



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

January 28, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Fourth 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

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

Van Denman Thompson

Jack Rain, organ

(1890-1969)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, where do we put our trust? Where do we find wholeness and meaning?

We lift up our eyes to the hills. Our help comes from the Creator of heaven and earth.

We are sons and daughters of Abraham and Sarah. We trust in God, who neither slumbers nor sleeps.

We are followers of Jesus, who proclaimed God's realm. We are born of the Spirit, born from above.

Our lives are a gift from God, who loves us. By the grace of God, we are born anew each day.

God loved the world in the gift of Jesus Christ. Through faith in Christ, we receive eternal life.

INTROIT

“When We Are Living”

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

Chancel Choir

Text - When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we're dying, it is in the Lord. Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God; we belong to God.

-- translated by Elise S. Eslinger Cowper (1983)

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 307**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jim Garnett, Elder

O God, we confess that we have been far more ready to say we believe than to trust you to lead us to new ventures of faithfulness. We are afraid of the evil that surrounds us. We fear rejection, failure, and ridicule. We admire Jesus, but it is difficult to follow in footsteps that lead to a cross. In the midst of life as we know it here, how can we catch glimpses of eternity? Save us, we pray, from our timidity, and use our doubts as an entry to deeper faith. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jim Garnett

Our lives are in God's hands. We can only glimpse the mystery of the Source of love, “who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.” Yet, as we look up in trust, there comes to us an abiding assurance that we are not alone. Receive, with humility and joy, the rebirth God offers this day and for all eternity.

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.*

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 321

"The Church's One Foundation"

AURELIA

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 121 (responsively)

Jim Garnett

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 702)

I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Second Lesson: John 3:1-21

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 114)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Come Into the Light"

Rev. 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.

ORDINATION OF OFFICERS *(see insert)*

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

RESPONSE

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“O Light of Life!”
Chancel Choir

Mack Wilberg

Text - O Light of Life! O pure Light Divine! Thou art in us; our ember is thine. Kindle our faith, give hope when we fear, deepen our love-thy fire appear! Light of our souls, thou spark at our birth-grow bright in us, shine in all the earth! O Light of Life! O true Light of Peace! Storms will arise, let thy light increase. Pierce through dark clouds, give pause to the proud; let thy shafts fall, lift humble heads bowed. Answer our pleas, melt hearts in thy flame. Make us as one-as one in thy name. O Light of Life! O sweet Life of Grace! Thou bidst us come, we follow apace. See the bright tree! Behold the white fruit! Feasting we weep, we witness the root! O Light of Life! O dear Light of Love! Come, wash us clean, send forth thy white dove. Fill us with fire, enlighten our eyes; help us to love-'tis price of the prize. Then let us come, enrobe us in white. Cleaving to thee, Light unto thy Light. Light unto Light, O Light of Life! Amen.

*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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

***RECESSIONAL HYMN 377** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Carillon Toccata"

Douglas E. Wagner
(b. 1952)

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 by Betsy Clark and in loving memory of Norm and the 60th wedding anniversary they would have celebrated this month.

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, Jean Hallock, Dave Herzik, Claire Hoel, Hilman Holifield, Dwight Holshouser, Jean Howie, Barbara Hubbell, Bonnie Jackson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Glenice Kelley, Michael Liguori, Tom Lippert, Ilda Hall Littell, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauer, 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 a.m. service.

ALL DINING WITH DAWN TIMESLOTS ARE NOW FULL

Thank you to all who have participated. These gatherings have been extremely successful in helping Pastor Dawn establish a foundation for building relationships within the congregation and gaining insight into the hopes and dreams of those who have taken part. Great

connections have also been made and strengthened among members of the congregation. Thanks be to God!

If you wished to participate but were not able to, please contact the church office at 822-2031. A list will be maintained through the season of Lent. You will be contacted, after Easter, to coordinate a time for you to have this important conversation with Pastor Dawn.

MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS

You are invited to experience meditation and a new small group. We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. Next meeting will be February 5 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.

HEALTH FOR HONDURAS SILENT AUCTION

Please join us February 17 for wine, food and fun to benefit the New Hope Clinic at the home of Scott Wagman and Beth Houghton, 1148 42nd Ave. N.E. The festivities start at 7 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person. Please R.S.V.P. via

ticket purchase online or mail checks to FFIM, 701 Beach Drive NE, 33701. Thank you for your continued support.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE STARTS UP AGAIN FEBRUARY 7

Wednesday night dinner and Bible study is a great time to connect with your church family. We are planning some engaging and spiritual enlightening studies for adults and children. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend each week. There will be more information about WNL in the coming weeks.

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 in the office.

JEWISH JAZZ II CONCERT TODAY

The talented duo, pianist Daniel Weiser and clarinetist Steve Loew, will perform an arrangement of George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* along with some great works by Harold Arlen, Benny Goodman, Simon Sargon, plus songs from the Yiddish Theater, today, at 4:00 p.m. in the chapel. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Ordination Sunday

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
Godly Play	11:00 AM	S-108
Dining with Dawn	12:30 PM	Youth Cntr
Jewish Jazz II Concert	4:00 PM	Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-121

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

Officer Trng Makeup Session	8:30 AM	Office
Parents' Morning Out (PMO)	9:00 AM	Child Care

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Parents' Morning Out (PMO)	9:00 AM	Child Care
Beth Moore Bible Study	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Parents' Morning Out (PMO)	9:00 AM	Child Care
Lunch Bunch at Gigi's	12:00 PM	Off-site
Kids' Night Out	6:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Girl Scout Troop 570	6:30 PM	S-206

SATURDAY, February 3

Leadership Retreat	9:00 AM	Off-site
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 ♦ Darrell Brandimore, Interim Praise Band Leader ♦ 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
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