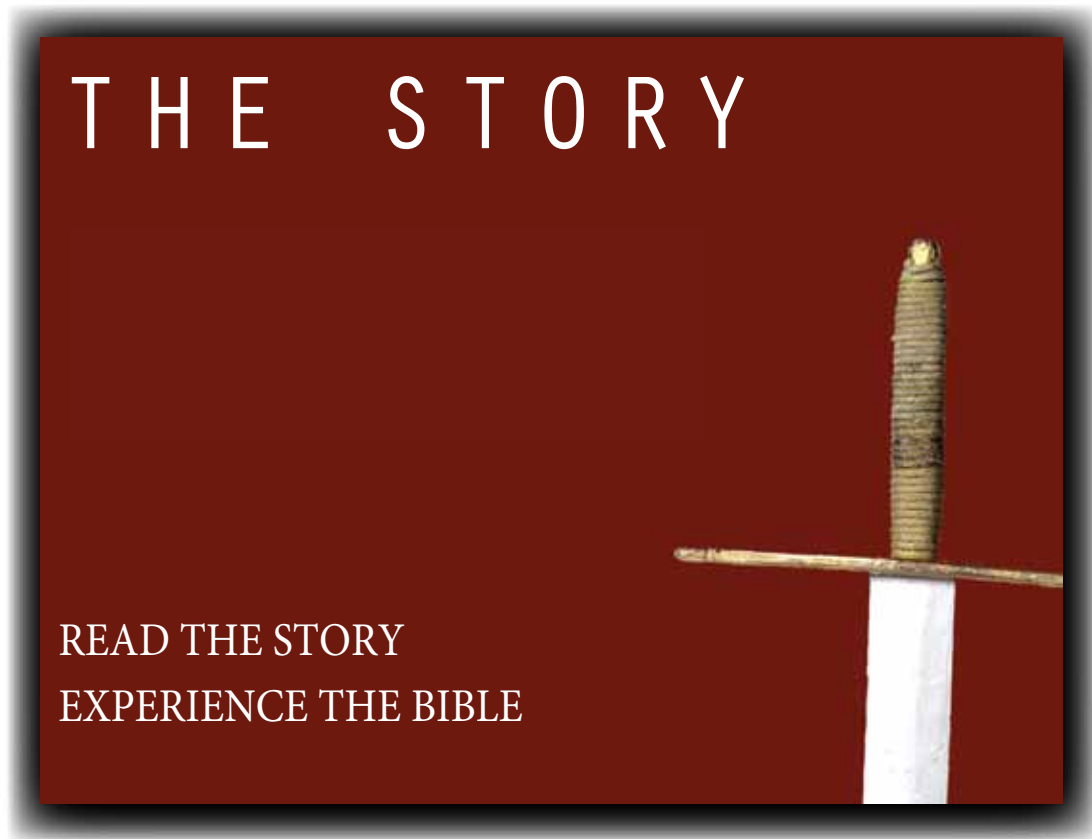


November 18, 2018

# First Presbyterian Church

Twenty-sixth 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

Organist: Shina Heo

8:30 Lay Leader: Samuel Terwilliger

11:00 Lay Leaders: Gary Lindley

# *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  
Debbie and Sandra Boice in memory of  
David and Barbara Boice.

## **Gathering**

Preparation for Worship

from The Story, p. 143

*God instructed Saul to destroy all of the Amalekite property, but Saul and his men instead kept a good share of it. Sparing the good livestock, Saul declared he intended to offer them as animal sacrifices to God. It was still disobedience. Samuel warned Saul his disobedience would cost him his kingship. But having enjoyed the perks of high office, Saul would not go without resistance.*

Voluntary

L'Agreable

Marin Marais

Emily Guerrero, viola     Cheryl Harris, piano

Call to Worship

All heaven and earth proclaim the majesty of God's creative power!

**Praise God for the amazing and awesome beauty.**

God has given us codes by which to live together in harmony and peace.

**In these commandments, God has summed up the ways we must respect one another.**

Rejoice in the goodness of God.

**Let us praise God for God's complete and steadfast love for us.**

Let us worship God!

