



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

September 29, 2019

11:00 a.m.

Twenty-sixth 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

“Méditation”

Alphonse Maily
(1833–1918)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

When we come to this space, we bring all of ourselves.

We bring joy and hope,

dreams and prayers,

grief and doubt,

memories and heartache.

God meets us here.

God hears our prayers and sees our scars.

With open hearts and authenticity, let us worship our good and gracious God.

INTROIT

“We Praise Thy Name”

Chant

Chancel Choir

We praise Thy name, most holy Lord our God, Thou the Giver of life. Oh Lord on high, we praise Thy name.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 401

“Here in This Place”

GATHER US IN

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Robin Lyle

God of creation, humanity is capable of such evil. Stories in scripture alongside stories on the news remind us of that truth all the time. For the moments when we choose violence over peace, exclusion over inclusion, and fear over hope—forgive us. When we choose pride over what is right, and comfort over justice—show us mercy. And when we numb our pain instead of leaning into empathy—unravel us, for we long to be changed. Gratefully we pray. (*Please take time for silent confession.*) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news! God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:17) Friends, believe the good news:

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

RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE – HYMN 443

“There is a Redeemer” (v. 1)

GREEN

PROCLAMATION

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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Dr. Dawn Conti

(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.)

* HYMN 628

"Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord"

JE LOUERA L'ÉTERNEL

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-12

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 841)

Second Lesson: 2 Samuel 3:7; 21:1-14

Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, pages 344, 368)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Moving Beyond Thoughts and Prayers"

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.

A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Presbyterian Hymnal, p. 37, no. 3

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS—PRAYER AND INVITATION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Thy Church, O God, Her Heart to Thee Upraiseth"

Eric H. Thiman

Chancel Choir

(1900–1975)

Thy church, O God, her heart to thee upraiseth; with her the nation bows before thy face: With high thanksgiving thee thy glad church praiseth; our strength thy

spirit, our trust and hope thy grace. Unto great honour, glory undeserved, hast thou exalted us, and drawn thee nigh. Nor, from thy judgments when our feet had swerved, didst thou forsake, nor leave us, Lord most high. Unto our minds give freedom and uprightness; let strength and courage lead o'er land and wave. To our souls' armour grant celestial brightness, joy to our hearts, and faith beyond the grave. Our plenteous nation still in power extending, increase our joy, uphold us by thy word: Beauty and wisdom all our ways attending. Goodwill to man and peace through Christ our Lord.

***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 839**

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”

BLESSED ASSURANCE

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Toccata”

Alphonse Maily

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 Dr. Paul Snoke by Jane Snoke, David, Lisa, Haley & Emily Thompson, Kerry, Judy Wyatt and Cooper Dano.



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, 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).

WELCOME HOME, 1ST LT. TAINA SPECIE

We continue to thank you for your service.

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, October 1, 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.

8:15 COMMUNION SERVICE RESUMES OCTOBER 13



Fall is here and with it comes the resumption of our 8:15 a.m. service.

This service is held in the Chapel.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION DISCUSSION

In response to violent gun tragedies, we are holding a five-week study and discussion (using the “Gun Violence

Prevention Congregational Toolkit” by Presbyterian Peace Fellowship as a resource), on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 a.m. – noon, in room N-123. If you have any questions, or if you would like to participate in this discussion, please contact **Amy** in the church office at 822-2031 or amyg@fpc-stpete.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE 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.*

SPECIAL OUT-OF-THE-BOX WORSHIP SERVICE OCTOBER 5



Please make plans to join us for this special contemporary worship service Saturday, October 5, at 5 p.m. in fellowship hall. *See insert for additional information.*

PEACE & GLOBAL OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED NEXT SUNDAY



A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to

promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 AT 10 AM**



First Presbyterian Church is having its second annual blessing of the

animals, and we hope you will invite your friends and family to join us and bring your adorable animals. We have pet-minded vendors scheduled to attend with great giveaways, and our amazing praise band will be onsite to entertain.

**GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP
TUESDAYS**



GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel. If you wish to attend the group or have questions, please e-mail relswood@fpc-stpete.org

FAITH & FICTION RESUMES OCT 7

All Faith and Fiction meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in classroom N-123. For a list of the books for this year, visit the church website: www.fpcstpete.com.

**THANK YOU, DAVE AUMACK AND
FPC YOUTH**

Nice to know we can still enjoy the service even when we aren't able to come to church. If you are unable to make it to church, but would still like to view the service on Sunday morning, you can go to our YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYcYHUzgbUrt_w04s4Vb5_g/featured?disable_polymer=1) and watch live. The services are also archived on our channel, and you are able to go back and watch them at your leisure.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

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
Godly Play	11:00 AM	S-106
Yoga with Adam	3:00 PM	F'shp Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-123

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
----------------------	---------	------------

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

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
PW Circle 4	1:00 PM	Off-site
Church Staff Meeting	2:30 PM	N-218
Praise Band Rehearsal	6:00 PM	F'shp Hall
Associate Pastor Search		
Committee Meeting	6:30 PM	S-100
Beth Moore Bible Study	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr

Girl Scouts Troop 465	6:30 PM	S-206
Meditation For Christians	7:00 PM	Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-123

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Day School Chapel	9:00 AM	F'shp Hall
Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
MOPS	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr
Gun Violence Prevention	10:30 AM	N-123
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, OCTOBER 3

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Chancel Bells Rehearsal	6:00 PM	Choir Room
BSF Women's Bible Study	6:55 PM	F'shp Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

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, OCTOBER 5

Blessing of the Animals	10:00 AM	Front lawn
Special Evening Contemporary		
Worship	5:00 PM	F'shp Hall
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 Elwood, 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.fpcstoete.com ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stoete.org

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC
