

April 22, 2018

Eleven O'clock

Fourth 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 *Chaconne in G minor* Louis Couper
GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, people of the flock!
All: The Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want.
One: God leads us beside still waters;
All: God restores our souls.
One: Though evil is real and life is hard,
All: We are not afraid – the God of life is with us.
One: Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives,
All: And we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*HYMN 664 *Morning Has Broken* BUNESSAN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Shepherd, you guide our ways and hear our prayers of confession:
On this Earth Day forgive us for neglecting our earth. Your creation feeds us and fills our lives with abundant awe and joy. Yet we take our earth for granted.
Forgive us for not hearing the cries of your creation moans in pain as we drill into her oceans and poison her lands. Forgive us for not standing up in protest to powerful companies who pollute our waters and make clean energy too costly and unaffordable for so many. Hear our confessions and our promises to make personal and community changes in how we care for our earth and your gifts of creation....as we silently confess our sins to you...

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

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*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

PSALTER READING Psalm 23
One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Joy is Come* Andrew Carter

GOSPEL READING John 10:1-18 (selected readings)
One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *We're Not So Stinky* Rev. Catherine Oliver

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 410 *God is Calling through the Whisper* W ZLOBIE LEZY

FOCUS ON MISSION Earth Care Congregation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and EARTH DAY LITNANY

Response: Send your Spirit, God, and renew the face of the earth.

Merciful God, move in our hearts and open a way forward for us as caretakers of your creation. Convict us to make concrete changes in our lives that will protect and preserve the earth and all that is in it. Strengthen us to live out that which we commit to change today. Send your Spirit, God, and renew the face of the earth.

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 *Kyrie* G. G. Movers

*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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 803 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* RESIGNATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Dialogo Per Organo* A. Banchieri

*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.

The ACOLYTES for today are Mary Glenn Patton and Gracie Marble.

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

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?