

July 25, 2021

First Presbyterian Church

Ninth 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
11:00 Lay Leader: Ron MacLeod
Organist: Shina Heo

The Worship of God

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

Gathering

Prelude

Faith of Our Fathers!

Christina Becket

Preparation for Worship

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of the Bible, for its psalms and poems, parables and stories, histories, teachings, and prophecies. May the Holy Spirit who called out those ancient writings continue to call us out today, that our lives may reflect our crucified and risen Christ, who brings good news to the poor and lets the oppressed go free. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Call to Worship

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

To restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

To study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

To preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

Let us worship God.

Introit

Pilgrim Song
Youth Music Singers and Chancel Choir

Ryan Murphy

§ Hymn 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

God of restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust. 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.

Community Joys and Events

§ Hymn 515

I Come with Joy
Stanzas 1, 4, 5

DOVE OF PEACE

Proclaiming

Anthem	Sing Praises to God Youth Music Singers and Chancel Choir	Dan Goeller
Children's Time Children (age 3 to fourth grade) are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in the Fellowship Hall.		
First Scripture Reading	Nehemiah 7:73b – 8:4a, 5–6, 8	Old Testament page 436
Second Scripture Reading	Nehemiah 8:9–18	Old Testament page 437
The Sermon	The Joy of the Lord Is My Strength	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.

The Offering of our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory	Allegretto from Sonata No. 4	Felix Mendelssohn
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§ 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 the Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 54

I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member. Amen.

Sending

§ Hymn 611	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee	HYMN TO JOY
§ Charge and Benediction		
Postlude	Crown Him with Many Crowns	Mary McDonald



Sermon Notes

The Joy of the Lord Is My Strength

Nehemiah 7:73b – 8:18

Ezra-Nehemiah: physical projects with spiritual purposes

1) The Importance of Understanding

2) The Results of Understanding

3) The Law Enriches our Lives

(Go Rangers!)

New Members Class

Come be a part of the 4-week New Members class, *Fixin' to Join – An Adventure in Christian Community*. We will share some about our faith journeys, the basics of Presbyterianism, where God is calling FPCA, and how you can become further connected with the people and programs of this congregation. The New Members class begins Sunday, August 1st, at 9:45 a.m. in the church Library.

Please let us know if you plan on attending. Contact Kim Lewis at the church office at 817-274-8286 or by email: kim@firstprestexas.org.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be Monday-Friday, July 26-30. We will be having it in-person from 9:00 a.m. to noon for children 4 years old to 6th grade. We will also have the lessons available online. Our memory verse for the week is John 15:12 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." Children will learn that to Jesus they are known, they belong, they are forgiven, they can change, and they can make a difference. It will be a great week of fun and learning. If you would like to help please contact Kyle by email kyle@firstprestexas.org. If you have children, grandchildren, or neighbors 4 years old to 6th grade make plans to bring them to VBS.

Snacks Needed for Vacation Bible School!

We are in need of snacks for Vacation Bible School - July 26-30. If you are able to help please bring individually packed lunch box size snacks to the Fellowship Hall kitchen (examples: vanilla wafers, goldfish, pretzels etc.). Please mark your items for VBS. Questions- please call Marge Dawson 817-980-6825.

Church Office Hours

With FPCA getting back into a regular routine with activities, we want to make sure the congregation and friends know what the church office hours are.

Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Offering

If you would like to give your tithes and offerings in person today, please use the envelope provided in the pews. You can drop the envelope during the offering time or in the offering basket in the Narthex 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!

FPCA Newsletter

The Newsletter is available in the Narthex and outside the Chapel. The News continues to be in the church-wide email each month. The Newsletter is also on our church website at firstprestexas.org.

By using this digital method to send the Newsletter, the church is saving with both printing and mailing costs. If you prefer to have a copy mailed to you, please give the church office a call and let them know.

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

The Monday Night Womens Bible Study will resume meeting the third Monday of each month except December, June, July and August, beginning September 20, 6-7:30 p.m. in the Church Parlor.

The 2021-2022 study will be the Horizons's study *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*.

This group rotates facilitating the lessons as well as providing a light meal each month. All women invited! Questions? Contact coordinators Debbie Richardson (der817@gmail.com) or Sheri Quick (sheriq@aol.com). Books are in the church office copy room in a box marked with a bright pink sign. Study guides are \$11 each.

**PCHAS Fall 2021 School Supply Wish List
Benefiting Children in Fort Worth, North and West Texas**

The deadline to donate school supplies is Sunday, August 1st. Items can be placed in the gray donation bins in the Narthex, outside of Fellowship Hall, and the church office.

Fall 2021 Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

School Supply Wish List

Benefiting Children in
Fort Worth, North and West Texas

Elementary School

1-Inch 3-Ring Binder

12" Ruler

Backpack

Ballpoint Pens

Colored Pencils

Crayons

Dry Erase Markers

Dry Erasers

Glue Sticks

Hand Sanitizer

Highlighters

Index Cards

Pencil Pouch w Zipper

Pencils - #2

Pencil Sharpeners

Pocket Folders Without Fasteners

Protractor

Scissors (Blunt Tip)

Spiral Notebooks

Composition Books

Subject Dividers

Tissues

Washable Markers

Wide Ruled Loose Leaf Paper

Middle and High School

1 ½ Inch 3-Ring Binder

Backpack

Ballpoint Pens

Calculator (basic)

Graph Calculator (TI-84 Plus CE)

Drawing Paper

Dry Erase Markers

Dry Erasers

Glue Sticks

Graph Paper

Hand sanitizer

Highlighters

Index Cards

Markers

Pencil Pouch

Pencils - No. 2

Pencil Sharpener

Pocket Folders

Protractor

Ruler

Scissors

Spiral Notebooks

Composition Books

Subject Dividers

White-Out

Wide Ruled Loose-Leaf Paper

USB Flash Drives

Earbuds (headphones)

Rangers & PCHAS Game

We're planning on taking the PCHAS kids and staff to the Rangers vs. Seattle game, Sunday, August 1st, at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and you're invited! Contact Bob Dawson, txt 214-415-5396.