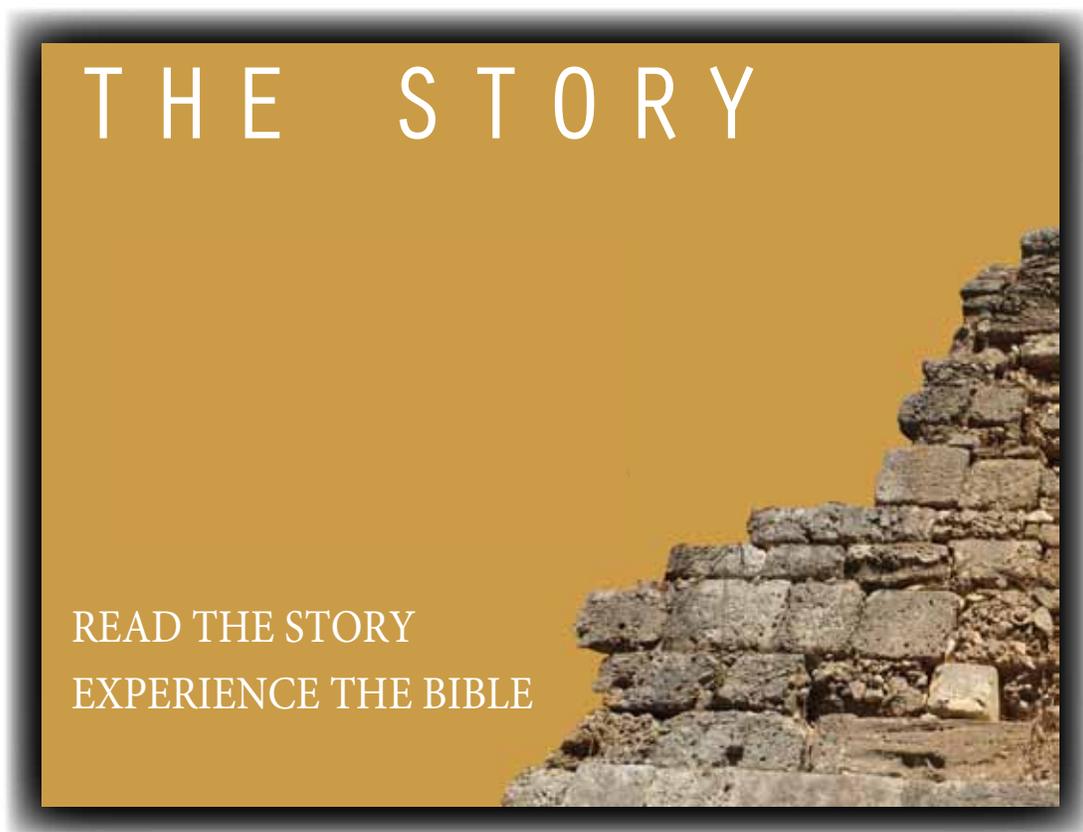


February 10, 2019

# First Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



## 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: Cheryl Harris

8:30 Lay Leader: Clay Carlisle

11:00 Lay Leader: Juan Carlos Gavalda

# *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 the Terry Eaton family in honor of  
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Johnson Pense on her birthday.

## *Gathering*

Preparation for Worship

*God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in you.  
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, your hand we see.  
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,  
we own your mercies, Lord, which never fail.*

Prelude

Adagio

J. S. Bach

Call to Worship

God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, is faithful.

He is a faithful Lord, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

**His faithfulness reaches to the skies and continues throughout all generations into eternity.**

We therefore praise the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ in this assembly saying,

**“Great is your faithfulness! We will exalt and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things. Great is your faithfulness to us, O Lord, our God.”**

Let us worship God.

