



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

January 14, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday after Christmas

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

“Prélude”

Jack Rain, Organ

Samuel Ducommun
(1914-1987)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

With steadfast love, God calls our names. Come to find refuge in the shelter of God's ways.

We long to be recognized and affirmed. We are eager for a place of shelter and security.

Feast on the abundance of God's house. Come to drink deeply from the fountain of life.

We are ready to hear the Word of God. We want to be guided by eternal truth.

Reach out to claim the gifts God pours out on us. The Spirit is eager to inspire and empower each one.

When God calls us, we cannot remain silent. When Christ is real to us, we accept our discipleship.

INTROIT

“Sing of God Made Manifest”

arr. J.S. Bach

Chancel Choir

(1685-1750)

Text - Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, “I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do.” Then from heaven a double sign—dove-like Spirit, voice divine—hailed the true Anointed One: “This is my beloved Son.”

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 100**

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sandi Averitt, Deacon

God of the heathen and the righteous, we confess that we have moved away from our commitment to Christ. We have denied your gifts, ignored your inspiration, and wandered from your healing presence. Yet we cannot escape your claim on us, for wherever we go, you are there. How precious is your steadfast love that saves us from our selfish desires to live for higher values! Strengthen us to do as you tell us, as Christ demonstrated among us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sandi Averitt

God does not treat us as heathens, forsaken and desolate. We are welcomed with rejoicing, enfolded by love, celebrated as persons of beauty in whose salvation God delights. Let your hearts be lifted up. We are not bound to our old ways but are freed for a new identity. God’s benevolent gifts are apportioned to each of us in abundance.

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

***GLORIA PATRI**

hymn 581

*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.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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 634**

"To God Be the Glory"

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 36:5-10 (read responsively)
(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 627)

Sandi Averitt

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your
faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments
are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O
Lord.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take
refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them
drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your
salvation to the upright of heart!**

Second Lesson: John 2:1-11

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 113)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

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.**

RESPONSE**PRESENTING OUR GIFTS****OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

**"Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain" Carolyn Jennings
Chancel Choir**

Text - O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world; lift up your voice, shout the good news: behold, your Lord comes to you. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will carry the lambs in his arms; he will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you. He who made the stars in the heaven, he who fashioned the earth and the sea, from time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, he. Behold, your Lord! He will come in power and glory, he will rule with mercy and truth, hope of the nations, light of all the world. He will love the little children, he will hold them in his arms. Love him and trust him as a little child. Behold, your Lord comes to you. - Isaiah 40 (adapted)

***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. Amen.*

SENDING

***RECESSIONAL HYMN 366** "Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling" HYFRYDOL

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Toccatà"

Samuel Ducommun

A Prayer Minister, wearing a white stole, will be available for private and confidential prayer following the service.

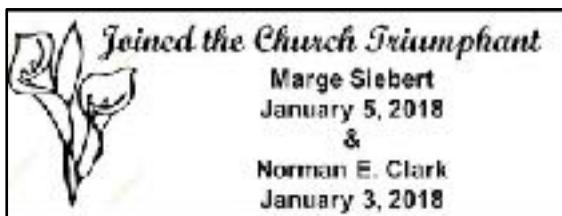
FPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A digital copy of each Sunday's 11:00 a.m. order of worship and announcements can be found on our website: www.fpc-stpete.org. Choose Sunday Bulletins on the left side of the web page. 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.

JANUARY PRAYER

Light of the minds that know you, strength of those who serve you, wisdom of those who seek after you, shine into the dark places of this world and cast your light into the shadows of our lives. Awaken us to the needs of those who carry heavy burdens; those who do not know where to turn; those with broken hearts and fearful secrets. Give them peace. Save us from denial, or pretending not to see. Give us the grace to share one another's burdens. We pray for people who are celebrating this month; those who are welcoming good news or new possibilities. Give us the grace to share one another's joy. Awaken us to the needs of those who do not have enough to eat; those who have enough to spare, but lack companions with whom to share it. Give us the grace to share what we have with one another. Awaken us to the anguish of those whose lives have been forever altered by loss; those who are ill or dying; those who are bereaved. Give them peace. And give us the grace to share one another's grief. Awaken us to your wisdom and to your desire for the world. Give leaders in our churches and communities the wisdom and courage to follow your ways and embody the renewal and redemption we know in Christ. Give us all the

grace to speak and act with honesty, wisdom, and love.



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary today were given to the glory of God and in memory of Ken Oliver by his family.

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: LuElla Ames, Millie Bradley, Rev. Bob Burkhardt, Kat Cline, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Nancy Grandoff, Martha Ann Haile, Dave Herzik, Claire Hoel, Hilman Holifield, Dwight Holshouser, Jean Howie, David and Barbara Hubbell, Bonnie Jackson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Glenice Kelley, Michael Liguori, Tom Lippert, Ilda Hall Littell, Dave and Pam Malone,

Barbara Mauger, Nancy McLaughlin, M.D. Miller, Tamara Murphy, Col. Dick Newton, Janet Poling, Bob Reed, Joy Russak, Jean Schultz, Jane Snoke, Laura Unger, Philip Ware, and Rev. Alice Winters.

