

October 18, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

The Twentieth 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.

Preaching: Rev. Chris Campbell

Liturgist: Rev. Rich McDermott

The Worship of God

11:00 a.m.

The greenery is offered to the Glory of God.

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

Please silence all phones and devices

Gathering

Gathering Music

Shina Heo

Preparation for Worship

Glenn McDonald

“Discipleship begins with a question: Who is your Lord? What is your most prized possession? Exchanging what we used to trust for security and significance for a relationship with Jesus Christ is the one true doorway to the adventure that awaits us.”

Call to Worship

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

but to those who are called both Jews and Greeks,

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,

and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

O Lord our God: You have called us to keep our Lord Jesus Christ in the first place in our lives.

But we have found many ways to avoid following him. We have put money, sex and power in places where they don’t belong. We claim to love our families more than anything. But in truth, we do them an injustice if you are not primary in our lives.

Please forgive us for our idolatry and our worship of things. Give us courage and faith to follow you as the Lord of our lives, and to give you the first place in all things, by your grace and mercy, and the power of the Holy Spirit. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel! **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

Anthem

Give Me Jesus
Dolly Hall, alto

Arr. Ron McVey

Community Joys and Events

Transform Capital Campaign Comment and Video

Proclaiming

First Scripture Reading	Luke 9:57–62; John 10:1–11	New Testament page 70, 103
Second Scripture Reading	Matt. 10:37–39	New Testament page 11
The Sermon	Deciding for Discipleship/Following Jesus	Rev. Campbell

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.

§ Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sending

§ Charge and Benediction

Postlude	Prelude on an Early American Melody	Lloyd Pfautsch
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Sermon Notes

Deciding for Discipleship/Following Jesus

Luke 9:57–62; John 10:1–11; Matt. 10:37–39

Candy Donations Needed for Alternative to Trunk or Treat

We will have a Fall Candy Celebration on October 31 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. This will be an alternative to Trunk or Treat. It will be a good time to do something special for our FPCA families and the community. Our goal is to put together 500 bags of candy. Each bag will also have a flier in it telling a little about FPCA and letting people know that we love them and how they can join us in-person or online for worship. We will set-up a table or trunk and have a couple of people giving out the bags on October 31 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. We will meet in the church parking lot by the Preschool. It will be great to see the people, give them a cheerful hello, and the opportunity to get out and do something fun and different. We need candy to make this happen. If you would like to help by donating candy you can bring it to the church office or Preschool during the week or drop it off when you come for a worship service.

Offering

If you would like to give your tithes and offerings in person today, please use the envelope provided in the bulletin. You can drop the envelope off in the offering plate while departing the sanctuary when the service is completed. Please feel free to continue giving as you have during this time whether that is mailing checks or giving online. We are most thankful for your generous support!

Moment for Hope Invitation

CAN YOU DO A MOMENT FOR HOPE? Would you like to try doing a Moment For Hope? As you probably know, we encourage our people from FPCA to reflect upon a hopeful passage taken from Scripture. It is a 3-5 minute recording of yourself, using your smartphone turned sideways, which then you can upload to Google Drive on your phone and share with eric@firstprestexas.org (Eric Gottmann, our social media director). If you are interested in giving it a try, we can help you. Please volunteer by sending an email to Kim Lewis, kim@firstprestexas.org. Thank you so much!

Preschool Teachers Needed

We are currently looking for qualified teachers to fill part-time positions for our Infant, Toddler, and Pre-K classes. If you are passionate about working with children and want to provide them a safe environment that they may grow socially, emotionally, cognitively, and are given opportunities to learn about God's love, then First Presbyterian Preschool Arlington is just the place for you. We are accepting applications Monday through Friday from 7:30am -5:30pm. You may apply online at www.fppsarlington.com, call us at 817-274-4051, or simply stop by the office. We are looking forward to hearing from you. Sincerely, Preschool Staff

Important Hygiene Information to Remember

For now, in order to keep our church gatherings safe during the era of the coronavirus, remember, please:

1. If you are sick, stay home.
2. If your health is compromised, stay home.
3. Wash your hands with soap and water (20 seconds) regularly throughout the day, and especially before gathering.
4. Minimize touches to your face.
5. Wear a face covering and maintain social distance from those outside your family.
6. Use hand sanitizer if hand washing is unavailable.

At this point in time, we believe these are the appropriate measures to take, and we urge you to continue to come to worship and praise the Lord as one Body in Christ. We realize these may need to change in the future. Thank you for your understanding.

Fall & Winter Youth Ministry Plan

It has been a blessing to see how our youth ministry continues to maneuver through this pandemic with grace! We know that ministry for our youth will continue to look a little different during this season, but we will continue to press forward. Go to this link: tiny.cc/xjoxsz to see what we have planned for the youth ministry this fall and winter. Blessings in Christ, Adrian Rodriguez