

THE SEASON
OF LENT:
THE SEVEN LAST
WORDS OF JESUS

First Presbyterian Church
February 21, 2021

WELCOME

February 21, 2021

Thank you for joining us for worship.

To decrease the risk of COVID for all gathered, please observe the following:

- Wear a mask and remain seated
- Maintain social distance from other worshipers
- Place offering in plates in the narthex
- Child Care during worship is now open for very young children in Room 110/111 in Education Wing.

If you need assistance in finding the room, please ask an usher.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Festal Fanfare

JUNE NIXON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather to worship Christ, Eternal Son of God;

Many: **We gather to honor Christ, Incarnate Son of Mary;**

One: We gather to serve Christ, Glorious Ruler of creation;

Many: **For to Christ belong the power and the glory of the Almighty. Let us worship God!**

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN 213

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

*In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

*When the woes of life o'er-take me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.*

*When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.*

*Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.*

Today is the first Sunday in Lent. Lent is a German word related to spring and to the idea that in spring the days are lengthened. The Lenten period is a season of the 40 days before Easter and the Sundays of that period are not counted, as each Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection. Lent is a period of time spent preparing our hearts for the events of Holy Week.

ANTHEM

Agnus Dei

GEORGES BIZET

Patricia Hacker, mezzo-soprano

*Lamb of God, thou that takest away the world's guilt,
O, have compassion, upon us.
Lamb of God, thou that takest away the world's guilt.
May thy peace be with us.*

Our sermon series explores the seven last words of Jesus that are spoken at the end of his life.

SECOND LESSON

LUKE 23:33-38

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *"Seven Last Words: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"*

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

HYMN 223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

*When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.*

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.*

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. Amen.

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Jesus is All the World to Me

ARR. BILL WOLAVER

DOXOLOGY 606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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. Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

HYMN 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

*There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.*

*For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

In 1983 the two largest Presbyterian churches in the United States reunited. The "Plan for Reunion" called for the preparation of a brief statement of the Reformed faith for possible inclusion in The Book of Confessions. This statement is therefore not intended to stand alone, apart from the other confessions of our church. It does not pretend to be a complete list of all our beliefs, nor does it explain any of them in detail. It is designed to be confessed by the whole congregation in the setting of public worship, and it may also serve pastors and teachers as an aid to Christian instruction. It celebrates our rediscovery that for all our undoubted diversity, we are bound together by a common faith and a common task.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
Chancel Choir (Virtual)

RICHARD SHEPARD

*Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
As thou didst hunger bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self and chiefly live by thy most holy word.
And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide,
Yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus with us abide.*

POSTLUDE

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

JOHN GOSS

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP:

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger,
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Brett Gudeman,
Associate Pastor

Dr. Patricia Hacker,
Director of Music

Dr. Lois K. Lee,
Pianist/Organist

Chancel Choir

Kathy Gillmore,
Director of Christian
Education

Video and Sound:
Mike Hyatt, Tom Stroud,
Brian Bulger, Jeff Hyatt



First Presbyterian is a Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

We welcome you as a participant in worship today. We pray that you will find this service meaningful. Worship is but one of the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church.

If you would like to receive our Weekly E-News, please send your name and email address to communications@fpchsv.org.

FLOWER GUILD HONORS AND MEMORIALS

The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God.

Worship Resources Adapted From:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Series, the Book of Common Worship, and Enterthebible.org
CCLI 1345744 One License: A-722711

THIS WEEK AT FPCHSV

February 21-February 28

Sunday, February 21, 2021

8:30 am Worship Service SAN

9:00 am - 9:30 am Godly Play Children's Sunday School Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Feasting on the Word Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Charles Danner Seminar Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Youth Sunday School Zoom

10:30 am - 10:45 am Peepers Sunday School Zoom

11:00 am Worship Service SAN

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Presbyterian Youth Connection Zoom

Monday, February 22, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Mission and Evangelism Zoom meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lenten Book Study Zoom

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

7:00 am - 8:00 am Men's Bible Study Zoom

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Children's WNL Zoom

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Lenten Book Study Zoom

6:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice CR

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Zoom Practice

Thursday, February 25, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Prayer Group Zoom

Friday, February 26, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

Saturday, February 27, 2021

3:30 pm Honkanen/Bowler Wedding

Sunday, February 28, 2021

8:30 am Worship Service SAN

9:00 am - 9:30 am Godly Play Children's Sunday School Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Feasting on the Word Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Charles Danner Seminar Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Youth Sunday School Zoom

10:30 am - 10:45 am Peepers Sunday School Zoom

11:00 am Worship Service SAN

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Presbyterian Youth Connection Zoom

Calendar Legend:

BR - Bell Room

CH - Carriage House (GBH)

CER - Christian Ed Resource upstairs

CR - Choir Room

FH - Fellowship Hall

GBH - Gideon Blackburn House

HR - Historical Room

JAH - John Allan Hall (GBH)

LIB - Library

SAN - Sanctuary

SMR - Stephen Ministry Room (GBH)

Green - Children's program

Yellow - Youth program

Red - Adult program

Blue - Music



February Mission of the Month – Village of Promise

Our Mission of the Month for February is focused again on our partnership with the [Village Of Promise](#).

