

April 29, 2018
First Presbyterian Church
The Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

Guest Organist: Elise JeeYoon Choi

8:30 Lay Leader: Kathi Dailey

11:00 Lay Leader: Ron MacLeod

The Worship of God

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The flowers are offered to the glory of God.

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

G. K. Chesterton

*It has never been quite enough to say that God is in his heaven and all is right with the world;
since the rumor is that God had left his heavens to set it right.*

Prelude

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier (Dearest Jesus, We are Here)

J. S. Bach

Introit (11:00)

This Is the Threefold Truth

ACCLAMATIONS

§ Call to Worship

Psalm 118:1, 20–21

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his steadfast love endures forever.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;

the righteous shall enter through it.

Let us worship God!

§ Hymn 236

The Strife Is O'er

VICTORY

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

O Lord our God: In Jesus Christ, you have come that we might have life and have it more abundantly. You are the gate by which we find salvation, freedom, and sustenance.

But we have looked to dumb idols and false messiahs for our rescue and our nourishment.

We have given our lives to success, money, and comfort rather than to you, the One whose voice we know.

Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us these and all our sins, that we may know your redemption and turn to follow you anew, for we ask it in the name of Christ our Lord, Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

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

§ The Gloria Patri

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 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

Community Joys and Events

Comments for Contemplation

I AM the Gate Genesis 28:10–17; John 10:1–10

1. And believers in Jesus Christ continue to claim that the Christian gospel is true. Indeed, in our dangerous and confused world, the gospel is more relevant today than ever, and in Jesus Christ we find the answers and resources to the most vexing _____ of our day and of our lives.
2. Often what is assumed is that the gospel arose in the insular world of Judaism in an earlier age of intellectual naiveté, and what was suitable in a simpler age is no longer so in a complex, pluralistic age such as ours.... But did the gospel, in fact, arise in a simpler and more naïve world than ours? Was the Roman empire of the first century really a monotone, uniform and _____ society? The short answer is no. [Jim Edwards]
3. Syncretism is the attempt to combine beliefs, and the gospel was in constant danger of being subsumed by Jewish, Greek and Roman attempts to tame and domesticate it. The Christian understanding of the truth of the gospel and the utter uniqueness of Jesus Christ is what kept it vibrant and _____.
4. If you are an atheist, you do have to believe that the main point in all the religions of the whole world is simply one huge mistake. If you are a Christian, you are free to think that all these religions, even the queerest ones, contain at least some hint of the truth. When I was an atheist, I had to try to persuade myself that most of the human race have always been wrong about the question that mattered to them most; when I became a Christian, I was able to take a more liberal _____. [C.S. Lewis]
5. In the passage from Genesis, we discover that “Beth-el,” and perhaps any city where the Lord has guided us, can indeed be “the house of God” and “the gate of heaven” where angels ascend and descend on Jacob’s ladder. But in the New Testament it becomes clear that Jacob’s ladder is in fact the Son of Man, Jesus! And wherever Jesus is, there is the _____ of heaven!

Children's Ministries Luncheon

The luncheon for families with children in 6th grade or younger will be Sunday, May 6, at 12 noon in Room 214.

Kids Night Out

Join us on Friday, May 4, at 6:00 p.m. for Kids Night Out in the Fellowship Hall.

Financial Peace University

What if you knew where all of your money was going each month? What if you had no house payment? What if your kid(s) college(s) were paid for? What if you could retire with peace? What if you could GIVE more than you've ever been able to give? What if you were debt-free, investing and making wise spending decisions? With Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University class, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future, regardless of where you are in life.

If you're interested in learning more about the class, contact Katina or James Gifford: 817-565-3835 or katinap84@aol.com. FPCA is offering it on Mondays from 6:30-8:00 p.m., June 18th.-August 13, 2018. If you would like to sign up, go to the following link or ask us to help you! Membership and materials costs \$109 through this class link. If you've gone through the class already but would like a refresher, please sign up at no cost. Link: <https://fpu.com/1064301>

**Childcare will be available upon request. Classes will be held in the Parlor at FPCA.

Youth Summer Camp

It's that time of year again and we are preparing to take our youth back to The Great Escape (middle school camp/conference) and Fun in the Son (high school camp/conference). Please help us get our youth to camp this year, especially those from Carter Jr. High and Sam Houston High School.

The cost to take a middle school student to camp is \$429 and \$445 for a high school student. Any donation that the Lord puts on your heart to give will help us greatly. The youth and youth leaders thank you in advance for all of your support!

Snacks for Camp/Conference Trips

Another area of need for our youth summer camp/conference trips is snacks and bottled water. We are working with local grocery stores to see if they will donate snacks and water, but we will need as much help as possible.

If you would like to donate any snacks or water, please drop them off any time between now and Friday, June 22, at the church office or Adrian Rodriguez's office. Thank you so much for your help! Contact Adrian Rodriguez at adrian@firstprestexas.org or 817-274-8286 if you have any questions.

The new sermon series:

"Standing on Holy Ground: Jesus and the great I AM."

4/8/18 - I AM the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

4/15/18 - I AM the Bread of Life

4/22/18 - I AM the Light of the World

4/29/18 - I AM the Gate

5/6/18 - I AM the Good Shepherd

5/13/18 - I AM God's Son

6/3/18 - I AM the Resurrection and the Life

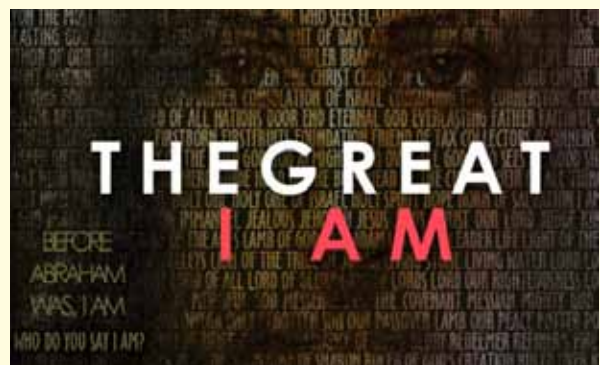
6/10/18 - I AM the Way, the Truth and the Life

6/17/18 - I AM the True Vine

6/24/18 - I AM a King

7/1/18 - I AM the Alpha and the Omega

7/8/18 - I AM the Root and the Descendant of David and the Bright Morning Star



Preschool Summer Camp 2018

June 11 through August 3

Ages 6 weeks through 3rd Grade

Monday-Friday 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Contact the Preschool to Register at 817-274-4051

Vacation Bible School

Monday - Friday June 11-15

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

for children 4 years old to 6th grade.