

July 31, 2022

First Presbyterian Church

Eighth 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
Lay Leader: Diane Terwilliger
Organist: Shina Heo

The Worship of God

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

*Please silence all phones and devices.
Please fill out the Friendship Pad in your pew.*

Gathering

Prelude

Intermezzo on “Now Thank We All Our God”

John Dixon

Prayer for Preparation

*Holy God, you see us for just who we are, and yet you love us with a parent’s love.
In your enduring love for us we see both our guilt and our acquittal.
Gracious God continue to guide and teach us to walk in your ways.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Brothers and sisters, we have been raised with Christ to new life,
Freed from every fear and granted every grace.
With songs of praise let us worship God.

§ Hymn 643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

§ Prayer of Confession (silently, then said together)

**Holy God, you lavish us with good gifts,
yet we persist in seeking after that which robs us of abundant life.
We hold fast to our anxieties and give in to our greed;
we desire the very things that harm us.**
**Forgive us, purify us, and sustain us by the strength of your Holy Spirit,
we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

§ Assurance of Pardon

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

§ 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.**

Transform Update

Larry Stephenson

Proclaiming

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

Responsive Reading

Refrain



Thanks be to God, re - joice and sing.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west, **from the north and from the south.**

Refrain

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;

hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;

he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

Refrain

Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, **for his wonderful works to humankind.**

For he satisfies the thirsty, **and the hungry he fills with good things.**

Let those who are wise give heed to these things, **and consider the steadfast love of the Lord.**

Refrain

Children's Time

Children (age 3 to fourth grade) are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in the Fellowship Hall.

Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, "Alleluia!"

*Utter it even unto the ends of the earth,
"The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia!"*

O be joyful in God, all ye lands,

O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, "Alleluia!"

New Testament Reading

Acts 8:26-38

New Testament page 127

Sermon

I Love to Tell the Story

Rev. Campbell

Responding

§ Hymn 175

Seek Ye First

SEEK YE FIRST

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.

Offering our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Emma Lou Diemer

§ 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

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 58

What comfort does the article concerning “the life everlasting” give you?

That, for the sake of Christ's reconciling work, God will no more remember my sins or the sinfulness with which I have to struggle all my life long; but that he graciously imparts to me the righteousness of Christ so that I may never come into condemnation. Amen.

Sending

§ Hymn 462

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

§ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Hallelujah

George Frideric Handel



643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:

who, from our moth - ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,

with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

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Seek Ye First

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
 3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

and its righ - teous - ness,
 seek, and you shall find;
 but by ev - ery word

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.
 that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Sermon Notes

I Love to Tell the Story Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Acts 8:26-38

You have to be ready - physical readiness

Be aware of who God wants you to invest in - spiritual readiness

Be ready to share your faith at any time - intellectual awareness

Five ways to share your faith story:

- 1) Learn to love to tell the story
 - BC (before Christ) and AD (after the decision)
- 2) The bridge illustration
- 3) Talk about do vs. done
- 4) The morality ladder
- 5) The invitation

Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone. - Colossians 4:5-6

New Members Class

Come be a part of the 3-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 next Sunday**, August 7th, 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.

HOPE Tutoring Update at FPCA

HOPE Tutoring will be changing the meeting day to **Tuesday nights**. They will be starting back up on Tuesday, September 6, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Room 218. Masks will be required.

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!

Friendship Pads

Please take the time to fill out the Friendship Pad in your pew. Whether you're a guest or a member, we would love to have your contact information so we can keep in touch with you.

New Little Library

Have you noticed the little free library in the Narthex? This is mainly for our young friends. You do not need to share a book in order to take one.

If you do take a book or two from the little library try to bring some to share. Many thanks to Harold Thomlinson for constructing this precious tiny library and to his grandson, Foster, for the lettering on the door.

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 www.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.

HOPE Tutoring - NIGHT OF HOPE Fundraiser

HOPE Tutoring is having its annual NIGHT OF HOPE fundraiser Friday, August 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Tickets are \$50 for dinner, Lotus Quintet (jazz ensemble), speaker Dr. Cavazos – AISD Superintendent and silent auction and raffles.

Online reservations at www.hopetutoring.org/noh, 2022 Night of Hope contact Melina Peña or Manual LeBlanc if you have questions.

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

The Monday Night Women's Bible Study will resume Monday, September 19, in the church Parlor. It will be a potluck, so bring a favorite dish. We will meet from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The 2022-23 study is the Horizon's *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*. Study guides for those who ordered are in the church workroom. Your name will be on one of the books. Please leave your \$11 payment in the provided envelope with the books with noting your form of payment (cash or check) and the date you picked up the book. Questions? Contact Debbie Richardson 817.675.2867 or der817@gmail.com.

Senior Flexibility Class

Come get fit with us! The Senior Flexibility Class will meet each week on Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

There is no charge, but participants will be responsible for purchasing and storing their own exercise equipment. If interested, contact Mary Spencer at 817-689-0526.

SUPPORT THE CHURCH'S ONLINE PRESENCE

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WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRESTEXAS



This week @ FPCA

Sunday 7/31	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
Tuesday 8/2	9:30 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class
	10:30 a.m.	Tues. Morning Women's Bible Study
Wednesday 8/3	8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Quilting
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	CWF Women's Bible Study
Friday 8/5	9:30 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class

Information for the August 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, Shannon Annen, Christine Apperson, Jack Bos, James (Andrew) Bridges, Carol Browning, Billie Jo Campbell, Vannah Caylor, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Lloyd Counts, James Ditto, Cyprian Engwenyi, the Farnell Family, Don & Betty Farrell, Bunny Floyd, Joe and Lila Glenn, the Gottmann Family, Grady Herzog, Andrew Hydock, Tim Karnes (Pat May's son), Manuel LeBlanc, Gary Lindley, Pat May, Mark Moore, Christopher & Victorine Ngochi, Jim L. Quick, Jillian Reynolds, Aileigh Rodriguez, Beth Rotert, Kathy Rotert, Tonya Scrabeck, Jamee Shroyer, David Spencer, the Mike Leathem Family, John and Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble.

Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:

Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Amie Murtha, Stephen O'Neil Sosa, Colin Peden, Ryan Powell, Ryan Regalado, Peyton Steeno, Christopher Young, Robbie Wallace

Prayers for our home-bound members:

Esther Albright, Tom and Bobbie Fowler, Barbara Hughes, Jeanne Malone, Charlene Miller, Betty Snowden, Dee Uhri, Richard Whitenight, Mary Jane Wright.

Prayers for those who do not know Christ

If you have any congregational care needs, please contact our Parish Associate, Jim Shroyer at 682-445-0155.

Staff Directory

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