

February 2, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

Fourth 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

8:30 Lay Leader: Kathi Dailey

11:00 Lay Leader: Maggie Johnson

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 Paula Thomson in honor of her father,
Marshall Alexander's birthday.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

*God is alone, like no other, purely good.
Our God can help us to let go of worldly goods and leave lesser things behind so that might be
ready to enter his holy realm on that day when the first are last and the last are first.*

Prelude

Christ Be My Leader

Benjamin Culli

Call to Worship

Amos 5:6, 14–15

Seek good and not evil; seek the Lord and live!

May the Lord our God be with us.

Seek good and not evil, that justice may prevail.

May the Lord our God show us grace.

Let us worship God.

§ Hymn 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

**Holy God, we know the commandments. We are sure we follow them, but instead, we cannot
let go of the things we think we need or what we think is important. We do not follow you,
or love you, O God, with all our hearts, our minds, our strength. We refrain from giving our
whole selves to you.**

**Forgive our disobedience, our lack of commitment, and our desire to focus on material things
instead of on your will for us we ask these things. In the name of our Teacher, Jesus Christ,
who gave his whole life for the sake of the gospel. 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 469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

Community Joys and Events

Proclaiming

First Scripture Reading

Mark 10:13–22

New Testament page 46

Children's Time (11:00)

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

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 10:23–31

New Testament page 46

The Sermon

A Little Child and the Kingdom

Rev. McDermott

The Table

The Offering of our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory (8:30)

Adagio e dolce

Johann Sebastian Bach

(11:00)

Beautiful Savior

Michael Burkhardt

*Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.*

*Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.*

*Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.*

The Congregation is invited to sing:

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forever more be thine!**

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 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

§ Charge and Benediction

the congregation joins hands

§ Postlude

O Worship the King

Benjamin Culli



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

A Little Child and the Kingdom Mark 10:13–31

1. By placing these two stories side by side, Mark shows us that the story of Jesus blessing the children is also critical to understanding the story of the rich man, and vice-versa. Today, we will take a hard look at what a little child can teach us about God's kingdom and _____ discipleship.
2. People today regard tenderness toward children as a virtue. Relief organizations appeal for support by showing images of children in need. Politicians appeal for votes by holding and kissing infants. Commercials grab our attention by associating a given product with pictures of young children. But ancient Jewish society did not regard children with the same _____ that we know today.
3. In this story the children are blessed not for their virtues but for what they *lack*. They come with little to nothing. They are small, powerless, without sophistication and (in Jesus' time) they were among the overlooked and dispossessed of society. To receive the kingdom of God as a little child is to receive it as one who has no credits, no clout, and no _____.
4. Friends, the chief reason that, today, most of us value: small children, both women and men, people who are differently -abled, people who are elderly, unborn children, and people of different races, income levels, and social backgrounds is because Jesus valued those who were powerless, vulnerable, and helpless. Were it not for Jesus, we would have a vastly different view of how to approach those who are dispossessed and without voice in our society. And we can thank Jesus for _____ us on this path.
5. The greatest enemies to faith and obedience are self-satisfaction and pride, and poverty is usually the best antidote to those enemies. Not a week goes by in pastoral ministry that I do not run into a person for whom possessions are a chief barrier to following Jesus for that person. Many of them don't see it as a problem. And some days, I meet that person early in the morning, in the _____.

