



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

January 20, 2019

11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

“Elegy”

Healey Willan
(1880-1968)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Early in the morning, our thoughts turn toward God. We have been led to this mountaintop of worship.

We come, trusting in God's steadfast love. We gather, seeking the way of salvation and peace.

God has made an everlasting covenant with us. Let us proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.

Sometimes we think God has forgotten us. Often we do not understand what God expects of us.

God deals bountifully with us in much that we take for granted. God shows us the value of life and helps us celebrate it.

We bring our sorrow and pain to this healing time. May God provide what we need to grow in Christ.

INTROIT “Let There Be Peace on Earth” Jill Jackson-Miller/Sy Miller

Chancel Choir

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, family all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With ev’ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow; to take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally! Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ST. DENIO**

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Fran Sims

Free us, O God, from such absorption in our own concerns that we forget your loving intention for us. We find it hard to view what is happening around us through any eyes but our own. We obey our own passions rather than joining your intention for the good of all. It is hard for us, who so value our autonomy, to speak of obedience. Yet we are ashamed of things we have done and things we have failed to do. We want to claim your free gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. We sense that you intend for us to accept and live within that gift here and now. Help us, loving God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Fran Sims

We are not under law but under grace. We are being given God’s great bounty as we receive the teaching of Jesus, the witness of

our spiritual forebears, and the exultation of the psalmist. God comes to us, not only from the past, but in every moment when we welcome another with even a cup of water in Christ's name. We are forgiven and renewed!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(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 819**

"Be Still, My Soul"

FINLANDIA

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Fran Sims

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 671)

Second Lesson: Genesis 22:1-18

Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 21)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Say It Isn't So!"

Dr. Dawn Conti

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

January 20, 2019

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.

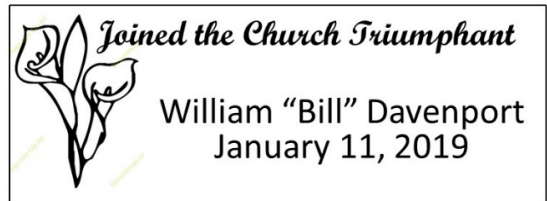
PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in prayer: Ruth Bafaro, Millie Bradley, Phoebe Catlin, Kat Cline, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall,

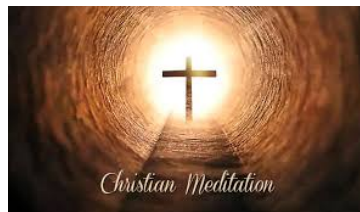


Claire Hoel, Hilman and Ann Holifield, Jean Howie, Barbara Hubbell, Walter Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Shirnice Johnson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Glenice Kelley, Michael Liguori, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauger, Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Anne Mulder, Tamara Murphy, Del and Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Bob and Jean Reed, Lee Scott, Jane Snoke, Laura Unger, Jill Whelpley and Rev. Alice Winters.

Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: James Loeblein, USN; 1st LT. Taina Specie, USA; 2nd 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).



MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS



You are invited to experience meditation in a small group. We

meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 22, in the chapel from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our group leader is **Carlen Maddux**. For more information, please contact **John Sims** (8674032, or

simsjr@eckerd.edu). We welcome your inquiries and presence.

SAVE THE DATE



The St. Olaf Choir concert will be held at First Presbyterian Church

on Friday, February 8, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://wp.stolaf.edu/stolaf-choir/>

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

Have you ever considered making a charitable gift from your IRA? If you are over the age of 70 1/2, perhaps you should! Here is a tax-savvy strategy that allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 per year from your traditional IRA directly to qualified charities, such as your church. If you are 70½, it is tax smart to fund your charitable gifts by Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs). These reduce your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) which may also reduce your Federal taxes, and surcharges on Medicare and Part D Drug Plans. Any amount processed as a QCD counts toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and reduces the taxable amount of your traditional IRA

distribution. If you are over age 70 1/2, consider taking advantage of the QCD.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Because printing costs have become extremely expensive, personalized, printed envelopes will no longer be provided. If you wish to continue using envelopes for your offering, you are encouraged to use the ones provided in the pews. There is a place to write your name to ensure that your offering is properly credited. If you use the dates on the envelopes to track your giving, please contact the church office. Stick-on labels, for each Sunday of the year, will be provided. These can be affixed to your own plain white envelope. If you have any questions, contact **Roy Duttweiler** at rwdutt@gmail.com.

PER CAPITA 2019

The 2019 PC(USA) per capita fee amounts to \$32.20 per confirmed member. Please consider contributing the appropriate amount for your household's per capita assessment.

