

August 5, 2018

Eleven O'clock

11th 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 *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ebr, BWV 715* J. S. Bach

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 139:1, 13-14

One: You have searched us, Lord, and you know us.
You created our inmost beings.

All: You knit us together in our mothers' wombs.

One: We praise you, God, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

All: Wonderful are your works; beautiful are your people.

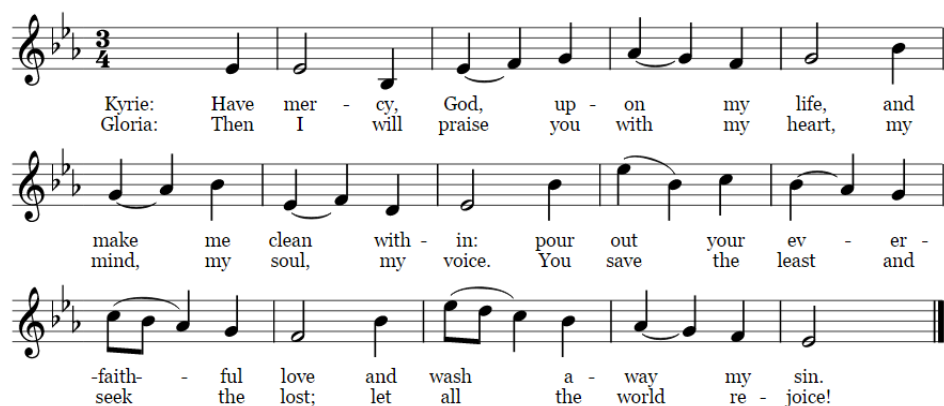
One: Come let us worship and give thanks.

*HYMN 442 *Just as I Am, without One Plea* WOODWORTH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you offer us your abundant goodness, your love, and your mercy. You call us your beloved children, yet we forget who and whose we are. We speak words that tear people down and act unkindly to others because we feel unworthy ourselves. We do not care for our bodies because we believe the lies that we are not enough just as we are. Help us to remember that we are your children, and that we are loved. Help us to treat our neighbors as ourselves, knowing that each person is made in your image, and that you called us good. Hear now our silent prayers of confession...

*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 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 1:26-31

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Love bade me welcome* Five Mystical Songs
Jeff Hairrell, solo by Ralph Vaughan Williams

EPISTLE READING 1 John 3:1-3

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Children of God* Rev. Lydia Casey

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry* WATERLIFE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and death we belong to God.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent
and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was
crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to
life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in
life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ
Jesus our Lord.

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 *Softly and Tenderly* Will Stock

*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.**

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. Udi's gluten free, dairy free bread is in a small dish on each plate.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 188 *Jesus Loves Me!* JESUS LOVES ME

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: See what love God has given to us, that we should be
called children of God;

All: and that is what we are.

One: Go out in peace to share this good news with others.

*POSTLUDE *The Master Has Called Us* Gerald Peterson

*Please stand as you are able

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 Mark Aldridge.

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



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@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