

March 3, 2019  
First Presbyterian Church

# THE STORY

READ THE STORY  
EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE



## 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

Organist: Shina Heo

8:30 Lay Leader: Kathi Dailey

11:00 Lay Leader: Jamee Shroyer

# *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 Lucy Cleaver and Terry Cleaver Eaton  
family in memory of Kenneth Cleaver  
on his 90th birthday.

## **Gathering**

Preparation for Worship

*Esther gave us an example of true faith and courage. May we not lose hope in the ultimate triumph of good over evil.*

Voluntary

Prelude

Lloyd Pfautsch

Call to Worship

The foolish say, "There is no God! We are alone, on our own."

**We gather to declare the presence of the living God in our lives.**

The foolish say, "It is your life; you are accountable to no one."

**We gather, strengthened by the Spirit, trusting that Christ dwells in our hearts by faith.**

The foolish say, "Everything I have is mine; I owe nothing to anyone."

**We gather to praise the One on whom we depend and who calls us to serve others in love.**

§ Hymn 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. 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 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

Stanza 1

Community Joys and Events

The Public Reception of New Members (11:00)

## Proclaiming

Scripture Reading Esther 2:15–18, 3:8–9, 13 Old Testament page 445

Children's Time (11:00)

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

Scripture Reading Esther 4:1–4, 9–17 Old Testament page 446

The Sermon The Queen of Beauty and Courage Rev. McDermott

## The Table

Offertory (8:30) My Young Life Has Ended Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

(11:00) In Remembrance Beryl Red

*In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine.*

*In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.*

*In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor.*

*In remembrance of me, open the door and let your brother in, let him in.*

*Take, eat, and be comforted, drink, and remember, too,  
that this is my body and precious blood, shed for you, shed for you.*

*In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love.*

*In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart, in your heart.*

*Look in your heart for God. Do this in remembrance of me.*

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Consecration and the Lord's Prayer sung (see page 4)

Words of Institution

The Bread and Cup

8:30 – *Come forward to partake.*

11:00 – *Eat the bread as it is served. Hold the cup to drink together. While passing the elements, you may say, "the body of Christ, broken for you," and, "the blood of Christ, shed for you."*

Prayer after Communion

## Sending

§ Hymn 450 Be Thou My Vision SLANE

§ Charge and Benediction the congregation joins hands

Postlude Fugue in E Minor Johann Sebastian Bach



## The Lord's Prayer

for the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Arlington, Texas

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be thy name; \_\_\_\_\_  
Thy king - dom come; Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heav - en.  
Give us this day our dai - ly bread; for - give us our debts as we for - give our debt - ors;  
Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil:  
For Thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

### Comments for Contemplation

The Queen of Beauty and Courage Esther 2:15–18, 3:8–9, 13; Esther 4:1–4, 9–17

1. We can see that there is a certain power that one can wield with good looks, but it is also true that people try to manipulate such persons with good looks, and they literally become poster children for this or that cause. The attractive person often has to wonder if the care that various people seem to have for them is real or if it is little more than \_\_\_\_\_ deep.
2. At great risk to herself, she kept covenant loyalty to her people, and we can assume, as well, that she kept her faith in the Lord, the God of Israel. And when the time came for her to play her part in the drama of God's faithfulness in history, Esther was \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The story highlights the ancient enmity or hatred between the people of Israel and the Amalekites, which began in the time of Moses, and continued during the reign of King Saul in the united monarchy in ancient Israel. Mordecai, in this story, is representative of the Jews and Haman is a descendant of Agag, the Amalekite king conquered by Saul. Haman resents Mordecai's refusal, as a good Jew, to bow before him, and so Haman plots to \_\_\_\_\_ all of the Jewish people.
4. But that there is a good chance that the Lord has placed Esther in that precise place in that precise time for this very moment, to rescue her people from the destruction that is plotted for them. And Esther is ready to answer the call. She courageously asks them to fast and pray for her, and says that then she will go to the king, and she says, "and if I perish, I perish." But she accepts the call that this is her time to speak up, and to do what she can to \_\_\_\_\_ her own people.
5. We didn't read the end of the story of Esther, but by the grace of God, she ends up saving her people from destruction, and the perpetrators of the destruction are themselves punished and destroyed. It is a happy ending, because Esther stepped up to the plate when it was her time. And now the spotlight shifts to us. Our \_\_\_\_\_ is in need of our help. Are we stepping up to the tasks before us?

