



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

March 8, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent

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

"Rathbun" (hymn 213)

Robert J. Powell
(b. 1932)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are invited to walk with God.

We are welcomed by God as people of the covenant.

How awesome to stand in the presence of our Creator!

We bring our praise to glorify God.

God calls us by name and gives us new names.

We are summoned to faithfulness and fruitfulness.

God not only speaks to us but also listens.

God hears our cries and meets our need.

Let the ends of the earth remember and turn to God.
Let the families of all nations worship the Creator.
We will pay our vows to the One who calls us.
We praise the God of all nations and all peoples.

INTROIT

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

J.S. Bach

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 74

“When God Restored Our Common Life”

RESIGNATION

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ken Young

God of our ancestors, we come to you, confessing that we have set our minds on human things. We have sought to gain the world – so many things to buy, so many things to do. Yet we are not satisfied. Life’s meaning eludes us. Your ways seem out of date; your promises appear as the hopes and dreams of a past generation. But in our hearts we sense an eternal design which is for all generations, a way of life more satisfying than we have allowed ourselves to explore. O God, we confess our need for you. *(Please take time for silent confession.)*
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God’s face is not hidden from those who truly seek. God does not withhold love from us when we go our own way. When we open our eyes to see God’s works, when we open our ears to hear God’s word, when all our senses are alert to God’s leading, we will realize how we have been blessed by an unseen hand, forgiven and restored to wholeness. God offers us the opportunity to live as ones in tune with the

universe, filled with hope, upheld in love, dwelling in covenant. Friends, believe the Good News:

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

RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE—HYMN 166

“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days” (stanza 1)

ST. FLAVIAN

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.)

***HYMN 629**

“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

ST. AGNES

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 22:23-31

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 616)

Second Lesson: Mark 8:27-38

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 53)

Dr. Dawn Conti

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

“Cross to Bear?”

Dr. Dawn Conti

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

(concluding with) **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.**

SUMMARY OF THE LAW (hymnal, p. 36)

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS—INVITATION AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Take Up Your Cross”

Hal H. Hopson
(b. 1933)

Chancel Choir

“Take up your cross,” the Savior said, “If you would my disciple be; deny yourself, the world forsake, and humbly follow after me.” Take up your cross, let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm; God’s strength will bear your spirit up, and brace your heart and gird your arm. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your foolish pride rebel; the Lord for you the cross endured, to save your soul from death and hell. Take up your cross and follow Christ, Nor think till death to lay it down; for only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

*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 697

“Take My Life”

HENDON

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Toccatà on *Aus der Tiefe/Heinlein*”

(Forty Days and Forty Nights, hymn 167)

Christopher Tambling
(b. 1964)

The congregation is invited to come forward and stand by the organ console.

The minister is available at the door as you leave.

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 memory of Rev. Donald Nepstad by Arlene & Larry Betts, his sister & brother-in-law.



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.



Joined the Church Triumphant

Miriam Putney

March 2, 2020

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in prayer: Ruth Bafaro, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, 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 & Marie 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, Kathie Mayhall, Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Howard Moser, Tamara Murphy, Peter Pav, Del and Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Lil Reid, Jean Schultz, Jane Snoke.

If you have any additions or deletions to the weekly prayer concerns, please contact **Donna Bernloehr** dbern@fpcstpete.org.

Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military:



Brian Herzik, USA;
James Loeblein,
USN; CPT. Taina
Specie, USA; 1st LT.
Liam Shelton, USA;

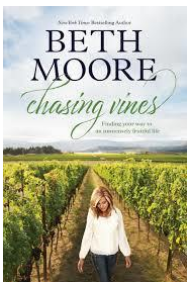
2nd LT. Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT.
Robert Wilson, USAF. *Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry.* If you know of others, please contact **Donna Bernloehr** (dbern@fpc-stpete.org).

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Harriett Jane Black who passed away February 11, 2020, and to the family of Miriam Putney, who passed away on March 2, 2020.

**NEW BETH MOORE BIBLE STUDY
“CHASING VINES”**

*Finding your way to an
immensely fruitful life*

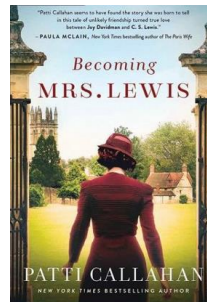
Tuesdays, March 3–April 7, 2020



Let's explore the ways God delights in watching things grow—and how the vineyard holds the secret to a more abundant and meaningful life. We'll uncover how every part of our lives—even the

rockiest soil—can be used by God to make a difference for His Kingdom. Join us at either 9:15-11:30 a.m. or 6:30-8:45 p.m. in the Youth Center. Study guides will be available for \$15. Free childcare is available by reservation: e-mail childcare@fpc-stpete.org or call/leave a message with childcare at 828-3971. If you have questions, please contact April Hussung at 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com or Susan Schoenberg at 560-2892 or susansch@tampabay.rr.com.