Introit (11:00)

We've Come This Far by Faith

§ Hymn 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

**Almighty God, we confess that we are sometimes too impatient to wait for your guidance. We are too busy to recognize others' needs. We do not love our neighbors as you love us. In your mercy, forgive our shortcomings and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. 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 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

Community Joys and Events

The Public Reception of New Members

See names in the insert

Sacrament of Baptism

## ***Proclaiming***

Scripture Reading                      1 Samuel 8:4–18; 9:1–2, 15–17                      Old Testament page 251

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)                      Jubilate Deo                      Emily Crocker

*Jubilate Deo!*

*We serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.*

*Be ye sure that the Lord, he is God. It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves.*

*We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
And into his courts with praise. O Lord our God, we praise thee.*

*Be thankful unto him, and speak ye good of his name.*

*For the Lord our God is gracious. His mercy is everlasting.*

*His truth endureth to all generations. Jubilate Deo!*

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Scripture Reading                      1 Samuel 15:10–11, 22–26                      Old Testament page 258

The Sermon                      Standing Tall, Falling Hard: Saul                      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                      Gigue from Suite No. 2                      J. S. Bach  
Emily Guerrero, viola    Cheryl Harris, piano

§ The Doxology

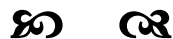
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## ***Sending***

§ Hymn 829                      My Faith Looks Up to Thee                      OLIVET

§ Charge and Benediction                      the congregation joins hands

Postlude                      Chorale No. 2                      César Franck



## *Comments for Contemplation*

### Standing Tall, Falling Hard: Saul

1 Samuel 8:4–18; 9:1–2, 15–17; 15:10–11, 22–26

1. “Sin and evil are self-centeredness and pride that lead to oppression against others, but there are two forms of this. One form is being very bad and breaking all the rules, and the other form is being very good and keeping all the rules and becoming self-righteous. One is being a \_\_\_\_\_ and the other is being a Pharisee.” (Tim Keller)
2. This is a big part of the story of Samuel and King Saul. It is the story of people, like us, wanting a human king rather than having God as their King. It is the story of people, like us, wanting to be like the nations and cultures around them, rather than following God’s will to be \_\_\_\_\_ his people.
3. We say, Lord, we need this; Lord, what about this; Lord, why this; Lord, could you fix this? And we often grow frustrated and impatient with God, when our prayers are not answered as we would like, and in our timing. There are days when it seems that the lamp of God is about to flicker out and die. But we can trust that the \_\_\_\_\_ of God will not go out, so long as there are believers and leaders who pray, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”
4. Samuel obeys the word of the Lord and finds the king the people ask for. Saul is the most handsome man in Israel and is head and shoulders taller than any other. And while he shows flashes of brilliance, and at times is filled with the Spirit of the Lord, Saul is nevertheless a \_\_\_\_\_ character whose dark side often takes over, much like Edward Hyde did for Dr. Jekyll.
5. Whenever I am tempted to think that I can keep everybody happy, whenever I’m tempted to think that I can solve all of the church’s problems, whenever I’m tempted to think that our health as a church depends primarily on my charisma and my abilities, I know that Mr. Hyde is rearing his attractive head. It is only by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God working through our faith that we can receive all that God has for us.



# An Advent Festival

a service of worship in song

celebrating the coming of the  
Savior with choir, organ, and brass

Sunday, December 9, 2018

11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

featuring *Gloria* by John Rutter and  
*Glory to God* by Russell Farnell

First Presbyterian Church  
1200 S. Collins St  
Arlington, TX 76010  
[www.FirstPresTexas.org](http://www.FirstPresTexas.org)

## Gifts of Hope are coming!

FPCA will once again be offering Gifts of Hope for the 2018 Advent Season. Gifts of Hope is an alternative gift market that offers a creative and caring way to honor friends, family members, colleagues, etc. through donations to a wide range of outreach organizations. "Shoppers" choose an organization, donate the amount specified, and then receive a card to give as a gift to friends or family. This program not only supports outreach organizations, but also seeks to offer a less materialistic option for gift giving.

Gifts of Hope will be available for sale after both worship services between Sunday, December 2nd and Sunday, December 16th. If you have any questions or are available to help with the program (by selling Gifts of Hope before/after worship services, etc.), please email Laura Farnell at [Laura.Farnell@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.Farnell@gmail.com) or call or text (682) 478-5676.

## Christmas Poinsettias!

Please help us prepare our Sanctuary to celebrate the birth of our Savior by ordering a poinsettia.

Order forms are in the Narthex, Chapel hall and church office.

Please complete the form and place it in the offering plate, the baskets in the Chapel hall and Narthex, or mail/bring them to the church office.

The cost is \$10.00 each and the deadline to order is Sunday, December 9.

SUPPORT THE CHURCH'S ONLINE PRESENCE

MAKE SURE TO LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

GO TO

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



## Congregational Meeting

Today will be the Congregational Meeting, to vote on the loan for flat roof repair, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary. All members are welcome.

## New Member Reception

Today is the the New Member Reception immediately following the Congregational Meeting in the church Parlor. Come welcome our New Members.

## Thanksgiving Dinner

Come one, come all to the Thanksgiving Dinner today at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Fellowship Team will provide meat and dessert.

If your last name starts with:

A through G     Bring salad

H through O     Bring potatoes or dressing

P through Z     Bring vegetables

We are also looking for a few friends to help us cook the turkeys. If you are willing to help, please call Isobel Peden at 214-263-6361 for more information. A little assistance in the kitchen would also be greatly appreciated. We will provide any and every kitchen volunteer with a lovely blue apron.

## Thanksgiving Baskets Update

Many thanks to everyone who helped to give **231** Thanksgiving Baskets to Arlington Charities. Your response to this need is very much appreciated. We also received **\$2,533** in cash and checks. May God Bless You this Thanksgiving.

## Decorate the Church Saturday, December 1st

Join in getting the church ready for the Advent season by hanging the garlands, Christmons, and other decorations throughout the church beginning at 10:00 a.m.

## Preschool International Potluck

The Preschool will have an International Potluck on Tuesday, November 20 at 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## Update on Mission Possible Dinner!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Mission Possible Dinner a success. We had a wonderful time of fellowship and greatly enjoyed having the Carter Jr. High Treble Choir join us. Together, we raised \$3,009 for local missions. We will be sending \$602 of the funds raised to support our neighbor - Carter Jr. High Choir.

## Belize Mission 2019 - March 10th-17th

Is the Lord calling you to go to Belize? If you have ever thought that you would like to join the Belize Mission Team, then 2019 is the year for you! We are currently finalizing the team for Belize. The deadline to finalize the team is only 2 weeks away. If you have any interest in Belize, please contact Suzie McCoy at 817-271-5995.



# Festival of Tables

*Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall*

**Come Celebrate the Season!**

*Members of the Chancel Choir will present the program.*

- Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Arlington Life Shelter.
- Guests are welcome to bring an unwrapped toy. All toys will be donated to the Salvation Army.
- Childcare is available upon request at time of ticket purchase.

**Tickets (\$5) on sale  
November 11, 18, and 25**

## Thank You

We had a very successful Trunk or Treat thanks to all the help from FPCA members. We had 18 trunks and about 100 bags of candy. The food donated by Dickeys BBQ on Ballpark Way was enjoyed by the families attending. We gave away about 225 books and toys with over 350 people attending counting our members. The children really had fun with the games, bounce house, and slide. What a great way to serve our community!

## 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](mailto:tomasdom@sbcglobal.net).

## December's Two Special Offerings

Our church supports two special offerings during the month of December. One is the Christmas Joy Offering which goes directly to Presbytery. The other goes to Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS). Offering envelopes can be found outside the sanctuary or chapel or designate on your check which offering you are supporting.

The receipts from the Joy Offering are distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs and to the National Ministries of the General Assembly Council to support Presbyterian racial ethnic education. To view a brief video about the Christmas Joy Offering, visit <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy>.

Our church continually supports PCHAS but especially at Christmas. During the evening Christmas Eve services at our church, the undesignated offerings will benefit the Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS). To find out more about PCHAS, visit <http://www.pchas.org>. You could also speak to Marge and Bob Dawson, PCHAS Ambassadors and volunteers, about this very worthy organization which supports many children and families in a variety of ways throughout Texas.

Submitted by Sheri Quick and Bob Dawson, Mission and Evangelism Team

## THE STORY Sermon Series and Study

Join us as we continue our 31-week overarching tour of God's Word in the entire Bible (pausing for Advent and Christmas), using a 31-chapter book of Scriptures chronologically arranged called THE STORY.

Both the sermon series and several Sunday School classes will follow the themes of THE STORY, which requires reading less than three pages/day, or fifteen pages/week. Copies of THE STORY can be ordered through [Christianbook.com](http://Christianbook.com). Come and discover how your story connects with God's story of steadfast love and mercy.

