

WELCOME VISITORS!

First Presbyterian is a Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a Stephen Ministry Congregation

We welcome you as a participant in worship today. We pray that you will find this service meaningful. Worship is but one of the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church.

Please remember to turn off all cell phones and pagers. Also, please DO NOT take flash photographs during the services.

Please sign in: The red Friendship Folders will be passed during the offering.

Looking for a Church home? Please speak with an usher after the 8:30 service or the "Ask Me" persons standing at the rear of the church after the 10:30 service, who this week are Dag and Melissa Rowe. The Rowe's are available to answer questions about First Presbyterian Church, our programs, or finding locations within our building.

Ushers serving this morning: 8:30 a.m.: Jill Chappell and Rick Rawls; 10:30 a.m.: Anne Brigrance, Beth and Steve Clapp, Mary Margaret Co-field, and John Wessel.

The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Rev. & Mrs. W. Arnold Pate by their son, J. Edwin Pate.

Help us celebrate Easter morning by bringing your flowers to place at bottom of the wooden cross at the front of the church. Your beautiful contribution will help us announce the Good News of The Resurrection to the whole community!

We will welcome The Rev. Glenn McDonald as our speaker during our Bicentennial Celebration on June 17, 2018. For more information about Rev. McDonald and to receive his daily Morning Reflection please email him at glenn.mcdonald@ascension.org.



HOLY WEEK

Worship Services

Sunday, March 25

Palm/Passion Sunday

8:30 a.m., John Allan Hall
10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Thursday, March 29

Maundy Thursday,

7:00 p.m., John Allan Hall

Friday, March 30

Good Friday/Tenebrae Service

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
The Seven Last Words
by Michael John Trotta
presented by the Chancel Choir
and Woodwind Ensemble

Sunday, April 1

Easter Egg Hunt

9:30-10:15 a. m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 1

Resurrection of the Lord/Easter

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

IN MEMORIAM

Anita Sylvia Jean Verble

May 22, 1933 - March 3, 2018

Janet Tyler Connor

June 5, 1935 - March 3, 2018



PW Circles
will meet
Monday, March 12

Circle 1 - 10:00 a.m., meet at FPC, then to Second Mile Development.

Circle 2 - 10:00 a.m., hosted by Olivia Brandon, 1806 Lydia Dr., HSV

Circle 3 - 6:30 p.m. in the Carriage House.



Join us as we welcome
The Aeolians
of Oakwood University

Sunday, April 8, 2018

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
3:00 p.m. Concert in the Sanctuary



The Bicentennial cookbook committee is collecting recipes at the church office. Please submit as many as you like, and place them in the container labeled "Recipes."

Each recipe should be typed and include your name and phone number. If there is an interesting story about a recipe please include it.

DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, APRIL 1.

Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 1, 2018 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Nursery age - 3rd Grade

Parents are welcome to attend as well!

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday during the Sunday School hour for a story, egg hunt & snacks.



March:

3/11th - PYC @ 11:30-2pm/Lunch and Bowling after 10:30 worship head to Five Guys for lunch then bowling afterwards to welcome Hannon Bulger.

Parents you are welcome too!

3/18th - PYC @ 5-7pm/St Patrick's Day Festivities

3/25th - NO PYC/Palm Sunday



Music Ministry

CCLI # 1345744

Our church has been invited to participate in Festival Corale Internazionale Di Roma in Italy with Z. Randall Stroope June 20th-29th, 2019. If you would like to be part of this memorable experience, contact Dr. Hacker for more details. Brochures with all the trip information are located in the entrance of the church.

We would like to thank David Jones for playing this morning, and Sherry Smith for sharing her music with us.

If you would like to join the Chancel Choir, please join us on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. We would love to have you. Handbell rehearsals are Sunday at 11:30 a.m. after the 10:30 service.

FPC MINISTRY TEAM



The Rev. Tara W. Bulger, Senior Pastor
seniorpastor@fpchsv.org Ext. 122

The Rev. Dr. James W. Roberts, Int. Associate Pastor
associatepastor@fpchsv.org Ext. 127

Dr. Patricia Hacker, Director of Music
music@fpchsv.org Ext. 126

Louise McCallion, Youth Director
youth@fpchsv.org Ext. 131

Lacey Guthrie, First Friends Preschool Director
ffdiretor@fpchsv.org Ext. 128

Cynde Tannehill, Office Administrator/Notary
administrator@fpchsv.org Ext. 132

Amber Stewart, Receptionist
receptionist@fpchsv.org Ext. 130

Ellen DeAngelo, Finance Assistant
finance@fpchsv.org Ext. 136

Quentin Fitzpatrick, Sexton

In case of emergency please contact the church office at 256-536-3354, ext.132.

(The worship service is broadcast over WLOR AM 1550 or FM 98.1)

307 Gates Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35801
256-536-3354 - Fax (256) 536-3038
E-Mail: fpc@fpchsv.org
Home page: www.fpchsv.org



SUNDAY - March 11, 2018

8:30 AM - Worship Service/JAH
9:30 AM - Sunday School
10:30 AM - Worship Service/SAN
11:30 AM - Handbell Rehearsal/BR
5:00 PM - PYC
6:00 PM - Bible Study/LIB

MONDAY - March 12, 2018

9:00 AM - FF Preschool
10:00 AM - PW Circles
12:00 PM - The Vine: Lent Healing Svc/JAH
5:30 PM - Stephen Ministry/SMR
6:30 PM - PW Evening Circle/CH

TUESDAY - March 13, 2018

9:00 AM - FF Preschool
5:30 PM - Session/FH
6:30 PM - Boy Scouts 633
6:30 PM - HMC Rehearsal/CR

WEDNESDAY - March 14, 2018

9:00 AM - FF Preschool
9:30 AM - Disciple 1/LIB
1:30 PM - Prayer Shawl Ministry/LIB
5:00 PM - WNL Children/Youth
5:30 PM - WNL Adult Classes
6:30 PM - WNL Dinner
7:15 PM - Chancel Choir Practice/CR

THURSDAY - March 15, 2018

9:00 AM - FF Preschool
9:30 AM - Disciple IV/LIB
11:15 AM - FPC Prayer Group/LIB
12:15 PM - Al-Anon/GBH

FRIDAY - March 16, 2018

9:00 AM - NO FF Preschool

SATURDAY - March 17, 2018

7:30 AM - Early Christians Study Grp/LIB

SUNDAY - March 18, 2018

8:30 AM - Worship Service/JAH
9:30 AM - Sunday School
10:30 AM - Worship Service/SAN
11:30 AM - Handbell Rehearsal/BR
5:00 PM - PYC
6:00 PM - Bible Study/LIB

Calendar Legend:

BR - Bell Room
CH - Carriage House (GBH)
CER - Christian Ed Resource upstairs
CR - Choir Room
FH - Fellowship Hall
GBH - Gideon Blackburn House
HR - Historical Room
JAH - John Allan Hall (GBH)
LIB - Library
SAN - Sanctuary
SMR - Stephen Ministry Room (GBH)



Lectionary Readings

March 18 2018

Num. 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22;
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

First Presbyterian Church

Founded June 15, 1818



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

8:30 a.m./10:30 a.m. Worship Service

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

We seek to be a Church United in Christ,
Scripturally Based, and
a Compassionate Community of Faith.

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

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and a Stephen Ministry congregation.



Assemble in God's Name

With the chiming of the bell, we quietly and prayerfully prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

Chiming of the Bell

Prelude *Wonderful Peace* Cooper, arr. Wyrzten
David Jones, piano/organ

Welcome and Announcements

Bicentennial Minute Janis Williams

Choral Introit (10:30) *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*
Chancel Choir CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

*Call to Worship

Leader: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

People: We rejoice in our God, who made a way though the desert of this world.

Leader: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

People: We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!

*Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn 634** *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen. *(silence for reflection)*

Kyrie *Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us* KYRIE
(8:30) *Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.*

(10:30) *Lord, have mercy upon us,* (3 times)
Christ, have mercy upon us, (3 times)
Lord, have mercy upon us. (3 times)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness, and by grace you have been saved. In Jesus' name you are forgiven. Your sins are no more. You have been made clean. God strengthens you with freedom through the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Hymn 435** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* IN BABILONE

**Stand as you are able.*

***The Passing of the Peace** (8:30)

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading - Numbers 21:4-9 pew Bible, OT, pg. 139
pew Bible (large print), OT, pg. 174
Readers: (8:30) Bill Chappell; (10:30) Stephanie Hyatt

Anthem *If With All Your Hearts*, from "Elijah" F. Mendelssohn
(8:30) Sherry Smith, mezzo-soprano

God So Loved the World John Stainer
(10:30) Chancel Choir

Time for Young Disciples (10:30)

At this time all children will be invited to come to the chancel steps. Children ages KINDERGARTEN AND YOUNGER are dismissed to the nursery. FIRST GRADE AND UP should remain in the sanctuary with parents.

Second Reading - John 3:14-21 pew Bible, NT, pg. 94
pew Bible (large print), NT, pg. 114

Sermon "Two Competing Truths" The Rev. Tara W. Bulger

Respond To God's Word

***Hymn 395** *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word* LIEBSTER JESU

***Affirmation of Faith** A Brief Statement of Faith Hymnal pg. 37

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe in the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer Hymnal pg. 35

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory *Steal Away* African-American Spiritual
(8:30) David Jones, piano arr. Burleigh

If With All Your Hearts, from "Elijah" F. Mendelssohn
(10:30) Sherry Smith, mezzo-soprano

***Doxology** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

***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.***

*Offertory Prayer

***Closing Hymn 546** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* SICILIAN MARINERS

*Benediction

***Choral Response** *May the Love of The Lord* SOON TI
Chancel Choir

***Postlude** (8:30) *For the Beauty of the Earth* Pierpont, Kocher, Monk
(10:30) *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Watts, Mason
David Jones, piano/organ and Miller

PRAYER REQUESTS

Members: Anne Boles, Charlie Bonner, Emily Butler, Reese Butler, Marlyn Harris, David Hatch, J. R. Howard, Kara Howard, Billie Jones, Cay Lambert, Sage Lyons III, Harper Grace Niedermeyer, Sanders Pair, Dolly Shuey, and Ed Walker.

Friends & Relatives: Sheriff Blake Dorning - Friend of Houston Matthews; Patricia Dunkin - Friend of Beverly Wills; Stella Fair - Sister of David Galloway; Calhecia Francis - Sister of Eliza Francis; Jimmy Ford - Son of Jean Forbes; Susan Gillespie - Friend of FPC; Donna Hester - Sister-in-law of Anne Peters; Tina and James Hester - Parents of Anne Peters; Lydia Kimbrel, daughter of Craig and Ashley Kimbrel - Friends of Nan McBride; Frances Kyser - Friend of Patricia Hacker; Lori Lee - Friend of Beverly Wills; Beverlee Leo - Mother of Lori Smith; Markes Little - Brother of Peggy Galloway; Kevin McCarley - Brother of Roy McCorkle; Beth Lee McCormick - Friend of the Fowler Family; Glenn Myers - Friend of Beverly Wills; Diana Rose - Mother of Serena Neely; Scott Sedlitz - Stepson of Annwhite Fuller; Fred Stucky, Jr. - Father of Fred Stucky; Billy Wallace - Brother of Beverly Wills.

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care: Elissa Green (Brookdale Hampton Cove); Jeanette Hollis (Harbor Chase); Pat Ivy (Redstone Village); Darwin Perkins (Brookdale Place); Ray Rose (Diversicare of Big Springs); Marge Sharp (Birmingham).

The Church: Rev. Tara Bulger, and her family; First Presbyterian Church, the Session, the North Alabama Presbytery, and for all the church staff. NAP seminary students Devon Reynolds (New Market) and Sara Jane Bush Nixon (First, Athens).

Military & International: All those serving in the armed forces.

Our Nation: President Trump and our representatives.

First Presbyterian Missions & Ministries: Appalachia Service Project (ASP); Good Samaritans; International Missionary Fellowship (HaitiHospital.org); The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center; The Presbyterian Home for Children; Second Mile Preschool; Kids to Love; and the CUP program.

Other Prayers: Let us remember all those who have suffered and continue to suffer from natural disasters, our Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program, and other benevolent agencies.

