

February 12, 2017
First Presbyterian Church
The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



Glorify. Grow.

Mission Statement:

We, as the Church, are the Body of Christ equipped through prayer by the Holy Spirit to glorify God; through passionate worship, nurturing fellowship, sacrificial service, respectful evangelism, and active discipleship, we encourage and challenge all ages of our congregation and community to grow in relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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: Kathi Dailey

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 Sheri and Jim C Quick in celebration of our
engagement in the Sanctuary, 14th of February 1986.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

from John 17:1-2

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

Prelude

Blest are the Pure in Heart

Raymond Haan

Call to Worship

from Psalm 85

The Lord will speak peace to his people,
To those who turn to him in their hearts.
The Lord will give what is good,
And the land will yield its increase
Let us worship God!

Introit (11:00)

Alleluia

JOYFUL ALLELUIA

§ Hymn 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

§ Prayer of Confession (silence, then said together)

Most holy and merciful God, we acknowledge and confess our slowness to do good, our blindness to injustice, and our complicity in deferring the hopes of the oppressed.
Help us to acknowledge our sin, to claim responsibility for our actions, and to change our behavior, in obedience to the command of our Savior, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

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

§ The Gloria Patri

MEINEKE

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 172

Blest Are They
Verses: Choir or Soloist
Refrain: Congregation

BLEST ARE THEY

Community Joys and Events

Comments for Contemplation

New Sermon Series:

The Six Great Ends (or Purposes) of the Church

6. The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World Matthew 5:1-16; Matthew 13:44-46
 1. Human trafficking is modern-day slavery; the buying and selling of humans. We only thought slavery ended with the Emancipation Proclamation. It's alive and well today with more slaves than at any point in history - Global Slavery Index estimates 45.8 million slaves are in the world today. The two most common forms of human trafficking are sexual slavery/commercial sex trade and forced _____.
 2. But in the gospels, whenever Jesus speaks of the "kingdom of God" or (in Matthew's gospel) the "kingdom of heaven," it means something more. It is not simply about the life that is to come. Dallas Willard is helpful in reminding us that "God's own "kingdom," or "rule," is the range of [God's] effective _____, where what he wants done is done.
 3. Another translation says, "Blessed are those who know they are spiritually poor..." And one is reminded that if we know we are spiritually poor, we will come to depend on Jesus more, from the greatest theologian, to the newest _____ of spiritual truths.
 4. And those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake will receive the kingdom of heaven, being a part of God's will being done. So rejoice when you are being slandered and persecuted. You can see that it is counter-intuitive. We are to be salt in a world of blandness, and light in a world of darkness, _____ before others.
 5. Both of these examples are of people who saw an amazing investment opportunity, even one with considerable risk. But they are so confident of the outcome that they take the great risk of selling all they own to purchase what they have found. Now think for a minute with me. Where in your list of _____, would the kingdom of heaven land?
 6. Friends, the way we exhibit the kingdom of heaven to the world is that we live as a people who have hope in God's effective reign. We must be people who make the case for God's will and God's love and seek to live out the hope and reconciliation that God's kingdom _____.

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 2/12

8:30 a.m. Worship in Chapel
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
1:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
1:30 p.m. Children's Music Ministries
2:00 p.m. PCGRC

Monday 2/13

3:30 p.m. Blanton Kids Beach Club

Tuesday 2/14

3:30 p.m. Ellis Kids Beach Club
6:30 p.m. HOPE Tutoring

Wednesday 2/15

NEWS Submission Date
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Quilting Group
6:15 p.m. Ring of Praise Handbells
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 2/16

6:00 p.m. The Well
6:30 p.m. HOPE Tutoring

Saturday 2/18

8:30 a.m. All Church Workday

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

Prayer Ministry

Esther Albright, Chona Pacot Anwar, Yvonne Babb, Polly Baugh, David Boice, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Crystal Castaneda, Kevin Chin, Jerry Colleps, Lee Carol Copeland, Dorothy Curtis, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Tom Fowler, Lila Glenn, David Goff, Susan Graham, A. Jack Gray, Dick Haney, Margery Harrand, Edna and Ken Harris, Brandon Hay, Bill Hayden, Doyle Malone, J. Fred Miller, Allen Miller, Mary Ellen Miller, Pat Mingle, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Bill Moulton, Bill Olsen, Jim L. Quick, Albert Ross, Eulabel Sheldon, Linda Smith, Al Smithson, Bob Spriggs, Brooks and Connie Taylor, Kyle Terwilliger, BJ Thomas, Jerry Thomas, Allen Underwood, Donna Vickers, Jessica Villarreal, Mary Jane Wright

Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:

Sean Ansley, Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Jack Murtha, 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 or his cell phone: 970-218-3689.

