



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

September 15, 2019

11:00 a.m.

Twenty-fourth 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

“Prelude and Fugue in D”

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637–1707)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to rejoice together; God is present with us. Sing praises to God, all you faithful ones.

We are restored to life, morning after morning. We will extol our God, who lifts us up.

Come to be washed and cleansed, forgiven and freed. Renew your commitment to the One who calls us.

We have come to listen for God's word to us. We will give thanks to God's holy name.

Come to enter the race for an imperishable goal. Proclaim the joy of serving in God's name.

We are here to find where God will send us. We are ready to serve in Christ's name.

INTROIT

"Welcome All"
Chancel Choir

Traditional Syrian
arr. Jane Ramseyer Miller

Welcome all to this land. Join your hands, raise your voices, we are one! Share our food, lend a hand, with our songs of love and justice we sing on! Come, sing out for justice, sing out for peace. May our songs of freedom never cease!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 641

"When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

ENGELBERG

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ellen Carnahan

Where are you, God? We confess that we have ignored you for so long that we feel out of touch. When we have a sudden need, it feels as if you are hiding from us. On those days when it seems we are down in a pit, and there is no way out, we do not dare to trust that you are there. Instead, we look for help in the wrong places and pursue our own ideas of what is best for us. Forgive us, O God, and teach us healthy self-control and responsiveness to your will. *(Please take time for silent confession.)* Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As Jesus chose to heal the leper, God chooses to forgive and reconcile us to our best selves. We can take off our sack-cloth to put on garments of joy, for God turns our mourning to dancing. God's favor rests on us and strengthens us. We are cleansed and made whole. Give thanks to God, whose welcome is for each one of us and for all of us together.

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

PROCLAMATION

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Dr. Dawn Conti

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

* HYMN 697

“Take My Life”

HENDON

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 306)

Second Lesson: Psalm 30

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 621)

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:40-45

Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 43)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

“The Ministry of Presence”

Dr. Dawn Conti

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.

RESPONSE

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

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.

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS—PRAYER AND INVITATION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“If God Be for Us”
Chancel Choir

Clifford McCormick

If God be for us who can be against us? Who can separate us from the love of Christ? In all things, we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. He that gave his own Son for us all, shall he not, through him, give us all things?

*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

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 69

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Partita on “Engelberg” (hymn 641)
IV. “Final”

Michael Burkhardt
(b. 1957)

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 loving memory of Glenn Schlecht by Stephen, Eric and Susan Schlecht.



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,

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:



Brian Herzik, USA, LTC, 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).

INVITE A FRIEND TO WORSHIP!

Would you like your friends to enjoy the same spiritual nourishment that you receive each Sunday? If so, then why not invite them to worship? FPC business cards are available at the Welcome Desk with the Sunday worship times printed on the back. Feel free to take one and invite someone you know to worship next Sunday!

Wear a nametag—We would like to get to know you! Nametags are printed upon request and are stored alphabetically in the racks at the entrance to the sanctuary and fellowship hall.

TOM MCCOUN'S SERVICE

Tom's service is Friday, September 20 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The reception is immediately following the service in fellowship hall.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS TODAY



All families are invited to participate today! Children are encouraged to bring their backpacks (siblings can bring their backpacks too!) for a special blessing during both

services. 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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE KICK-OFF THIS WEEK

There are two great classes being offered on Wednesday night as well as

a great home-cooked meal. *Please see insert for additional information and to RSVP.*

PASTORAL CARE ARMS OF THE CHURCH



DID YOU KNOW that our church has several ministries

that act as pastoral care arms of the church? ***These groups of people work hard to provide care for our church family.*** The groups include: the Pastoral Staff (Pastor & Parish Associate), the Deacons, Stephen Ministers, Presbyterian Women, the Pastoral Care Action Team and the Card Ministry. If you know someone who needs a card (get-well, sympathy, or praying for you), please call **Lillian Harris** at 527-7458. If you or someone you know would like a pastoral care visit, please contact **Amy** in the church office (828-3975 or amy@fpc-stpete.org).

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. To give by phone, call

800-872-3283. Or make your check out to Presbyterian Church (USA) with “DR000194” on the memo line.

GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP TUESDAY



GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to

help you rebuild your life. September 10–December 17, in the Chapel and will be led by our Parish Associate, **Rev. Ruth Elswood**. If you wish to attend the group or have questions, please e-mail relswood@fpc-stpete.org (your information will remain confidential). Or you may just show up at any of the meetings. Attendance is open to everyone.

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.*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

STEPHEN MINISTRY SUNDAY

Contemporary Worship	9:00 AM	F'shp Hall
Contemporary Faith Class	9:45 AM	N-218
Faith-Filled Families Class	9:45 AM	S-100
Faith Journey Class	9:45 AM	S-202
Westminster Class	9:45 AM	N-123
FPC Bus-Westminster Shores	9:45 AM	Church Bus
Children's Sunday School	10:00 AM	S-103
Youth Sunday School	10:00 AM	Youth Cntr
FPC Bus-Westminster Suncoast	10:00 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Presbyterian Towers	10:15 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Westminster Palms	10:30 AM	Church Bus
Valet Parking	10:30 AM	
Classic Worship with choir	11:00 AM	Sanctuary
Yoga with Adam	3:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-123

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Stephen Ministry Meeting	5:00 PM	S-100
PW Circle 10	7:00 PM	S-100
PW Circle 9	7:30 PM	Off-site

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Day School Teacher Orientation	9:00 AM	F'shp Hall
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
Melodies of the Mind	2:00 PM	Choir Room
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
Finance Committee Meeting	6:30 PM	N-218
Meditation for Christians	7:00 PM	Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-123

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
MOPS	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr
Gun Violence Prevention	10:30 AM	N-123
Lakewood Lunchpals Training	12:00 PM	S-100
Children's Music	5:00 PM	Choir Room
WNL Dinner	5:30 PM	F'shp Hall
Bible Study with Ruth	6:00 PM	F'shp Hall
Bible Study with Dave	6:00 PM	S-100
AA for Women	7:00 PM	N-123

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

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 20

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
Tom McCoun Memorial Svc	2:00 PM	Sanctuary
Tom McCoun Reception	3:00 PM	F'shp Hall

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Kids' Night Out KNO	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Al-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

701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 ♦ Church Office: (727) 822-2031 ♦ Fax: (727) 894-2971
 Day School: (727) 894-5889 ♦ Web site: www.fpcstpete.com ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stpete.org

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC
