



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

September 8, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The mission of First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg is to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ, who know God and, through love, serve the Lord and others. We will accomplish our mission by practicing radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission, and extravagant generosity.

PREPARATION

(Please use the prelude as a time for reflection and preparation for worship.)

**Please stand, if able. Responses are in boldface.*

PRELUDE

"Trumpet Tune"

Nicholas Guy (c. 1603–1660)

"Trumpet Duet"

Johan Helmich Roman (1694–1758)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day which the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

The name of the Lord is to be praised.

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord.

Teach me your paths.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 385**

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gretchen Letterman

We are so happy to gather together today, O God; to see our church family, to feel the buzz of a new year and to prayerfully wonder what possibilities are in store for us. We confess that the flexibility of summer has caused us to fall out of some of our routines. We have missed opportunities to center ourselves in prayer, to serve, and to be in community. Like in the parable of the lost sheep, we can feel ourselves wandering off. But, just as the sheep was found and brought home again, so, too, are we drawn back: drawn back to you, drawn back to our church, and drawn back to the person you are calling us to be. So help us, O God. Calm the chaos in our lives. Encourage us to set goals, to find structure, and to center our lives on you. And may our year be filled with unexpected grace.

(Please take time for silent confession.) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE HYMN 443

“There is a Redeemer” (v. 1)

GREEN

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please exchange signs of reconciliation and peace with those sitting around you.

PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Diane Zuercher

(Children are invited to come forward to the pulpit area for the Children's Sermon. Afterward, they may return to their parent or guardian or leave the sanctuary for Godly Play.)

WORSHIP SONG

"Grace Flows Down" *(see insert for words)* David E. Bell, Louie Giglio,
Rod Padgett

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 6:4-7

(pew Bible, Old Testament, page 204)

Second Lesson: Luke 2:39-40

Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, New Testament, page 72)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Growing Up in Christ"

Dr. Dawn Conti

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS—PRAYER AND INVITATION

OFFERTORY HYMN 48

“Rain Down”

arr. John Carter

Chancel Choir

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people. Rain down, rain down, rain down your love, God of life. Faithful and true is the word of our God. All of God’s works are so worthy of trust. God’s mercy falls on the just and the right; full of God’s love is the earth. We who revere and find hope in our God live in the kindness and joy of God’s wing. God will protect us from darkness and death; God will not leave us to starve. God of creation, we long for your truth; you are the water of life that we thirst. Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you.

*DOXOLOGY

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.

SENDING

*WORSHIP SONG

“Open up the Heavens” (*see insert for words*)

James McDonald,

Jason Ingram, Meredith Andrews,

Stuart Garrard, Andi Rozier

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Flourish”

Rosalie Bonighton

(b. 1946)

FPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

A digital copy of each Sunday's **11:00 a.m. order of worship and announcements** can be found on our website: www.fpcstpete.com. On the home page, click on "Sundays" then scroll down to "Sunday's Bulletin." Also online: our **Calendar of Events** is updated as we receive information, and may be accessed from our website's "Events" tab at the top of the page.

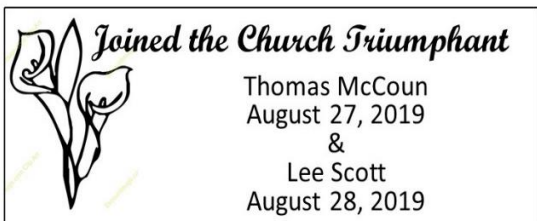
CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary today were given to the glory of God and in celebration of 65 years of marriage of Nina and Rodney Glover (anniversary is September 12).



If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one with chancel flowers, please fill out a green envelope, available in the church

pew. Enclose your donation of \$45 with the memo "Chancel flowers." Flower envelopes may be dropped in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in prayer: Ruth Bafaro, Ron & Millie Bradley, Katy Churchil, Bob Clark, Kat Cline, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Larry and Diane Heath, Claire Hoel, Rhys Hogan, Ann Holifield, Jean Howie, Walter Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Mary Johnson, Shirnice Johnson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Glenice Kelley, Richard Kirsch, Michael Liguori, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauger, Johnny Miller, Jr., Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Howard Moser, Anne Mulder, Tamara Murphy, Peter Pav, Del and Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Miriam Putney, Jean Reed, Lil Reid, Jane Snoke, Nikki Stubbs, Laura Unger.

Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: James Loeblein, USN; 1st LT. Taina Specie, USA; 1st LT. Liam Shelton, USA; 2nd LT. Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT. Robert Wilson,

USAF. Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry. If you



know of others, please contact **Blanche Ganey** (bganey@fpc-stpete.org).

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Jennie and the McCoun family on the death of Tom and to Margaret and the Scott family on the death of Lee.

