



LIKE NONE BEFORE

WHO DO WE SAY THAT JESUS IS?



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 17, 2021

WELCOME

January 17, 2021

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Fount

ARR. J. RANEY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Many: **Sing praises to God, who made heaven and earth, who is faithful forever,**

One: who gives justice to the oppressed,

Many: **who sets the prisoners free,**

One: who watches over the stranger,

Many: **who cares for widows and orphans.**

One: The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

Many: **Come! Let us praise and worship God!**

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.*

*With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty power has made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away,
but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!*

Good Reformed worship always emphasizes the divine-human conversation that nurtures and nourishes our faith and service. A Sunday morning service is a place and time when God comes to us again and again in word and sacrament, in sermon and silence, in music and mystery. As worshipers we are invited into a dialogue where we are called to respond with our hearts and lives. Good worship finds its center in Christ, who is Emmanuel, "God with us." In Christ our conversation with God and each other becomes a holy dialogue of hope.

*Thus all my toilsome way along
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, forgive us. We are blind to our own brokenness, yet focused on the failings of others. We are deaf to the cries of those who need us, numb to the need of those who hurt. We are silent when words are needed, impotent when action is required. Lord, hear our anguish, pity our brokenness, speak life and forgiveness to our weary souls.

(Let us now continue our confession in silence.)

KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

HOPSON

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Beloved, you are forgiven in Christ, the Lamb who bears our sin. Happy are those who put their trust in God, and delight to do God's will, for God makes our footing sure upon the rock of Christ.

Many: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

HYMN 581

Glory Be To The Father

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11:00 am)

FIRST LESSON

LUKE 7:11-17

Soon afterwards Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on his people!" This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Having confessed our sin, we remember the promises of God's redemption, and the claims God has on all human life. The assurance of God's forgiving grace is declared in the name of Jesus Christ. We accept God's forgiveness, confident that in dying to sin, God raises us to new life.

Our sermon series "Like None Other" examines the way biblical people answered Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" As we discuss today, some thought Jesus was Elijah, come back to life.

SECOND LESSON

1 KINGS 17:1,7-24

Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word." But after a while the wadi dried up, because there was no rain in the land. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth." She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah. After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill; his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. She then said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!" But he said to her, "Give me your son." He took him from her bosom, carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid him on his own bed. He cried out to the Lord, "O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?" Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the Lord, "O Lord my God, let this child's life come into him again." The Lord listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; then Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." So the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Who Do You Say that I Am? Elijah"

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

HYMN 625

O Lord My God

HOW GREAT THOU ART

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe display:*

*Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

*When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze: (Refrain)*

*And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin: (Refrain)*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim "My God how great thou art!" (Refrain)*

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

How do we come to know Jesus Christ as Savior? The holy gospel tells us. God began to reveal the gospel already in Paradise; later God proclaimed it by the holy patriarchs and prophets and foreshadowed it by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law; and finally God fulfilled it through his own beloved Son.

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

(You are invited to place your offering in the collection plates in the narthex.)

OFFERTORY

God Exalted Him

TOM FETTKE

Stacy and Chelsea Owens, flutes

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

Confessions and declarations are subordinate standards in the church, subject to the authority of Jesus Christ, the Word of God, as the Scriptures bear witness to him. No one type of confession is exclusively valid, no one statement is irreformable. Obedience to Jesus Christ alone identifies the one universal church and supplies the continuity of its tradition. This obedience is the ground of the church's duty and freedom to reform itself in life and doctrine as new occasions, in God's providence, may demand.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

HYMN 353

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

THE SOLID ROCK

*My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*Refrain: On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)*

*His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)*

*When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. (Refrain)*

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

Stacy Owens, Chelsea
Owens, Katie Buckner

Kathy Gillmore,
Director of Christian
Education

Video and Sound:
Mike Hyatt, Tom Stroud,
Brian Bulger, Jack
Phillips

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

LAND OF REST

POSTLUDE

Majesty

ARR. S. DALRYMPLE

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



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.

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

THIS WEEK AT FPCHSV

January 17-January 24

Sunday, January 17, 2021

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 virtual

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm Presbyterian Youth Connection Zoom

Monday, January 18, 2021

Office Closed

No First Friends Preschool

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

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

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

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

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

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice CR

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Zoom Practice

Thursday, January 21, 2021

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

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

Friday, January 22, 2021

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

Sunday, January 24, 2021

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 virtual

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm Presbyterian Youth Connection Zoom



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: Do you believe God gives new life? If so, how? Is it new life now or at the end of time?

Read:

Mon. Mark 3:7-19a

Tue. Mark 3:19b-35

Wed. Mark 4:1-20

Thur. Mark 4:21-34

Fri. Mark 4:35-41

Sat. Mark 5:1-20

Pray: Ask God to breathe new life into your life of faith.

Read and Wonder

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

- The Beginner's Bible: John Baptizes Jesus (page 303)
- Spark Story Bible: Jesus' Baptism (page 242)

Wonder together:

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- What was the most important part?
- What is God like in this story?



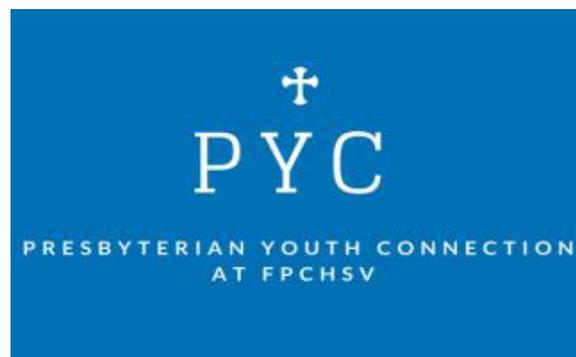
January Mission of the Month – Backpack Ministry Kickoff for 2021

In Spring of 2020, with the guidance of the Food Bank of N. Alabama, FPC became the sole provider of weekend food kits to food insecure children at The Academy of Academics and Arts (AAA).

About 20 kits are taken weekly and discreetly provided to need-identified children on Friday afternoons by AAA staff. The kits provide about four meals/snacks to supplement their at home weekend meals.

We hope that this much needed service in our own community will continue to be an ongoing priority in your mission planning.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer please contact Karen Madison at karenmadison@comcast.net.



While youth group activities remain virtual this month, our members are finding creative ways to contribute to service and mission within our church community. This month, youth group members and their families are making blankets for homebound members of our congregation. Thank you to all of our participating youth and congregation volunteers for making and delivering these blankets to our beloved members! If you would like the youth group to help with an upcoming service or mission project, please contact Anne Dillon at youth@fpchsv.org.

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:

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:

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 Trump and our representatives.

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