Please pray for our family and friends serving overseas in the military: Brian Herzik, USA; ADM James Loeblein, USN; CPT Robert Wilson, USAF. *Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry.*

If you know of others, please let us know. Contact **Blanche Ganey** (bganey@fpc-stpete.org).

DINING WITH DAWN

The next scheduled “Dining with Dawn” is today at 12:30 p.m. in the youth center. If you signed up for this time slot, please make your way to the youth center after the 11:00 service.

MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS

You are invited to experience meditation and a new small group. We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. Next meeting will be January 23 in the chapel from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our group leader is **Carlen Maddux**. For more

information, please contact **John Sims** (867-4032, or simsjr@eckerd.edu). We welcome your inquiries and presence.

MISSION COMMITTEE BROCHURE

"Would you like to know which agencies and ministries *your pledges and offerings* supported in 2017? Find one of our new, updated brochures on the guest kiosk or the office.

PIANIST REBECCA PENNEYS CONCERT TODAY

Pianist Rebecca Penneys is a recitalist, chamber musician, orchestral soloist, educator and adjudicator. Rebecca has played throughout the USA, East Asia, Australia, New Zealand, South America, Europe, Middle East and Canada. She is a popular guest artist, keynote speaker and teacher nationally and internationally. We are so fortunate to have her perform here at our church. Rebecca is Professor Emerita of Piano at Eastman School of Music, Artist-in-Residence at St. Petersburg College, Florida, and she holds a courtesy position as Steinway-Artist-in-Residence at the University of South Florida. Her background, credentials and musical contributions are significant.

The concert is today at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. The concert is free; however, a freewill offering will be collected. Please come out and support this amazing musician.

DR. BROWNLEE OFFERING INFORMATION ON TREATING AND UNDERSTANDING ALLERGIES

Presbyterian Women of FPC invite you to a lecture on "Understanding and Treating Allergies" led by **Dr. Jamie Brownlee** on Saturday, January 20, at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The event is free and open to all. Coffee, tea, and pastries will be provided."

BETH MOORE BIBLE STUDY!

"QUEST" - AN EXCURSION WITH INTIMACY TOWARD GOD

Join us either on Tuesday mornings at 9:15 a.m. or Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the youth center (a light supper will be served) January 16th - February 20, 2018. The Quest - Study Journal will be available for \$20. Free childcare is available by reservation - e-mail childcare@fpc-stpete.org or call/leave a message with childcare at 828-3971 Any questions, call **April Hussung:** 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com; or **Marie Huber:** 515-8355 or mariethuber@aol.com.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Communion Worship 8:15 AM Chapel
Contemporary Worship 9:00 AM F'ship Hall
Contemporary Faith Class 9:45 AM N-120
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
Dining with Dawn 12:30 PM Youth Cntr
Rebecca Penneys Piano Concert 4:00 PM

Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 PM N-121

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Church Office Closed

Officer Trng Makeup Session 8:30 AM Office
Kids Fun Day 9:00 AM Youth Cntr
PW Circle 3 10:00 AM Off-site
PW Circle 6 10:00 AM S-100
Stephen Minister meeting 5:00 PM S-100
AV Committee meeting 7:00 PM F'ship Hall
PW Circle 10 7:00 PM S-100
PW Circle 9 7:30 PM Off-site

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM Child Care

Faith Development Bible Study 9:30 AM N-123
Church Staff Meeting 1:30 PM N-218
Finance Committee 6:30 PM N-218
Girl Scout Troop 439 6:30 PM S-206
Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 PM N-121

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Parents' Morning Out PMO 9:00 AM Child Care
Mothers of Preschoolers MOPS 9:00 AM Youth Cntr
Chancel Bell Rehearsal 6:00 PM Choir Room
Girl Scout Troop 128 7:00 PM S-206
Alcoholics Anonymous for
Women 7:00 PM N-121
Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 PM F'ship Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM Child Care
r
Lunch Bunch at Gigi's 12:00 PM Off-site
Dining with Dawn 6:00 PM N-123
Men's Community Bible Study 6:30 PM Youth Cntr
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Choir Room
Women's Bible Study-BSF 6:55 PM F'ship Hall
PW Circle 5 7:30 PM Off-site

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Men's Sunrise Bible Study 7:30 AM N-123
Parents' Morning Out (PMO) 9:00 AM Child Care
Girl Scout Troop 570 6:30 PM S-206

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

PW General Meeting with
Dr. Brownlee 10:00 AM F'ship
Hall
Kids' Night Out 5:00 PM F'ship Hall
**New Hope Christian
Fellowship** 5:30 PM Offsite
Al-Anon Family Group 7:00 PM N-121

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti, Pastor ♦ Matt Clear, Interim Choir Director ♦ Jack Rain, Organist
Susan Key, Parish Associate ♦ Ashley Davis, Day School Director ♦ Carol Riley, Children's Ministry
Coordinator Stacey Ramirez, Director of Child Care ♦ Jessica Rentschlar, Youth Ministry Coordinator ♦
Carole Igney, Bookkeeper ♦ Johnny Miller, Building & Grounds Superintendent ♦ Bob Langley,
Custodian ♦ Blanche Ganey, Office Manager