RALLY DAY IS TODAY AFTER SERVICE

There are great things happening at our church and there are amazing people helping to make those things happen. Hang around after church and meet some of the leaders and learn what all is coming up this fall.

CONGREGATIONAL DINNER AND TOWN HALL MEETING

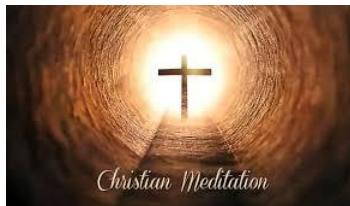
Please join us Wednesday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m. *See insert for additional information and to sign up for the dinner.*

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

All families are invited to FPC's annual Blessing of the Backpacks! Children are encouraged to bring their backpacks (siblings can bring their backpacks too!) for a special blessing during both

services Sunday, September 15. What a great way to start the school year!

MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS



You will feel warmly welcomed when you come to meditation

in a small group. We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17, in the chapel from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. For more information, please contact group leader **Carlen Maddux** (727-504-8201 or cmaddux@maddux.com). We welcome your inquiries and presence.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY FOR 2019-2020



Our study this year is "**Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments,**" an exploration of the Ten Commandments from a new perspective.

**LET'S WELCOME BACK TODAY
DIRECTOR MATT CLEAR
AND THE CHANCEL CHOIR!**

HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF

Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas as a Category 5 hurricane on September 1, 2019, and stalled over the islands for 24 hours, causing massive damage. So far, it is reported that seven lives have been lost. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working with partners in the Bahamas to respond to immediate needs and is monitoring the storm as it heads along the Atlantic coast in the U.S. To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. Or make your check out to Presbyterian Church (USA) with “DR000194” on the memo line.

STEPHEN MINISTERS: THE AFTER PEOPLE



STEPHEN
MINISTRY

What is a Stephen Minister? One way to define them is that they are the “*After People*.” Stephen Ministers are there *After* the phone call you hoped you’d never get. *After* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you held at bay come crashing down. *After* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.” *After* the last child waves and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.

After your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out. Contact **Pastor Dawn, Ginger McCoy**, 804-2429, or **Terry Schoenberg**, 667-1023. Stephen Ministers are the *After People*, ready to come alongside you – or your friends, neighbors, coworkers or relatives –and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed.

WANT TO BECOME A LUNCH PAL AT LAKEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

Lunch Pals is a mentoring program to provide students with an additional presence of a caring, consistent and committed adult in their lives. See insert for additional information.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE KICKS OFF NEXT WEEK



Not only will there be a home-cooked meal each week but there will be two different dynamic, stimulating studies lead by Rev. Ruth Elswood and youth director, Dave Aumack. Please see the reservation insert each week letting you know the menu and for signing up so that we always have enough food. Child care will be available.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

RALLY DAY SUNDAY

FPC Bus-Westminster Shores	8:45 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Westminster Suncoast	9:00 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Presbyterian Towers	9:15 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Westminster Palms	9:30 AM	Church Bus
Valet Parking	9:30 AM	

Blended Worship **10:00 AM Sanctuary**

Yoga with Adam	3:00 PM	F'shp Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-123

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Circle 3	9:30 AM	Off-site
PW Circle 6	10:00 AM	S-100
PCAT	11:00 AM	Pastors Study
Day School Committee mtg.	4:00 PM	Day Sch Ofc
All Committees Gathering	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
All Committees Meeting	7:00 PM	Campus

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Beth Moore Bible Study	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr
Faith Development Bible Study	9:30 AM	S-100
Griefshare Group	10:00 AM	Chapel

Church Staff Meeting	2:30 PM	N-218
Praise Band Rehearsal	6:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Beth Moore Bible Study	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-123

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Circle 12	11:30 AM	Off-site
Congregational Meeting & Dinner	5:30 PM	F'shp Hall
Kids' Night Out KNO	6:00 PM	Child care
Day School Back to School	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
AA for Women	7:00 PM	N-123

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
BSF Women's Bible Study	5:45 PM	F'shp Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Bible Study Lunch Bunch	12:00 PM	Off-site

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Officer Training	9:00 AM	Youth Cntr
Kids' Night Out KNO	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
AI-Anon Family Group	7:00 PM	N-123



Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti, Pastor ♦ Matt Clear, Director of Worship Music and the Arts ♦ Jack Rain, Organist ♦ David Aumack, Youth Coordinator ♦ Rev. Ruth Elswood, Parish Associate ♦ Ashley Davis, Day School Director ♦ Amy Grossenbacher, Admin. Asst. ♦ Stacey Ramirez, Director of Child Care ♦ Linda Champion, Staff Accountant ♦ Blanche Ganey, Office Manager ♦ Johnny Miller, Building & Grounds Superintendent ♦ Bob Langley, Custodian

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Day School: (727) 894-5889 ♦ Web site: www.fpctestpete.com ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stpete.org

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC
