

June 23, 2019

First Presbyterian Church

Second 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: Phil Austin

11:00 Lay Leader: Katina Gifford

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.

Please silence all phones and devices

The flowers are given to the Glory of God
by Bob and Lona Watkins
in thankfulness for Pastor Rich and Betsy.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, help us to choose life in you, that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ's love in the world. Amen.

Voluntary

AURELIA

Samuel Wesley

Call to Worship

Bless the Lord, O people, sing!

Let the sound of praise ring out.

Come and hear what the Lord has done,

The Lord who has made everything!

Introit (11:00)

Rejoice!

A. H. Messiter

§ Hymn 267

Come Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

Loving God, we do not always keep your commandments; we fail to love you; our conscience is not clear.

Forgive us and wash us in the water of life that we may live again through the grace and mercy of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. 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 188

Jesus Loves Me!

JESUS LOVES ME

Community Joys and Events

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:22–34

New Testament page 137

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)

Trust In the Lord

Claude Bass

Cassandra Kirby, guest director

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths.

Rejoice in the Lord always. Let your gentleness be known to all.

The Lord is near. Be fearful for nothing.

*And the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
shall guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:20–28

New Testament page 22

The Sermon

Pluralism, Relativism and the Gospel

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.**

The Offering of our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory

Variation on Veni Creator

Maurice Duruflé

§ 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

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all
things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's
purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things
present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all
creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Sending

§ Hymn 268

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

§ Charge and Benediction

the congregation joins hands

Postlude

Allegro from Sonata No. 5

Felix Mendelssohn



Comments for Contemplation

Pluralism, Relativism and the Gospel

Acts 17:22–34; Matthew 20:20–28

1. Believers in Jesus Christ continue to claim that the Christian gospel is true. In our dangerous and confused world, the gospel is more relevant today than ever, and in Jesus Christ we find the answers and resources to the most vexing _____ of our day and of our lives.
2. Syncretism is the attempt to combine beliefs, and the gospel was in constant danger of being subsumed by Jewish, Greek and Roman attempts to tame and domesticate it. The Christian understanding of the truth of the gospel and the utter uniqueness of Jesus Christ is what kept it _____ and alive.
3. Paul's preaching of the cross of Jesus emphasized the universality of the good news for both Jew and Gentile. So as Christianity moved beyond its Jewish roots, the distinctive message of a _____ with Jesus, as opposed to a relationship with the Torah, was clear.
4. Christians were asked to worship Caesar and address him as Lord. Those who refused were beheaded or burned at the stake. An eyewitness account of the martyrdom of Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna in the early second century, is a reminder of the challenges Christians faced in this period of history. Whenever our political loyalties come before our commitment and loyalty to Jesus Christ, then we are in danger of falling into a similar _____ in our day.
5. But Jesus will have none of it. He says we don't do it like the Gentile rulers. Whoever wants to be great must be your servant and whoever wants to be first must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." So this is a new understanding of leadership for the disciples, and was probably a shock for Salome, thinking of her boys not as kings but as slaves. With Jesus, the _____ are upside-down. Those who serve, lead.

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 6/23	Youth-The Great Escape
8:30 a.m.	Worship in Chapel
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Celebration of Pastor Rich's 40th Anniversary Ordination
2:00 p.m.	PCGRC
Monday 6/24	Youth-The Great Escape
6:45 a.m.	Preschool Summer Camp
6:00 p.m.	Finance Meeting
Tuesday 6/25	Youth-The Great Escape
6:45 a.m.	Preschool Summer Camp
9:00 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class
10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday 6/26	Youth-The Great Escape
6:45 a.m.	Preschool Summer Camp
8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m.	Quilting Group
Thursday 6/27	Youth-The Great Escape
6:45 a.m.	Preschool Summer Camp
7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
Friday 6/28	Youth-The Great Escape
6:45 a.m.	Preschool Summer Camp
9:00 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class
Saturday 6/29	Youth-The Great Escape

Information for the July 7 bulletin should be turned in to Kim at the church office by this Monday.