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

Sunday 3/3

8:30 a.m.                   Worship in Chapel  
9:45 a.m.                   Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.                 Worship in Sanctuary  
12:00 p.m. Families & Children Lunch  
12:00 p.m.                 New Members Reception  
12:45 p.m. Children's Music Ministries  
2:00 p.m.                 Cool Solutions Workshop  
2:00 p.m.                   PCGRC  
3:00 p.m.                 Recital with Cheryl Harris

Monday 3/4

**Cool Solutions Workshop**  
3:30 p.m. Blanton Kids Beach Club

Tuesday 3/5

**Cool Solutions Workshop**  
9:00 a.m.                 Senior Flexibility Class  
10:00 a.m.                 Ladies Bible Study  
2:45 p.m.                 Mentoring Program  
6:00 p.m.                 Preschool Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m.                 HOPE Tutoring

Wednesday 3/6

8:00 a.m.                 Men's Bible Study  
10:00 a.m.                 Quilting Group  
6:30 p.m.                 Ash Wednesday Service  
7:30 p.m.                 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 3/7

2:45 p.m.                 Mentoring Program  
6:00 p.m.                   The Well  
6:30 p.m.                 Deacons Meeting  
6:30 p.m.                 HOPE Tutoring

Friday 3/8

9:00 a.m.                 Senior Flexibility Class

Information for the March 17 bulletin should be turned into Kim at the church office by this Monday.

## ***Prayer Ministry***

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

Esther Albright, Richard Ankele, Madison Ansley, Elaine Bahn, Jack Bos, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Grace Broekhuizen, 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, 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, Joan and Homer Reynolds, Al Smithson, Brooks and Connie Taylor, 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.

## **Lenten Services**

- \* Ash Wednesday Service - March 6, 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel
- \* Palm Sunday - April 14, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- \* Maundy Thursday Service - April 18, 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
- \* Good Friday Service - April 19, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- \* Easter Sunday - April 21, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services  
Easter Breakfast will be between services from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall



## **Senior Flexibility Class**

Come get fit with us! The Senior Flexibility Class meet on Tuesday and Friday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is no charge, but participants will be responsible for purchasing and storing their own exercise equipment. If interested, contact Thomas Dombrowsky at 817-287-9773 or tomasdom@sbcglobal.net.

## New Member Reception

Today will be the New Member Reception after the 11:00 a.m. service in the Parlor.  
Please come welcome our four New Members.

## Women's Retreat Reservations

The Women's Retreat will be held March 29-31 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Granbury, TX. The brochures and registration forms are available in the church office and can be mailed to Bev Koch, 2808 Burlwood Drive, Arlington, TX 76016. Please contact Bev Koch at 817-261-3202 if you have any questions.

## Sunday Flowers

Dear Congregation:

For some time now FPCA has provided flowers only when people sign up and there is a dedication. We know that you love having fresh flowers to make our worship spaces even more beautiful so since we have a lot of Sundays available following Lent, we thought we'd issue a gentle reminder. If you would like to sign up to provide a floral arrangement, there are two flower charts: one outside the Chapel and one outside the southern entrance to the Sanctuary. Flowers are placed first in the Chapel for early service and then moved to the Sanctuary for all to enjoy. Then you may take all or part of them home, or request they be distributed by the Congregational Care Team. The standard cost is \$50.00 per arrangement.

## March 21st Saints Alive Program is Paul Baskin

We were very sorry to have to cancel our February program due to no heat. The Russian cellist has agreed to come on April 18 and is not to be missed.

For our March 21st program we have the return, at popular request, of Paul Baskin, guitarist. Please join us for a potluck lunch and bring a dish to share. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 11:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Preschool

Summer Camp



Ages 6 weeks through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

June 10, 2019 – August 2, 2019

## HOPE Tutoring Fundraising Dinner

HOPE Tutoring, which provides free tutoring to elementary students in Arlington, is having its 22nd annual fundraiser Saturday, March 30 at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. The event, "The Greatest Kids - The Greatest Future" includes dinner, a keynote speaker, a high school choral group and silent auction, concluding at 8:30 p.m. See Marge & Bob Dawson, Manuel Le Blanc or George Morey for reservations.

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be Monday-Friday,  
June 10-14, 2019 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Down On The Farm petting zoo will be here  
Monday & Friday from 8:30-9:30 a.m.

SUPPORT THE CHURCH'S ONLINE PRESENCE

MAKE SURE TO LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

GO TO

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRETEXAS](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRETEXAS)