Introit

Worship Him as One

C. O. Beck

§ Hymn 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

**O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to Christ,  
we confess our poor sense of direction.**

**We let ourselves become easily confused, easily distracted, and lose our way.**

**We fail to follow the signs you provide.**

**Forgive our waywardness, O God. Lead us to the Christ so that we may follow his way to you.  
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 63

The Lord Is God

AZMON

Community Joys and Events

## ***Proclaiming***

Scripture Reading                      Jeremiah 1:4–10, 14–16, 2:4–5, 11–13                      Old Testament page 698

Children's Time (11:00)

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

Anthem (11:00)                              By the Waters of Babylon                              arr. Russell Farnell

*By the waters the waters of Babylon,  
We lay down and wept, and wept, for thee Zion.  
We remember, we remember, we remember, thee Zion.*

Scripture Reading                              Ezekiel 37:1–14                              Old Testament page 806

The Sermon                                      The Kingdoms' Fall                                      Rev. McDermott

## ***Responding***

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)                                      Duet                                      Wilbur Held

(11:00)                                      Songs of Praise                                      African Praise Choir

*Isaiah heard the voice of the Lord. And he said here I am send me.  
Here I am, send me Lord. Anywhere for you (I will go).*

*Thank you my Lord Jesus. Hallelujah! Amen. We praise your name. Amen.*

*I will sing (dance) the hallelujah song. My Lord is so good.*

*I will lift Jesus higher, above other gods. God has given me the joy of my heart.*

*After so many years of my suffering, God has given me the joy of my heart.*

§ The Doxology

**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

**This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we  
hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that  
he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to  
the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son  
of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our  
Lord and our God. Amen.**

## Sending

§ Hymn 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

§ Charge and Benediction

the congregation joins hands

Postlude

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Gordon Young



### *Comments for Contemplation*

#### The Kingdoms' Fall

Jeremiah 1:4–10, 14–16, 2:4–5, 11–13; Ezekiel 37:1–14

1. In 626 B.C. the word of the Lord came to a young man, saying this: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to \_\_\_\_\_ you, says the Lord.”
2. His two constant companions were hunger and nakedness, and if he were not of a hardy constitution and, as it turns out, a growing faith in God, he most assuredly would not have survived. Like many others who find themselves in impossible circumstances, he began to pray. He had never before paid attention to the teachings of his religion; he says that he didn’t really believe in God, and he found \_\_\_\_\_ foolish. But now there was no one to turn to but the God of his parents.
3. “From the bottom of my heart, turn trustingly to the Lord my God, for nothing is impossible to him. And today he will send you food for your journey until you are filled, for he has an abundance everywhere.” The young man’s sincerity affects the weakened sailors, who bow their heads and try a moment of faith. But as their heads are bowed, the sound of a stampede attracts their attention; and as they raise their eyes, a herd of \_\_\_\_\_ tramples down the road in their direction. Not only did the Lord provide food, but the best food of all for these sailors.
4. From his own experience, Patrick could tell the good news of the gospel, because he had known the cross of fear, nakedness and starvation as a slave and a shepherd. The Lord had given him new life and even resurrection, by bringing him to faith and a deep conviction of God’s goodness and truth, even in the midst of hardship and struggle. Patrick’s is a story that transcends many Christian traditions, and we Protestants can also learn from Patricius, a slave who became an apostle to Ireland, the land of the very people who \_\_\_\_\_ and nearly killed him.
5. By the time of the Edict of the Persian king Cyrus in 538 B.C. which allowed the Jews to return to the kingdom of Judah and the city of Jerusalem, Ezekiel had long since passed from the scene, possibly as early as 563 B.C. That is important to know because Ezekiel had no way of knowing that there might be the remotest possibility of the Jews returning home. His vision of the valley of dry bones coming to life and experiencing \_\_\_\_\_ was an expression of his incredible trust in the love and mercy of Almighty God.

