



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation



December 8, 2019
10:00 a.m.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Isaiah 35: 1-10

Tony McCoy

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 811)

Second Lesson: Luke 1:46-55

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 69)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

“The Joy Option”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS—INVITATION AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Somewhere In My Memory”

John Williams

Chancel Choir

(b. 1932-)

Candles in the window, shadows painting the ceiling, gazing at the fireglow, feeling that gingerbread feeling. Precious moments, special people, happy faces I can see. Somewhere in my mem’ry, Christmas joys all around me. Living in my mem’ry, all of the music, all of the magic, all of the fam’ly home here with me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SENDING HYMN 134

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Nun komm’, der Heiden Heiland” BWV 661

Johann Sebastian Bach

(Come now, Redeemer of Mankind)

(1685–1750)

Jack Rain, organ

Thanks for joining us in worship today!

FPC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti, Pastor ♦ Matt Clear, Director of Worship Music and the Arts ♦ Kevin Clark, Contemporary Worship Leader ♦ Jack Rain, Organist ♦ David Aumack, Youth Coordinator ♦ Rev. Ruth Elswood, Parish Associate ♦ Ashley Davis, Day School Director ♦ Amy Grossenbacher, Admin. Asst. ♦ Stacey Ramírez, 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
Website: www.fpcstpete.com ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stpete.org

FPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

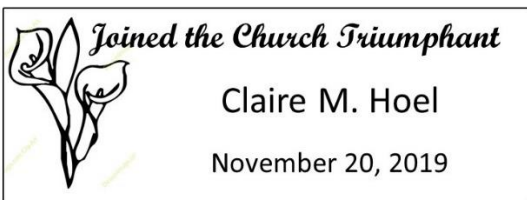
A digital copy of each Sunday's **11:00 a.m. order of worship and announcements** can be found on our website: www.fpcstpete.com. On the home page, click on "Sundays" then scroll down to "Sunday's Bulletin." Also online: our **Calendar of Events** is updated as we receive information, and may be accessed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

CHANCEL FLOWERS



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.



Claire M. Hoel

November 20, 2019

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in prayer: Ruth Bafaro, Ron & Millie Bradley, Katy Churchil, Bob Clark, Kat Cline, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Teresa Gasper, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Larry and Diane Heath, Rhys Hogan, Ann Holifield, Jean Howie,

Walter Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Shirnice Johnson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Glenice Kelley, Taffey Lichter, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauger, Johnny Miller, Jr., Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Howard Moser, Tamara Murphy, Peter Pav, Del and Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Miriam Putney, Lil Reid, Allen & Jean Schultz, 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).

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS

**Large
Print**

See an usher if you need a large-print bulletin or hymns. Each week we have large print copies of the bulletin and hymns available at the back of the church.

PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS TREE



As you begin writing your Christmas cards this season, please consider bringing a card for the Pastor's Christmas tree and enclosing a donation for the Pastor's

Assistance Fund, which provides confidential financial support throughout the year to members of our congregation and others recommended by local social services to pay for utility bills, medical needs, shelter, and other necessities. Each Sunday in December, members of the Mission Ministry will be available at the basket in the fellowship hall and at the Christmas tree located in the back of the sanctuary following the 9:00 and 11:00 services, respectively, to take your donations and hang your cards. They will also provide a card if you need one.

JOIN US THIS MORNING FOR A GREAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST



We are excited to have this opportunity for all to be together to show radical hospitality to our day school families today in Fellowship Hall

immediately following service in the Sanctuary. Thank you to our own Men's Meal Ministry team, **Peter Bardin, Bill Shelton, Don Doddridge, Bill Wanless, Kevin Conti, Don Zegel and Tony McCoy** for preparing and serving the breakfast today. Thank you to the Day School staff for organizing and managing the craft activities.

MANY MOODS OF CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 4:00 P.M.

Make plans to join us as we continue one of the most beloved traditions in our church and community. The choir and orchestra will be bigger than ever before as we partner with student musicians and singers from the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Jonathan C. Gibbs High School.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS



This week we meet for GriefShare Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and

Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the chapel for Surviving the Holidays. Holidays are a wonderful time, but for some it is a difficult time. Our GriefShare group is in place to help you navigate the difficult times. If you wish to attend the group or have questions, please e-mail relswood@fpc-stpete.org

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, December 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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE DONE DIFFERENTLY DURING FLU SEASON



An “elbow bump” can be safer than a handshake this time of year.

HISTORIC OLD NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (HONNA)

FPC has been invited to be one of the stops tonight on the 22nd annual

candlelight tour of homes. We hope some of our members will be on hand to welcome the neighborhood as they stop by to check out our beautiful, inviting Sanctuary.

HONOR OR MEMORIALIZE YOUR LOVED ONE



The Christmas season is here, and it is time to decorate the church. If you would like to make a donation to help decorate our church in memory of or in honor of a loved one or a friend, please fill out the green envelope in the pews and put it in the offering plate. Be sure to designate the individual to be honored or memorialized on the outside of the envelope. An insert listing the names of those honored or remembered will be compiled for inclusion in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

FPC'S FIRST DRIVE-THROUGH LIVE NATIVITY

On Friday, December 20, 6-8 p.m. in our front circle, we will have a live nativity. We are hoping as many of our members as possible can help make this a success. *Please see the insert to sign up and for additional information.*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

FPC Bus Transportation from Westminster Shores	8:45 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus Transportation from Westminster Suncoast	9:00 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus Transportation from Presbyterian Towers	9:15 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus Transportation from Westminster Palms	9:30 AM	Church Bus
Valet Parking	9:30 AM	
Combined Worship Service	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
Godly Play	10:00 AM	S-108
HONNA	3:00 PM	Sanctuary
Youth Group	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-121

MONDAY, December 9

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Circle 3	9:30 AM	Off-site
PW Circle 6	10:30 AM	Off-site
Day School Comm Mtg.	4:00 PM	Day School
Board of Deacons	5:30 PM	F'ship Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Faith Development Bible Study	9:30 AM	S-100
GriefShare	10:00 AM	Chapel
Church Staff Meeting	2:30 PM	N-218
Personnel & Administration Meeting	5:00 PM	Pastors Ofc
Beth Moore Bible Study	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr

Girl Scouts Troop 465	6:30 PM	S-206
Praise Band Rehearsal	6:30 PM	F'ship Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-123

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Day School Chapel	9:00 AM	F'ship Hall
Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Circle 12	11:30 AM	Off-site
Surviving the Holidays	6:00 PM	Chapel
AA for Women	7:00 PM	N-123

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Chancel Bells Rehearsal	6:00 PM	Sanctuary
Girl Scouts	6:30 PM	S-206
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room
BSF Women's Bible Study	7:00 PM	F'ship Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 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
FPC Staff Christmas Party	6:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Girl Scout Troop 560	6:30 PM	S-206
Many Moods Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Many Moods Dress Rehearsal	9:00 AM	Sanctuary
Kids' Night Out	5:00 PM	Child Care
Al-Anon Family Group	7:00 PM	N-123



First Presbyterian Church

... being and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Church Office: (727) 822-2031 ♦ Fax: (727) 894-2971 ♦ Day School: (727) 894-5889

Website: www.fpcstpete.com ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stpete.org

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC
