

January 27, 2019

First Presbyterian Church

Third 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

Organist: Shina Heo

8:30 Lay Leader: David Peden

11:00 Lay Leader: Anna Njei

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 Bob and Bev Koch in celebration of
their 60th anniversary.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

Bernhard W. Anderson

The prophetic gift becomes evident in the church whenever people boast not of their wisdom, power, or riches, but that they know the Lord who practices faithfulness, justice and righteousness in the earth (Jeremiah 9:23-24) and, in this personal knowledge, take a stand against whatever debases human dignity, oppresses the poor and helpless, and wantonly exploits our God-given natural resources.

Prelude

Prelude

Lloyd Pfautsch

Call to Worship

from Psalm 139

O Lord, you have searched me and you know me; you know my sitting down and my rising up.

You discern my thoughts from afar, and you are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

Knowledge like yours is too wonderful for me, so I give you thanks and praise.

Let us worship God.

Introit (11:00)

Let All the Earth Their Voices Raise

Isaac Watts

§ Hymn 806

I'll Praise My Maker

OLD 113TH

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

O Lord our God: in the prophets you have called us to repent of our idolatry, to turn away from false gods, and to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with you. But we have turned a deaf ear to your call; we have loved our wealth, our politics, and our comfort more than we have loved you.

Forgive us for our shallow minds and our foundation-less lives. By your Spirit, give us the minds and hearts of true disciples that we may walk in free submission to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, we ask, 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 824

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest

McAFFEE

Community Joys and Events

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading 1 Kings 18:20–29, 36–39 Old Testament page 325

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) He, Watching Over Israel Felix Mendelssohn

*He watching over Israel slumbers not, nor sleeps
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.*

Scripture Reading Amos 5:6–7, 10–15, 21–24 Old Testament page 853

The Sermon The Challenge of God's Messengers 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 Adagio in F Minor, K. 594 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

§ 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 from A Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.
We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Sending

§ Hymn 757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples KINGSFOLD

§ Charge and Benediction the congregation joins hands

Postlude Adagio in F Minor, K. 594 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart





Comments for Contemplation

The Challenge of God's Messengers 1 Kings 18:20–29, 36–39; Amos 5:6–7, 10–15, 21–24

1. You may remember that King Omri of Israel, in order to strengthen relations between Israel and Phoenicia, had brought about the marriage of his son, Ahab, to Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal, King of Tyre. It was a decision that proved to have disastrous consequences. Had Ahab married someone else, it is fair to say that the course of Israel's history would have been vastly different and probably much better. It is the reason that the name Jezebel, even today, conjures up visions of an voraciously _____ queen, and appropriately so.
2. That would be like our government deciding to use taxpayer dollars to favor an organization or religion that was clearly bent on eliminating Christianity. Taking advantage of the easy going tolerance and naïve syncretism of Israel's people, she tried to _____ every last part of Israel's traditional faith. (Surely that could never happen to us in this day and age, could it?)
3. And what we find in the Old Testament as well as the New Testament are prophets who call the people to repent, to humble themselves and turn anew to the Lord. A prophet may say that the Lord's wrath is coming because of their sin, and yet the Lord's mercy will come just as surely because of their faithfulness. Both God's wrath and God's mercy are a part of his _____ (his unmerited favor), just as loving parents give discipline and show compassion to their children.
4. "...But the goal of life is not to feel good; that is to try to create an *artificial* paradise. Paradise lies in living in the reality that is God and created by God, not in attempting to build an artificial bubble. Balance can only come from a connection with the source of this world, not by rearranging things _____ the world. We can only live well *in* this world by having contact with that which is not *of* this world." [Diogenes Allen]
5. Elijah is ready for his turn. They soak the altar three times, and even fill a trench with water, requiring a major fire to overcome the wet wood. Elijah prayed that the Lord would answer, so the people would know that He is God, and that he has re-captured the hearts of the people. The fire of the Lord fell, and the people then fell on their faces and said, "The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God." And the _____ then came.

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 1/27

8:30 a.m. Worship in Chapel
9:45 a.m. The Story
11:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
12:05 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting
12:15 p.m. CMM Lunch
12:45 p.m. Children's Music Ministries
2:00 p.m. PCGRC

Monday 1/28

3:30 p.m. Blanton Kids Beach Club
6:00 p.m. MPAC Orientation & Meeting

Tuesday 1/29

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 1/30

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

Thursday 1/31

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

Friday 2/1

9:00 a.m. Senior Flexibility Class
6:00 p.m. Kids Night Out

Information for the February 10 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, 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, Neal Estes, Don Farrell, Bobbie Fowler, Tom Fowler, 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.

Reminder: Pick Up Your Offering Envelopes!!

Don't forget to pick up your offering envelopes outside the Chapel (8:30) and the Red Hall/Narthex (11:00).

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.

SUPPORT THE CHURCH'S ONLINE PRESENCE

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WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRETEXAS



Annual Congregational Meeting

Today is the Annual Congregational Meeting at 12:05 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

We will review the Annual Report and the budget for 2019.

Souper Bowl of Caring Unites with FPCA's Souper Sunday to Change the Game

More than 29 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Since that day, more than \$143 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Our church and youth would love to be a part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. So, this year for the big game we will have our annual Souper Sunday lunch on Sunday, February 3, immediately after the 11:00 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall.

Our very own youth at FPCA will be collecting cans of soup and/or a monetary donations during our Souper Sunday Lunch. Everything that is collected will go towards Mission Arlington, our 2019 Souper Bowl of Caring charity of choice. **Please bring a can of soup and/or donation on January 27 or February 3!**

Please contact Adrian Rodriguez or Talita Gottmann at thewellfpc@gmail.com or 817.274.8286 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 Ebony Harris (313) 445-0558 ebonyh8806@gmail.com.

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 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.

THE STORY Continues...

Join us as we continue our 31-week overarching tour of God's Word in the entire Bible, using a 31-chapter book of Scriptures chronologically arranged called THE STORY. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m.

The 4-Week New Members Class

Fixin' to Join: An Adventure in Christian Community

Begins Sunday, February 3, 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"

Save the Date

Annual FPCA Women's Retreat

March 29-31, 2019

Hilton Garden Inn Granbury

Ginger Hertenstein, pastor at First Presbyterian Duncanville, will explore

Diving Deeper – enriching your life through hearing God's voice.

Registration will begin February 10. Make your plans now!