**FAITH & FICTION
APRIL 6**



Join us as we discuss *Becoming Mrs. Lewis* by Patti Callahan. Joy Davidman and C.S. Lewis were an unlikely match, separated by an ocean, an age difference, ghosts of

the past, and the general complications of life, and yet love has the power to conquer all. Meet us at 7:30 p.m. in classroom N-123. For a list of the remaining books for this year, visit the church website: www.fpcstpete.com.

**MINUTE FOR MISSION
SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

Claudia Decker from PAR/COSA will provide the Minute for Mission at the **9:00 a.m. service only** on March 15th. The mission committee plans to host a brief coffee and cake fellowship time right after the service so members can meet Claudia and talk with her if they would like.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN, CIRCLE 3
MEETING PLACE**

Circle 3 will meet on Monday, March 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel here at FPC and not at Westminster Palms due to the threat of the coronavirus and limiting exposure to the Westminster communities.

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5
ONE COMBINED SERVICE AT 10 AM
WITH LUNCH TO FOLLOW**



On Sunday, April 5, there will be one combined service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by food in the Fellowship Hall. The children from the Day School will sing, and it will be a great day to invite a friend!

**EGGSTRAVAGANZA!
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 10:00 A.M.**



We are now collecting plastic eggs and individually wrapped candy. The stores are selling eggs that are already stuffed. These would be very welcome! Collection baskets are located by the entrance to the Sanctuary and entrance to the Fellowship Hall. We will also need volunteers for this event. If you can help in any capacity, please contact the Church Office at (727) 822-2031.

EASTER LILIES

Share the beauty of Easter by sponsoring a lily or lilies to be used as decoration in the Sanctuary. Lilies can be given in memory of a loved one or to honor family or friends. Suggested donation is \$15 per plant. See insert.

**NO WESTMINSTER VISITS
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Chaplain Steve from the Westminster Palms community let us know that, due to the threat of the coronavirus, they will be limiting outside visitation (no walk-in visitors) with residents in all Westminster communities until further notice.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Communion Worship	8:15 AM	Chapel
Contemporary Worship	9:00 AM	F'ship 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 Transportation from Westminster Shores	9:45 AM	Church Bus
Children's Sunday School	10:00 AM	
Youth Sunday School	10:00 AM	Youth Cntr
FPC Bus Transportation from Westminster Suncoast	10:00 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus Transportation from Presbyterian Towers	10:15 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus Transportation from 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-108
Yoga with Adam	3:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Grief Share	4:00 PM	Chapel
Youth Group	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:00 PM	N-121

MONDAY, MARCH 9

PW Circle 3	9:30 AM	Chapel
PW Circle 6	10:00 AM	S-100
Day School Committee Mtg	4:00 PM	N-218
Personnel Admin Committee Meeting	5:00 PM	Pastor's Ofc
Board of Deacons	5:30 PM	S-100
Called Session Meeting	6:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Fellowship Committee Meeting	6:30 PM	S-106-7

Committee Meetings 7:00 PM Campus

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Beth Moore Bible Study	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr
Faith Development Bible Study	9:30 AM	S-100
GriefShare	10:00 AM	Chapel
Church Staff Meeting	2:30 PM	N-218
Assoc. Pastor Search Committee Meeting	6:30 PM	S-100
Beth Moore Bible Study	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
Girl Scout Troop 465	6:30 PM	S-206
Praise Band Rehearsal	6:30 PM	F'ship Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-121

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

PW Circle 12	11:30 AM	Off-site
WNL Children's Music	5:00 PM	Choir Room
WNL Dinner	5:30 PM	F'ship Hall
Astronomy and the Bible	6:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Financial Peace University	6:00 PM	Chapel
AA for Women	7:00 PM	N-121

THURSDAY MARCH 12

Chancel Bells Rehearsal	6:00 PM	Choir Room
Girl Scout Troop 560	6:00 PM	S-206
BSF Women's Bible Study	6:55 PM	F'ship Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Bible Study Lunch Bunch	12:00 PM	Gigi's
Girl Scout Troop 560	6:00 PM	S-206

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Al-Anon Family Group	7:00 PM	N-121
Kids' Night Out	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr

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 Ramirez, Director of Child Care ♦ Linda Champion, Staff Accountant ♦ 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
