

February 9, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

Fifth 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: Isobel Peden

11:00 Lay Leader: Cassandra Kirby

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 by Lucy Cleaver to the
Glory of God in celebration of the birthday of
Dr. Elizabeth Johnson Pense (Feb. 2).

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

*God is forever present with us. We are never alone. His mercies are faithful and rich.
With his Spirit, we can do the work of his will.*

Voluntary

Elevation

Paul Benoit

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord who is our provider.

The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.

God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.

The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.

Glorious are the deeds of our God, and mighty are his acts.

The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.

Let us worship God.

Introit (11:00)

We Have Come To Worship You

David Davidson

§ Hymn 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

**Almighty God, we have been wandering in the wilderness of sin. We have complained in the face
of your mercy. We have been selfish and conceited in the face of your sacrifice. We have not
done your will.**

**Forgive us. Teach us humility. Teach us gratitude. Infuse your Spirit into our beings so that we
might be reconciled to you. In Jesus' name we pray. 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 465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

Community Joys and Events

Proclaiming

First Scripture Reading

Mark 11:11–14, 20–25

New Testament page 47

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)

Look at the World

John Rutter

*Look at the world, everything all around us:
Look at the world, and marvel every day.
Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,
So many miracles along our way.
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see:
All the gifts we share, and ev'ry blessing, All things come of thee.
Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower;
Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain;
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,
Valley and flowing river, field and plain:
Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.
Ev'rything grows, ev'rything has a season,
Till it is gathered to the Father's fold:
Ev'ry good gift, all that we need and cherish
Comes from the Lord in token of his love;
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty;
His is the earth, and his the heav'ns above:*

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 11:27–33

New Testament page 48

The Sermon

Aligned With God's Will

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 (8:30)

Fanfare for Bells
Ring of Praise Handbell Ensemble

Mary McCleary

(11:00)

Songs of Praise

African Praise Choir

*We are saying thank you Jesus, thank you our Lord
Whom shall I send, who will go for me.
Oh Father send me, I will go.
Bend low and see what the Lord will do.
Everybody bend low.*

§ 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.**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sending

§ Hymn 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

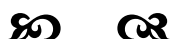
§ Charge and Benediction

the congregation joins hands

Postlude

In My Beloved God

Georg Böhm



Comments for Contemplation

Aligned With God's Will

Mark 11:11–14, 20–25; Mark 11:27–33

1. Let me repeat that: we don't want to mistake our means for approaching God with the doing of God's will. As we see in this passage, in Jesus' day the means for approaching God was to go to the temple, to purchase your lamb or (if you were poor) your dove which had the stamp of approval of the religious authorities as lambs or doves without _____, to make your offering and to leave.
2. But even the earliest commentator on Mark's Gospel, a man named Victor of Antioch, writing in the fifth century, understood the event as an "**enacted parable**," in which the cursing of the fig tree symbolized the judgment to befall the Temple and, ultimately, Jerusalem. Mark wants his readers to see in the fate of the unfruitful fig tree the judgment of God on an _____ temple, much as the prophets had done before him.
3. And as we look at the challenge by Jesus in the Temple, we can see that there he was also looking for fruit, even unripened fruit, among the leaders and the people and the activities in the Temple. He looked for that "house of prayer for all the nations." Instead he found that they had turned what had once been a means of approaching God into a den of robbers, and they figured that what they had done for so long in the Temple was the _____ as God's will.
4. The fig tree thus symbolized the Temple as a means of approach to God. It is now withered, and Jesus himself is going to replace it as the means of approach to God. Now, getting right with God and aligning oneself with God's will means recognizing Jesus' authority, praying as he has taught us and receiving what _____ has for us.
5. But these religious authorities don't even have the courage of their own convictions. They refuse to say what they really think, fearful of the reactions. And they only confirm that the fig tree of Israel has born no fruit, and can _____ no one. What if Jesus were to walk in our Sanctuary today? What would he say to us?

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 2/9

8:30 a.m.	Worship in Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Larry Thomas
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Souper Bowl of Caring
12:15 p.m.	CMM Lunch
12:45 p.m.	Children's Music Ministries
2:00 p.m.	PCGRC

Monday 2/10

3:30 p.m.	Kids Beach Club-Blanton
6:00 p.m.	Finance Meeting

Tuesday 2/11

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

Wednesday 2/12

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 2/13

4:10 p.m.	Wyldlife
6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring
6:45 p.m.	Team Meeting Night

Friday 2/14

9:00 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Classt
-----------	---------------------------

Saturday 2/15

10:00 a.m.	Financial Peace University
------------	----------------------------

Information for the February 23 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.

Fixin' to Join: An Adventure in Christian Community

Come be a part of the 4-week New Members class starting Sunday, February 23, at 9:45 a.m. in Room 204.

Week One: "Your Story: A Journey with the Living Christ"

—This is a chance to share our journeys of faith with one another and learn about one another.

Week Two: "On Being a Christian in a Post-modern World"

—What it means to be a Christian and why it is so vitally important in today's world.

Week Three: "Christian, Protestant, Reformed, Presbyterian"

—This will help us understand the blessings and issues of our particular tradition in the family of faith.

Week Four: "On Being Sent: Relational Ministry, Missional Discipleship and Incarnational Witness"

—A chance to learn about gifts, equipping, ministry and mission.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Today is the Souper Bowl of Caring 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 thewellfpca@gmail.com or 817.274.8286 if you have any questions.



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)

Rev. Larry Thomas in Fellowship Hall: Creation Spirituality

Reverend Dr. Larry Thomas will continue speaking during the Sunday school hour through the end of February. The topic this week is "Creation Spirituality." Larry's talk will begin at 9:30AM in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited.

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."*

Women's Bible Study

The Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet Monday, February 17 at 6 p.m. in the church parlor. A light meal will begin at 6 p.m. followed by the lesson, Chapter 5. The video will be viewed first and then discussion. All women are invited to join at anytime. Contact Debbie Richardson (der817@gmail.com) or Sheri Quick (sheriq@aol.com) if you have questions. Please note, this group meets the 3rd Monday of each month except December, June, July and August.

Kids Night Out

Kids Night Out is Friday, 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.

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