

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

SERMON *Ties That Bind* Rev. Cat Goodrich

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Declaration of the 223rd Assembly of the PCUSA

As confessing Christians, we trust God, whom we know through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray as others pray in other names...

We say Yes to God's power of love and justice for the neighbor as well as the self; and we say No to demonic power that urges hate of the other, scatters blame, and creates civic discord...

We say Yes to core human values and No to dividing our humanity by ideology and partisanship.

We say Yes to bridges and preservation of families and No to walls.

We say Yes to affirming and celebrating the full spectra of human identity and No to discrimination and bigotry.

We say: In life, and in death we belong to God.

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. Chambonieres

*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.*

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 498 *Loves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken* BEACH SPRING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune* Maurice Greene

*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 **LITURGIST** for today is Susan Davenport.

The **ACOLYTES** for today are Zoe Reid-St. John and Patricia Gauntt.

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. CATHERINE GOODRICH, Pastor and Acting Head of Staff

THE REV. CATHERINE OLIVER, Interim Associate Pastor

THE REV. JIM STANFORD, Parish Associate

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?