We are providing meals for the class and would love your participation! There are a variety of ways to get involved: preparing food (entree, salad, or dessert), packing lunches, delivery, & even some shopping. If you are interested in helping, please email Nancy Lundy at nlundy@knology.net. Remaining dates are **March 3 and 24, April 7 and 21**. And if cooking isn't your thing, look over their [website](#). There are several ways to get involved. You can [Shop For a Student](#) or [Shop For the School](#). Give it a gander and see if anything speaks to you!



Worship of the Living God is not confined to one place or time. We encourage you to take this bulletin home and use it to guide you in private moments of worship for the next week.

Discuss: What are you sure of in your faith? What challenges you in your belief?

Read:

- Mon. John 2:1-12
- Tue. John 2:13-22
- Wed. John 2:23-3:15
- Thur. John 3:16-21
- Fri. John 3:22-36
- Sat. John 4:1-26

Pray: Ask for God's clear guidance in all areas of our faith.

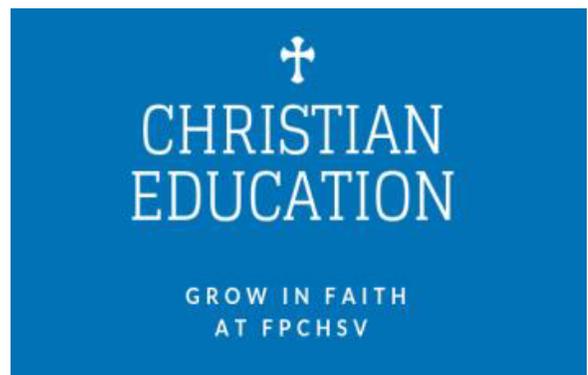
Read and Wonder

Read this week from your child's gift Bible at home:

- The Beginner's Bible: Adam and Eve (page 14)
- Spark Story Bible: Adam and Eve (page 8)
- Connect Bible: Genesis 1:1-5 & Genesis 2:5-25
"Creation" page 6

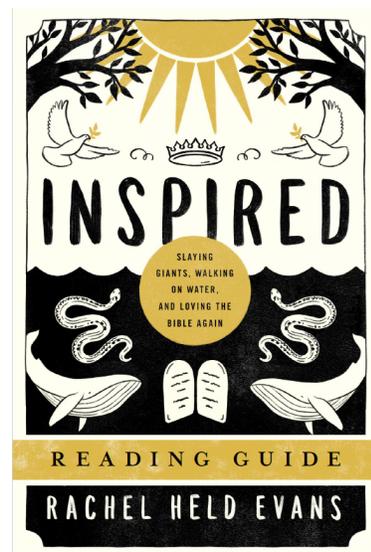
Wonder together:

- I wonder what part of this story was your favorite part?
- I wonder what was the most important part of this story?
- I wonder what part was about you or if you want to be a part of this story?



Lent Offerings

Adults- If you are looking for a group to experience Lent with, Pastors Brett and Tara will be leading book discussions on Rachel Held Evan's *Inspired* Tuesdays at noon and Wednesdays at 5:00 pm via Zoom throughout the Lenten season. If you wish to participate in this group you can click [HERE](#) or call the church office.



Please note: the book used for the Lenten Book Discussion Groups, *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans, is available on Amazon.com, Christianbook.com, and in store or online at BooksAMillion.com. Please reach out to our Director of Christian Education at dce@fpchsv.org if cost is an issue.

Children- Each child can receive a booklet featuring a Lenten road map, coloring pages, story, prayer, and suggested ways to reach out to serve others. If you were not able to pick one up during our Ash Wednesday Drive-By please contact Kathy Gillmore at dce@fpchsv.org to get a copy. Our *Listening for God* series will be 5 weeks of exploring biblical stories Wednesdays at 5:00 pm from February 24 through March 24.

Last Minute Mission Opportunity

Our church has been a huge supporter of the Kairos Advisory Council for Limestone Prison in North Alabama for many years. We were disappointed to have been unable to get into the prison last year due to the Covid 19 pandemic, but we're finally able to visit again.

With the help of local churches, the goal of Kairos is to provide 350 dozen cookies to prison employees. Your gift of love will help us bring the love and light of Christ to the prison employees during this pandemic. Each bag of cookies should have a note of encouragement or a scripture attached to uplift the staff. Please avoid stickers, stamps, tape, glue, and envelopes! Keep the notes separate from the cookies.

Please leave the cookies in the kitchen by the morning of February 25.

