18th Sunday after Pentecost SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME

We're delighted that you're here! Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubts, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Jesus, Maine Zuversicht BWV 728

J. S. Bach

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*INTROIT 399

God Welcomes All

God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sometimes, our hopes for the future come undone.

We gather here trusting that God meets us in the wilderness.

Worship reminds us that we are part of a bigger story...

we are part of God's story of restoration, resurrection, and hope.

Let us worship the one who surprises us with goodness.

Let us worship the God of love.

All Creatures of Our God and King (v.1-4) LASST UNS ERFREUEN *HYMN 15

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that try as we might, we are not without sin. Your grace abounds in our lives, yet we fail to practice gratitude. We focus on all that is wrong, instead of celebrating so much that is right. Forgive our stubborn pursuit of more, and help us to be satisfied with enough. In your great mercy, give us new hearts with which to love, new hands with which to serve, and new eyes with which we might see your work all around us. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

***KYRIE 698**

Take, O Take Me As I Am

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Cat Goodrich

*GLORIA 598

Amen, We Praise Your Name

AMEN SIAKUDUMISA

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name, O God.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Please greet one another with: "The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you.")

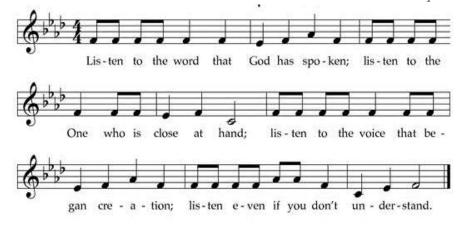
PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD



FOCUS ON CHILDREN

Patti Winter

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Here I am Lord

Daniel Schutte

GOSPEL READING

Luke 17:11-19

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word Thanks be to God.

SERMON

ANTHEM

Secret to Happiness

Rev. Cat Goodrich

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 351

All Who Love and Serve Your City

CHARLESTOWN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Belhar Confession

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 this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you. And also with you. One: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord. All:

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.

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. To be directed to our online giving site, scan here:



THE OFFERTORY

Elegie

C. Frank

*THE DOXOLOGY 608

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 772

Live Into Hope

TRURO

*BENEDICTION

*GOING FORTH 543 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice; God, be the strength to now uphold me: O, Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

*POSTLUDE

Fughetta in F

G. P. Telemann

*Please stand as you are able.

WE WELCOME VISITORS Your presence enriches our community. We hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. To learn more about opportunities for spiritual growth and service, visit us on the web at mww.fpcbham.org.

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. We love having kids in worship, but the following alternatives are also available: *Nursery* is provided for infants (at least six weeks old) and toddlers. After the *Focus on Children*, children ages 3-7 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 return to the sanctuary. We invite those in second grade and above to remain in the sanctuary and participate in the entire worship service.

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS Please use the Prayer Request and Information Change cards, found in the pew rack, to relay information to the church office. Print your name and any other information you may need to relay to the office and place it in the offering plate.

SERMONS are available from our website at www.fpcbham.org.

The LITURGIST for today is Mark Aldridge.

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 nww.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. TERRY HAMILTON-POORE, Pastor and Head of Staff
THE REV. CATHERINE GOODRICH, Associate Pastor
MS. PATTI WINTER, Director of Christian Education
DR. HYE SOOK JUNG, Director of Music/Organist
JEFF HAIRRELL, Music Coordinator
MS. ROBIN VINES, Carillonist
MS. EMILY BURT, Youth Director
MR. OWEN BLOMELEY, Facility Manager
MS. LAURA H. ROBERTSON, Office Administrator
MS. DEBBIE BOONE, Bookkeeper
MS. KANDIE WILEY, Sexton
THE REV. DR. ROBERT S. CRUTCHFIELD, Pastor Emeritus