## ***This week @ FPCA***

Sunday 2/10

8:30 a.m.                   Worship in Chapel  
9:45 a.m.                   The Story  
9:45 a.m.                   New Member 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 2/11

3:30 p.m.                  Blanton Kids Beach Club

Tuesday 2/12

9:00 a.m.                  Senior Flexibility Class  
10:00 a.m.                  Ladies Bible Study  
2:45 p.m.                  Mentoring Program  
6:30 p.m.                  HOPE Tutoring

Wednesday 2/13

8:00 a.m.                  Men's Bible Study  
10:00 a.m.                  Quilting Group  
5:15 p.m.                  Preschool Team Meeting  
6:00 p.m.                  Ring of Praise Handbells  
7:30 p.m.                  Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 2/14

2:45 p.m.                  Mentoring Program  
6:30 p.m.                  HOPE Tutoring

Friday 2/15

9:00 a.m.                  Senior Flexibility Class  
5:00 p.m.                  Youth-There 4 Gathering  
6:00 p.m.                  Kids Night Out

Saturday 2/16

9:00 a.m.                  Youth-There 4 Gathering  
10:00 a.m.                 Financial Peace University

Turn information for the bulletin into Kim by Monday.

## ***Prayer Ministry***

### ***Prayers for those with health and other concerns:***

Esther Albright, Richard Ankele, Elaine Bahn, Jack Bos, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Vannah Caylor, Kevin Chin, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Lee Carol Copeland, Mike Copeland, Michael Deardorff, Laura, Moses and Abe Duffney, Wasim Abusaef, Neal Estes, Don Farrell, Bobbie Fowler, Tom Fowler, The Gifford Family, Joe and Lila Glenn, Jack Gray, Phil Haven, Andrew Hydock, Bob Johnson, Tim Karnes, Pat May, J. Fred Miller, Allen Miller, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Cosme Pacot, J.D. Paulk, Sue Perry, John Pittman, Nita Price, Jim L. and Jo Ann Quick, Sarah Rabb, Joanna Rabourn, Joan and Homer Reynolds, Al Smithson, Kyle Terwilliger, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Richard Whitenight, Jake Winkler, Karl Winter, Mary Jane Wright, Bob Zakrzewski

### ***Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:***

Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, James Dailey, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Amie Murtha, Jack Murtha, Stephen O'Neil Sosa, Colin Peden, Jason Polk, Ryan Powell, Ryan Regalado, Peyton Steeno, 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 Marge Dawson at mdawsonarltx@att.net or 817-980-6825.



# Diving Deeper

FPCA Women's Retreat  
March 29 to 31, 2019

## Hilton Garden Inn Granbury

Registration begins Sunday, February 10

Brochures and registration forms available in the  
office, online, and throughout the church

FPCA Women's Ministry Team  
womensministry@firstprestexas.org

### Women's Retreat Reservations

The Woman's Retreat will be held March 29 to 31 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Granbury. Reservations for the Women's Retreat will be taken Feb. 10, Feb. 17, and Feb. 24 outside the Chapel following the early service and in the Red Hall and outside the library at 10:30 to 11:00 and at noon. The brochures and registration forms are available in the church office through the week and may be mailed to Bev Koch, 2808 Burlwood Drive, Arlington, TX 76016. Please contact Bev at 817-261-3202, if you have any questions.

### Financial Peace University

Are you (or someone you know) always wondering where all your money went 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 class Financial Peace University, 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 Katie Hageman at [katieLhageman@gmail.com](mailto:katieLhageman@gmail.com) or Steve Floro at 513-255-1444.

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington is offering it on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. CST, **February 16th** - April 13th 2019. If you would like to sign up, go to the following link [www.goo.gl/guB2tq](http://www.goo.gl/guB2tq) 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. Also, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

### Saints Alive to Meet on February 21

On Thursday, February 21, the seniors of the church will meet for a potluck lunch and entertaining program. Dace Sultanov, a beautiful Russian cellist, will thrill us with her dramatic musical interpretations on the cello. So, prepare a casserole, salad or dessert to share and join us for a delightful afternoon. Any questions, call Bev Koch at 817-261-3202.

### The 4-Week New Members Class

#### Fixin' to Join: An Adventure in Christian Community

Continues in week two at 9:45 a.m. in Room 214, in the brown hall

Week Two: "On Being a Christian in a Postmodern World"

Week Three: "Christian, Protestant, Reformed, Presbyterian"

Week Four: "On Being Sent: Relational Ministry, Missional Discipleship and Incarnational Witness"