Here are your baking and packaging instructions

We ask that you follow these instructions that have come to us after many thousands of cookies have been baked with love and prayer, and some were unusable as Kairos Cookies because they were broken or stuck together due to using butter or not waiting for cookies to get COLD before packing. We want EVERY cookie you bake to be a usable, special Kairos cookie.

1. Your cookies should be approximately 2 ½ to 3 inches in diameter (you don't have to measure them).
2. Please bake their favorite cookies, which are: chocolate chip, sugar, ginger, oatmeal, or peanut butter. You can use your own recipe or packaged cookie dough.
3. Do NOT use icing, candies, sprinkled sugar, or any other type of coating on the outside of the cookie. Do not add fruit or nuts to the cookies (this also means no raisins).
4. Cookies must be bagged in quart size Ziploc bags, one dozen cookies per bag . The bag must be labeled as to the type of cookies inside. Do not individually wrap the cookies before placing them inside the Ziploc bags. PLEASE COOL THE COOKIES COMPLETELY before placing them inside the Ziplocs. Please transport cookies to drop off the church in boxes.
5. This is a wonderful family activity! The key ingredient is prayer! Pray individually or as a family over the ingredients before and during mixing. Pray over the cookies as you drop them onto the cookie sheets to bake them. Ask God to use your cookies as a source of His love to shine on the prison staff. Pray that each cookie brings the officer, warden, or prison staff who eats it closer to God. We want EVERY person to become a part of the family of God.

Isaiah 40:31: *Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings of eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint.*



PRAYER LIST

To add a prayer request, please visit our website

To remove a prayer request, please email communications@fpchsv.org

New prayer requests are in bold print

In case of a pastoral emergency, you may contact Dr. Bulger at 256-655-1818

Church Members:

Morris Hammer
Betty Dunaway on the loss of her son-in-law
Ginny Bouldin
Chuck Hooker and family
Barbara (Bonny) Morris
Lou Horn
Cay Lambert
Mary Lou Danner

Friends and Family:

Jamison, Parker, and Olivia Howard - family of Kara Howard
Lively Family
Carol Salter- friend of Tish Hammer
Kriste Hammer- niece of Morris Hammer
Sandy and Gene Kagan - daughter and son-in-law of Betty Dunaway
Family of John and Barbara Loflin for the death of John's father,
Bob Loflin
Family of Janel Bates
Shirley Forbes
Tim Jackson
Tammy Turner - friend of Rick and Sherry Smith
Josh Saliba - nephew of Donna and John Basore
Marcos Servin - brother-in-law of Patricia Hacker
Sean and Halle Jane Neely - for the death of Halle's grandfather,
John Wallace
Bill Johnston - husband of Susie Johnston
Calvin Ronald Dahl - nephew of Peggy Galloway
Family of Madelyn Hereford
Caitlin Greiner - granddaughter of Cay Lambert
Richard Lehmer - friend of Janice Fowler
Jack Bolton - grandson of Bill and Miriam Bolton
Laurel Maples and family - friends of George and Eleanor Harsh
Billy H. Wallace - brother of Beverly Wills
John and Maryetta Bitzer - friends of Peggy and Dave Galloway
Family of Pat Golley
Kathy Winfree - sister of Bill Bolton
Pat Richeson - friend of Glen Adams
Stella Fair - sister of David Galloway
Beverlee Leo - mother of Lori Smith
Diana Rose - mother of Serena Neely
Scott Sedlitz - stepson of Annewhite Fuller
Leigh Vincent - friend of Linda and Woodward Howard

Paige Olmo -daughter of Paula Weider
Sean Larkin - friend of Linda Howard and Bryce Connor
Dylan Greiner - son of Cay Lambert
Dale Brown - brother of Doug Brown
Nell Pike - mother of Charlie Pike
Rachel Beard - friend of Tam Bevel

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care:

Dolly Shuey (WBC @ Magnolia Trace)
Jean Walker (Regency)

The Church:

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger and her family
The Rev. Brett Gudeman and his family
First Presbyterian Church, the Session, the Board of Deacons,
the North Alabama Presbytery, and for all the church staff
NAP seminary student Joe Lundy (First, Huntsville).

Military & International:

All those serving in the armed forces; particularly ENS Connor Howard, U.S. Navy Flight School

Our Nation: President Biden, Vice President Harris, and all who govern our nation

First Presbyterian Missions & Ministries:

Appalachia Service Project (ASP)
Good Samaritans
International Missionary Fellowship (HaitiHospital.org)
The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center
The Presbyterian Home for Children
Second Mile Preschool
The CUP program
Camp Maranatha
Mission Aviation Fellowship

Other Prayers:

Let us pray for all those struggling with health and economic hardship during this pandemic. Let us also pray for communities as they express the deep hurt they feel, as well as for safety and peace for all.

First Presbyterian

Church

307 Gates Ave SE

Huntsville, AL 35801