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 2/2

8:30 a.m.	Worship in Chapel
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
9:30 a.m.	Larry Thomas
11:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Families & Children Lunch
2:00 p.m.	PCGRC

Monday 2/3

3:30 p.m.	Kids Beach Club-Blanton
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Tuesday 2/4

9:00 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class
10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring

Wednesday 2/5

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 2/6

6:00 p.m.	The Well
6:30 p.m.	Deacons Meeting
6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring
6:30 p.m.	Preschool Open House

Friday 2/7

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

Saturday 2/8

10:00 a.m.	Financial Peace University
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Information for the February 16 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, Vannah Caylor, Frank and Allena Coburn, Edna Collins, Lee Carol Copeland, Michael Deardorff, The Farnell Family, Don Farrell, The Gifford Family, Joe and Lila Glenn, Olivia Gottmann, Andrew Hydock, Bob Johnson, Tim Karnes (Pat May's son), Gary Lindley, Pat May, Barbara Mooers, Betsy Pense, Nita Price, Jim L. Quick, Allen Ray, Jillian Reynolds, Joan and Homer Reynolds, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Karl Winter

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, 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, Suzette Armstrong, Shirley Bragg, Bobbie and Tom Fowler, Jack Gray, Marge Harrand, Barbara Hughes, Barbara Kraemer, Jeanne Malone, Allen and Charlene Miller, Cary and Ruth Moore, Carrie and Cosme Pacot, Ann Pitstick, Al Smithson, Betty and Jack Snowden, Lorraine Swanson, Brooks and Connie Taylor, Dee Uhri, Richard Whitenight, 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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Kim Lewis	Administrative Ministry Assistant	kim@firstprestexas.org
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Luncheon for Families with Children

Luncheon for families with children in 6th grade or younger is today after the 11:00 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall. Come see what the children will learn about in Sunday school and KFC during the month of September. We will also have some resources available to help you as you teach your children to follow Jesus.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Souper Bowl of Caring will be on Sunday, February 9, 2020, after the 11:00 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall! Please drop off any soup can donations between now and then in one of the wooden bins located by the Chapel entrance, Narthex, and classroom hallway. Any monetary donations can be dropped off at the church office, placed in the offering plate, or during the Souper Bowl of Caring lunch on February 9th. Our very own youth at FPCA will be taking all donations collected to Arlington Charities, our charity location of choice. On behalf of the youth ministry we thank you so much for your donations!

Please contact Adrian Rodriguez at thewellfpc@gmail.com or 817.274.8286 if you have any questions.

Financial Peace University

Do you have a New Year's resolution? Wondering how you're going to budget for the commitment you made during the generosity campaign? Want to give even more? What about that charity you've always wanted to give to? Do you want to give beyond your wildest dreams? Come find out how in Financial Peace University (FPU), the nine-lesson course that gives you the proven plan to master budgeting, pay off debt, build wealth, and give generously. The course centers around lessons taught by Dave Ramsey, Chris Hogan and Rachel Cruze, followed by small group discussions. FPU includes your member workbook as well as one year of free access to Financial Peace Membership, where you'll find tons of online resources to help you start winning with money. Contact Katina Gifford at 817-725-5653 for more info. Sign-up for the discounted rate of \$99 at: fpu.com/1103945.

Saturdays, February 1, 2020 - March 28, 2020

Location: Parlor, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Scholarships and childcare available upon request

Offering Envelopes

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

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be June 8-12 from 9:00 a.m. to noon for children 4 years old to 6th grade. The theme is Focus: Take a Closer Look. The theme verse is Hebrews 12:2a *"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And He is the one who completes the journey of faith."*



TRANSFORM

Join us for a TRANSFORM Vision Summary

If you missed coming to one of our three Round Table Discussions for our TRANSFORM Capital Campaign, then please join us for one of two chances to hear a summary of the Vision (but without the tour and the meal and the longer discussions).

Dates and times for a TRANSFORM Vision Summary: (especially for those who missed the Round Table gatherings)

Sunday, February 16, 9:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall (During Sunday School hour)

Sunday, February 23, 12:10 PM in the Fellowship Hall (After 11:00 Worship)

Preschool Open House

The Preschool is having an Open House
Thursday, February 6, at 6:30 p.m.

Kids Night Out

Kids Night Out is Friday, February 7 and February 21 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Children can come and enjoy games/activities, pizza, a Bible lesson and spending time with friends. Parents can enjoy a couple of hours for their own Parents Night Out.