

November 12, 2017

First Presbyterian Church

The Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost



Following Jesus, Transforming Life

Mission Statement:

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington is transforming life by glorifying God, following Jesus, and loving our neighbor.

Ask an usher for a large print bulletin, Bible, or hearing enhancement device.

Prayer cards, visitor information cards, and offering envelopes can be found in the pews. Please place them in the offering plate.

Preaching: Rev. Rich McDermott

Liturgist: Rev. Chris Campbell

8:30 Lay Leader: Samuel Terwilliger

11:00 Lay Leader: Jim C Quick

The Worship of God

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by
Barbara Hughes in honor of Session and Deaconate, and by
Jay Graham in celebration of the shared birthdays
of Susan Graham and the US Marine Corps.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

*Store for yourself treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consume
and where thieves do not break in and steal.*

Prelude

Prelude in F Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit (11:00)

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

Russell Farnell

Call to Worship

People will come from east and west, from north and south

Who will partake in the feast of the Kingdom of God.

Indeed, some who are last will be the first

And some who are first will be last.

Let us worship God!

§ Hymn 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

Holy and gracious God, you are our strength and our delight.

**You give us all we need to live, yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually grasping
for more. Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after our own happiness.**

Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you.

Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel! **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

§ The Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

§ Passing the Peace

Greet those around you with, **"The peace of Christ be with you."**

§ Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

Community Joys and Events

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 8:1-7

New Testament page 182

Children's Time (11:00)

Children (age 3 to fourth grade) are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in room 216.

Anthem Many Gifts One Spirit Allen Pote
8:30 Lisa House, soprano 11:00 Chancel Choir

*Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice; many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice.
O, God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above. In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.
O, God, remind us we are not alone. Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne.
Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand: we are members of one family,
growing strong by joining hands.
Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul into the beauty of a rainbow.
Give us life, Lord, make us whole.*

Scripture Reading Malachi 2:17–3:12 New Testament page 889

The Sermon Treasure: Something of Which To Be Stewards Rev. McDermott

Responding

The Commitment of our Lives and our Pledges to the Lord's Kingdom Work
(Please come forward to place name and number pledge cards in 2 baskets)

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Offertory (8:30) Improvisation on Lobe den Herren Joshua Lang
(11:00) Songs of Praise African Praise Choir

*Everywhere He went, He was doing good, the mighty healer of all nations.
The mighty healer, he healed the lame man, when the crippled saw him they started walking,
Everywhere He went, Amen, My Lord was doing good
It's a great thing (day) to serve (praise) the Lord, walking in the light of love
There's no one like Jesus, nobody like Him.
I look (search , turn) here, look (search , turn) there—no one.*

§ The Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

§ Affirmation of Faith 1 Tim 3:16 and 2 Tim 2:11-13

Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

The saying is sure: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

Sending

§ Hymn 708

We Give Thee but Thine Own

SCHUMANN

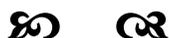
§ Charge and Benediction

the congregation joins hands

§ Postlude

Postlude on Hyfrydol

Charles Callahan



Comments for Contemplation

Treasure: Something of Which To Be Stewards 2 Corinthians 8:1–7; Malachi 2:17–3:12

1. Jesus was concerned with the absolute value of humans, not their relative value. Jesus and the movement he inspires is the source of the conviction that every person has an absolute value, because we have been made by God to receive Him. It has been a conviction of Western society that every person has absolute value, but this is in danger of being abandoned today. As the influence of Christianity has waned, the basis for this _____ is being lost.
2. Even outsiders began to notice the compassion of Christians. By the late fourth century, an opponent of the faith, Emperor Julian the Apostate, chastised his pagan priests for not keeping up with the Christians whom he calls “the impious Galileans.” He wrote, “I think that when the poor happened to be neglected and overlooked by the priests, the impious Galileans observed this and devoted themselves to _____ The impious Galileans support not only their poor, but ours as well, [and] everyone can see that our people lack aid from us.”
3. The Roman prefect demanded from Laurentius, the deacon: “Show me your treasures at once.” Laurentius pointed at the widows and orphans who were being fed, the sick who were being nursed, the poor whose needs were being supplied, “These,” he said, “are the treasures of the Church.” The church, in contrast to many in the larger culture, has always valued its most vulnerable people as _____, and has used its physical treasure to care for those in need.
4. People are oppressing the widows, orphans, aliens and the hired workers. This is why the Lord is so upset with the people and the leaders. So like a refiner’s fire he will burn away the impurities of his people, and like strong soap he will wash clean the sons of Levi so that both leaders and people will live as God _____ for them to live.
5. They gave themselves first to the Lord and then to others. And the truth of the matter is that God wants our hearts and our lives before he wants our resources. Once we are sold out for Jesus, then we can experience “abundant joy,” even in the midst of severe affliction and extreme poverty. And by the grace of God, this will overflow in a wealth of _____ on the part of those who discover this incredible compassion of God in tough times.