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Apana Agha, Elaine Bahn, Jack Bos, James (Andrew) Bridges, Carl Carpenter, Vannah Caylor, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Lee Carol Copeland, Michael Dearnorff, Don Farrell, The Gifford Family, Joe and Lila Glenn, Andrew Hydock, Bob Johnson, Tim Karnes, Gary Lindley, Pat May, J. Fred Miller, Barbara Mooers, J.D. Paulk, Betsy Pense, Nita Price, Jim L. and Jo Ann Quick, Sarah Rabb, The family of Jim Reynolds, Jillian Reynolds, Joan and Homer Reynolds, Boyd and Eleanor Schernbeck, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Richard Whitenight, Karl Winter, 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:

Esther Albright, Shirley Bragg, Bobbie and Tom Fowler, Jack Gray, Allen and Charlene Miller, Cary and Ruth Moore, Carrie and Cosme Pacot, Al Smithson, Brooks and Connie Taylor, Mary Jane Wright.

Prayers for those who do not know Christ

If you have any congregational care needs, please contact Pastor Rich McDermott at 817-274-8286.

Staff Directory

Rich McDermott	Senior Pastor	rich@firstprestexas.org
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40th Ordination ANNIVERSARY



May God's goodness and kindness
be with you on this special day
and all the days of your life."

Psalm 23:6

Please join us to celebrate Pastor Rich's 40 years of pastoral ministry!

Forty years ago, on June 20, 1979, Richard S. McDermott was ordained to the "ministry of Word and Sacrament" as a pastor in what was then called the UPCUSA. He and his amazing wife Betsy have served churches in Winter Haven, FL, Mexico City, Mexico, Fort Collins, CO, Omaha, NE and now Arlington, TX.

Today's celebration will be at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be finger sandwiches, buffalo wings, veggie and fruit trays, cake and punch.

Thank you for joining us for this joyous occasion.

Summer Celebration Dinner

The Summer Celebration Dinner will be Sunday, July 7,
at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall.

The menu will be fried chicken, mac and cheese, green beans, bread, tea and lemonade.

Come join us for some great food and fellowship!

Youth Bake Sale

Coinciding with the Summer Celebration Dinner, the Youth will have a Bake Sale at 12 noon outside the Fellowship Hall.

The youth will be baking some treats for the bake sale on July 7th, but we will gladly take any baked goods that you would like to bring and the youth will sell them. Thank you for your continued support of our youth.

Any generous monetary donations on that day will help support kids for camp.



Please remember in your prayers the family of Cathy Bartran, who died January 21, 2019, and especially her husband, Kip, who joins us in worship today. Kip and Cathy were married in our sanctuary forty-six years ago today on June 23, 1973. Survivors also include Cathy's mother, Dona Horsley, daughter Laura Hellings, granddaughter Kaitlin Hellings, niece Judy Wohlman, and nephew Trevor Davis.

Pentecost Offering

Our Pentecost Offering is still being received. As with all Special Offerings, times before and after this date are appropriate for donations also. On Pentecost Sunday, we join Christians around the world to celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the church. The Pentecost Offering benefits children-at-risk, youth, and young adults. Forty percent of the offering stays locally and this year will go to HOPE Tutoring as decided by the Mission and Evangelism Team with Session approval. The other percentage will support General Assembly ministries for youth development.

For more information on the Pentecost Offering see www.pcusa.org/pentecost.

Offering envelopes are available outside the chapel and sanctuary several weeks before the offering and after for several weeks. Please use the Pentecost envelopes or designate on your check or other envelope if you are giving to the Pentecost Offering.

Please help aid youth programs in our city as well as our country and world. The theme this year is "Building a Life of Faith." The Bible verse is "God from my youth you have taught me" Psalm 71:17.