WEAR YOUR NAME TAG

Wearing your name tag helps us get to know you a little better. If you need a name tag, please

contact Diedra Flora, diedraflora@aol.com for the 9:00 a.m. service, and Dick Luehrs, dicklu@windstream.net for the 11:00 service, or you can call the office.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY, A 9-WEEK COURSE

Learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future. With Financial Peace University, you will learn how to create (and stick to) a budget, save for emergencies, and make a plan for the future by using the step-by-step plan created by Dave Ramsey. The nine-week course is being offered at First Presbyterian Church, led by former FPC member, Craig Kilroy.

When: Wednesday evenings
February 13 - April 17, 2019
(excluding Ash Wednesday)

What Time: 6:00 - 7:30pm

Where: The Chapel

Cost: \$109 per individual or couple attending the class. This covers - printed class materials, plus 1-year online access.

This is an extension of the FPC Wednesday Night Live Program.

Dinner is offered at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall as well as activities for the children including choir and Messy Church. Childcare for younger children is also available (reservations required). Look for more information on this exciting program in the FPC weekly email, posters around campus and a variety of other communications, in the coming weeks.

PAY YOUR PLEDGE ONLINE



Remember you can make your pledge even when you are out of town. Simply go to our website and create a log-in. You can set up a one-time payment or, better yet, set up regular payments on a schedule that works for you. Contact **Blanche Ganey** in the church office (bganey@fpc-stpete.org or 828-3979) and she can set up auto debit for you.

SUNDAY, January 20

Communion Worship 8:15 AM Chapel
Contemporary Worship Hall 9:00 AM F'shp
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 Tower 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
Youth Group 5:00 PM Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 PM N-123

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day
Church Office Closed

Kids' Fun Day 9:00 AM Child Care
Stephen Minister meeting 5:00 PM S-100
Girl Scout Troop 094 6:30 PM S-206
PW Circle 10 7:00 PM S-100
PW Circle 9 7:30 PM Off-site

TUESDAY, January 22

Day School Open House 9:00 AM F'shp Hall
Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM
Child Care
Beth Moore Bible Study 9:15 AM Youth Cntr
Children's Chapel 9:15 AM F'ship Hall
Faith Development Bible Study 10:00 AM N-123

Church Staff Meeting 2:30 PM N-218

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti, Pastor ♦ Matt Cleary, Director of Worship Music and the Arts ♦ Jonathan Rine,
Beth Moore Bible Study 6:30 PM Youth Cntr

Contemporary Praise and Worship Leader ♦ Jack Rain, Organist ♦ David Aumack, Youth Coordinator ♦ Rev.
Ruth Elswood, Parish Associate ♦ Ashley Davis, Day School Director ♦ Carol Riley, Children's Ministry
—Coordinator ♦ 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

Girl Scout Troop 465 6:30 PM S-206
Day School Open House 7:00 PM F'shp Hall
Meditation for Christians 7:00 PM Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 PM N-123

WEDNESDAY, January 23

Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM
Child Care
Children's Chapel 9:15 AM F'ship Hall
MOPS 9:15 AM Youth Cntr
Finance Committee meeting 6:30 PM N-218
AA for Women 7:00 PM N-123
Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 PM F'ship Hall

THURSDAY, January 24

Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM
Child Care
Crowley/Fineran wedding Rehearsal 5:00 PM Sanctuary
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
PW Cir 5 7:00 PM S-100

FRIDAY, January 25

Men's Sunrise Bible Study 7:30 AM N-123
Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM
Child Care
Bible Study Lunch Bunch 12:00 PM Off-site
Girl Scout Troop 560 6:00 PM S-206

SATURDAY, January 26

Kids' Fun Day 9:00 AM Youth Cntr
Crowley/Fineran Wedding 3:00 PM Sanctuary
New Hope Christian F'ship 5:30 PM Offsite
Al-Anon Family Group 7:00 PM N-123

WELCOME
Rev. Ruth Elswood
Recently hired
Parish Associate

God called me to ministry later in life, after I retired from a lifelong career in early childhood education. I worked for many years for the Florida State University System and always regarded my work with children and families as a sacred calling, dedicating my working life to improving the quality of early childhood education for all children,



especially those from low-income families. My call to serve in ministry is a continuation of my desire to be of service to all God's people. Micah 6:8 guides my ministry - "what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" In seminary I spent almost a year working as a resident chaplain at Tampa General Hospital in Florida, where I learned much about ministering to the spiritual needs of people experiencing crisis and illness. My first ordained call was to serve the elderly as chaplain at Palm Garden Health Care Centers. Later I served the First Presbyterian Church in Jasper, Florida as interim pastor. In December, 2017 I was called to serve as Parish Associate at the First Presbyterian Church of Ocala, and am now joyfully blessed to provide pastoral care here at First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg.

On a personal note, I am married to my dear husband, Lon. Between us we have five children and eight grandchildren. They are the joy of our lives!