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 11/12

8:30 a.m. Worship in Chapel
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Youth Confirmation Class
11:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. CMM Lunch
12:45 p.m. Children's Music Ministries
2:00 p.m. PCGRC

Monday 11/13

3:30 p.m. Blanton Kids Beach Club

Tuesday 11/14

9:00 a.m. Senior Flexibility Class
10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
6:30 p.m. HOPE Tutoring

Wednesday 11/15

NEWS Submission Date
8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
6:15 p.m. Ring of Praise Handbells
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 11/16

7:30 a.m. Presbytery Meeting
6:00 p.m. The Well
6:30 p.m. HOPE Tutoring
6:30 p.m. MPAC Meeting

Friday 11/17

9:00 a.m. Senior Flexibility Class

Saturday 11/18

8:30 a.m. All-Church Workday

Information for the November 26 bulletin should be turned in to the church office today, or emailed to kim@firstprestexas.org by this Monday..

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Esther Albright, Yvonne Babb, Elaine Bahn, David Boice, Debbie Boice, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Edna Collins, Lee Carol Copeland, Tommy and Kathryn Copeland and family, Laura and Moses Duffney, Bobbie Fowler, Tom Fowler, Lila Glenn, David Goff, Jack Gray, Andrew Hydock, Claudia Johnson, Tim Karnes, Bob Koch, Pat May, J. Fred Miller, Allen Miller, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Cosme Pacot, Jim L. Quick, Aileigh Rodriguez, Albert Ross, Kyle Terwilliger, Donna Vickers, Karl Winter, Mary Jane Wright

Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:

Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Jack Murtha, Stephen O'Neil Sosa, Colin Peden, Jason Polk, Ryan Powell, Ryan Regalado, Christopher Young, Robbie Wallace

Prayers for our home-bound members

Prayers for those who do not know Christ

If you have any congregational care needs, please contact Pastor Rich McDermott at the church office 817-274-8286.

For questions about specific concerns listed above, please contact Juanice Young at juanicey@gmail.com or 817-794-5626.

Staff Directory

Rich McDermott	Senior Pastor	rich@firstprestexas.org
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Russell Farnell	Minister of Music	russell@firstprestexas.org
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Jane Leathem	Finance Assistant	jane@firstprestexas.org
Diane Chin	Security Monitor	diane@firstprestexas.org

This Sunday, November 12, is Stewardship Commitment Sunday at FPCA

We hope you have received a letter from Pastors Rich McDermott and Chris Campbell containing a Stewardship letter, pledge card and return envelope. There is a pledge card in your bulletin. We ask you to prayerfully consider what you can give to the Lord and his kingdom work through First Presbyterian Church of Arlington in 2018.

Please return the two smaller parts of the pledge card, either this Sunday in worship, or by mail, so we may know that you are committing yourself anew to the Lord's ministry at FPCA. Thank you so very much for your faithfulness to Jesus Christ and his Church!

Thanksgiving Baskets Sign Up!

PLEASE HELP, as we are short of our Goal of 225 Thanksgiving Baskets for Arlington Charities! There are plenty of sacks available so you can help by signing up to fill sacks and return them to the church office by Wednesday, November 15.

Please sign up outside of the Fellowship Hall, outside of the Chapel or in the Red Hall. You can sign up as an individual, a family, or a group. After you sign up please take your numbered Basket Sheet with the requested list of food items and the attached envelope for the pie crust and turkey donation.

Again this year you may bring the food items in your own grocery bags you have on hand. Please return your numbered Basket Sheet and attached envelope along with your food items to the Fellowship Hall on or before November 12. You can also help by bringing any extra food items as over 900 families are fed by Arlington Charities. These families are Arlington citizens and they are families who can't make ends meet. Each bag feeds one family so they can celebrate Thanksgiving together at home.

Thanks ~ The Mission and Evangelism Team

Text Giving Sunday, Nov. 12

For those who want an easier way to give, we have found a way to help! Giving tithes and offerings are as easy as sending a text message. You can text your gifts whenever you want to, directly from your phone. It is the quickest way to give and is faster than tying your shoes!

FPCA's Text Giving is an efficient, convenient, and incredibly secure way to donate, where the donor's information is kept safe and sound.

We are happy to help you and are planning on having tables set up with helpers, outside the Chapel and in the Narthex, after worship this Sunday, Nov. 12. If you have any questions, please let me know at jeanne@firstprestexas.org

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Come to the annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The meat and dessert will be provided by the Fellowship Team.

If your last name starts with:

A-G Potatoes or dressing
H-0 Vegetables
P-Z Salads

RETURN OF THE NIGHT OF A HUNDRED DUST CLOTHS

Company's coming! And it's time to dust and polish the pews in the sanctuary.

Come help prepare for the presbytery meeting on November 16. No special skills are needed – just bring a dust cloth (or two or three) and your favorite spray polish.

- **Monday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Babysitting available**

Many hands make light work and a short evening. Let's make it shine!



Festival of Tables

Join the women of FPCA for this annual Christmas event!

Tuesday, December 5

7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Each hostess will set a unique table and serve her special dessert. The Young Jr. High choir will entertain.

Tickets on sale November 12, 19, and 26

Price: \$3 each

Where: Red hall, outside the library, and (at 9:30) outside the office

Anyone interested in serving as a hostess or co-hostess, please contact Bev Koch at 817-261-3202.