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

Women's Bible Study

Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet Monday, February 20 at 6 p.m. in the church parlor. A light meal will be offered and a \$2 donation is accepted. The study is the PW/Horizon's study Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes by Judy Yates Siker. Chapter 5 is February's lesson and will be led by Kathy Moore. All women are invited to attend. Questions? Contact Debbie Richardson (der817@gmail.com) or Sheri Quick (SheriQ@aol.com).

Women's Retreat in Glen Rose - March 31 to April 2

The women of the church will return to Glen Rose for their annual retreat and stay at the Still Water Lodge. Our speaker will be Anne Beall and her topic is "The Story Goes On...". She wants to help us claim our place in God's ongoing story that is being written now, just as much as in Biblical days. More information will be available soon and reservations will begin March 5. All are welcome.

The Prodigal God Small Group Experience for Lent

Why do this small group study? Has anyone ever told you that “religion” is diametrically opposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ? Timothy Keller, in his book and video called “The Prodigal God” says that very thing. You can begin an unforgettable journey of discovering one of the most powerful yet most misunderstood parables of the Bible -- The Parable of the Prodigal Son. The Prodigal God curriculum and small group experience will help you uncover the essential message of the parable: that the gospel is neither religion nor irreligion, neither morality nor immorality, but something else entirely. If your experience of church and religion has been mostly about obeying rules and trying to become a good and moral person, then this study is for you.

You can: 1) *lead*, 2) *host*, or 3) be a *member* of a small group that meets weekly for six weeks during Lent. We are hoping that most of our small groups will meet in homes or offices or restaurants where we can invite people (“*curious outsiders*”) that might be hesitant to come to a church building. Books and Discussion Guides will be made available for purchase for each participant. The DVD’s will be provided to those leading the small groups and a brief training will be provided for those leading and hosting. Leaders and Hosts can decide the best time and place to meet for six weeks. If you would like to be a part, please contact Kim Lewis in the church office at 817-274-8286, or email her at kim@firstprestexas.org. Today you can sign up for the Small Groups.

YOU MAY SIGN UP TODAY for joining, leading or hosting a small group to study “The Prodigal God” book and DVD by Tim Keller during Lent (Mar. 1-April 15). A table in the Red Hall next to the sanctuary or outside the chapel will have sign-up sheets, books (\$10) and Discussion Guides (\$10) for your use. Bob and Marge Dawson will be helping with the sign-ups. Thank you for prayerfully joining in this experience of “recovering the heart of the Christian Faith.” Form your group today!

Confirmation Class

Students in grades 7 - 12 are invited to the Confirmation Class for eight weeks starting today in the church Parlor at 1:00 p.m.

Please contact Adrian Rodriguez at adrian@firstprestexas.org or text or call him at 817-734-2726.

Saints Alive

Saints Alive will meet on February 16 at 11:30 for a potluck lunch and program. Our speaker will be Lyn Robbins who will tell us about his new devotional book. Please join us and remember to bring a dish to share.

Online Giving Announcement!

We now offer Online Giving through our Website – firstprestexas.org under the “Serve and Give” menu. And through Text Giving – (817) 318-7013.

If you have any questions, please stop by our church office or feel free to ask one of our staff members.

The Six Great Ends of the Church

Come join Pastor Rich in both preaching and teaching a new series on “The Six Great Ends [or Purposes] of the Church.” The Class will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 AM and includes a DVD video with a variety of Presbyterian leaders from around the country. The sermons will follow the same topics. The Six Great Ends have guided American Presbyterians for over 100 years.

The preaching and teaching topics are:

Feb. 12: Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World.

The 4-Week New Members Class

**Fixin’ to Join: An Adventure in Christian Community
Begins Sunday, February 19th at 9:45 a.m. in Room 214, in the brown hall**

Week One: “Your Story: A Journey with the Living Christ”

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”