



# First Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

September 9, 2018

11:00 a.m.

## Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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### 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

"Cornet Voluntary"

Henry Heron  
(1738-1795)

Jack Rain, organ

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Hear the choices God sets for us: Life and prosperity or death and adversity.

**O God, you have searched us and known us. You know our thoughts and every move we make.**

Listen to the ordinances of our God; love God and walk in the way God commands.

**O God, we will listen for your words. We will seek to walk on the paths you intend.**

Happy are those who delight in God's law; blessed are all who

meditate on God's word.

**Wonderful are all your works, O God. We are your creation; we are in your hands.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12**

**"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

ST. DENIO

**PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Fran Sims

**Awesome God, we confess that we have become slaves to our own narrow self-interest. We pay more attention to our possessions than to you. We try to hide from your all-seeing eye, for we are guilty of devotion to false gods. We are attracted to wicked advice and sinful pursuits that direct our steps away from you. We act without thinking or planning or consulting with you. O God, show us the way to a better life. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Fran Sims

**Grace to you and peace from God our Parent. Refresh your hearts in Jesus Christ our Savior, who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Receive the living water God offers to all who come in true repentance and searching faith. The Holy Spirit will never leave us or forsake us. Our helper is ever available and eager to respond to our prayers. Come, there is a place at God's banquet table for you.**

**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.)*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

First Lesson: Psalm 1

Choir & Congregation

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 602)

Congregation and Chancel Choir Refrain



Second Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti  
(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 233)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**SERMON** “Everything Happens for a Reason?” Rev. Dr. Dawn  
Conti

## RESPONSE

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

### MOMENT FOR YOUTH

Emma Zuercher

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM & RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS (see insert)

**OFFERTORY** “If God Be for Us” Clifford  
McCormick

#### Chancel Choir

If God be for us who can be against us? Who can separate us from the love of Christ? In all things, we are more than conquerors. Through Him that loved us, we are more than conquerors. He that gave His own Son for us all, shall He not through Him give us all things?

**\*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.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SENDING**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN 687** “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” ST. ANNE

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past” James

Pethel

(b. 1936)

September 9, 2018

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## FPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*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.fpc-stpete.org](http://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.

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## SEPTEMBER IS WORLD ALZHEIMER'S MONTH

Dear Lord, bless those of us who are living with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or a related dementia. When days are difficult, wrap us in a blanket of your love and comfort us with your presence and your peace. When nights are dark, give us a star to follow—a nightlight in the heavens to remind us that you are there—guarding and guiding us and lighting our paths. When we are discouraged, give us hope. When we are hopeless, give us faith. When we are weary, carry us close to your heart. When we feel depressed or angry, soothe us. Wipe away our tears and our fears and help us to move from “Why Me?” to “What Next?” We thank you for our care partners, for our family and friends who are walking with us on this strange and difficult journey. Give us all strength and courage and a sense of purpose as we join our hands and hearts to help others we meet along the way. Help us all to cultivate an attitude of gratitude each and every day. Remind us to look for blessings in every day,

and for holy moments walking in the rain, singing a familiar song, reminiscing over old photos. Lord, we pray for the doctors and nurses and all who care about us and for us. We pray for the researchers who are searching for treatments, therapies and cures. Most of all, Lord, we pray for a world without Alzheimer's. Thank you!

Amen. by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Huling Hummel

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

**The flowers in the sanctuary today were given to the glory of God and in celebration of 64 years of marriage for Rodney and Nina Glover.**

**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:**  
Cheryl Belobraydic, Millie Bradley,

Kat Cline, Bill Davenport, Roy Duttweiler, Jean Enders, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Susan & Jim Frishe, Jim & Petra Garnett, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Claire Hoel, Hilman Holifield, Jean Howie, Barbara Hubbell, Walter Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Glenice Kelley, Michael Liguori, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauger, John McCammon, M.D. Miller, Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Anne Mulder, Tamara Murphy, Del & Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Bob & Jean Reed, Lee Scott, Jane Snoke, Laura Unger, Rev. Alice Winters, and Mona Young.

**Please pray for our family and friends serving overseas in the military:** 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 by contacting **Blanche Ganey** ([bganey@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:bganey@fpc-stpete.org)).

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON

Presbyterian Women invites all women of the church to meet Rev. Kathleen Dain, Executive Director

of Beth-el, Farmworker Ministry, at 10:00 a.m. on September 22 in the Fellowship Hall. A lunch of Cuban sandwiches and fruit salad (\$5 donation) will be served. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend @ 822-2031.

## ST. PETE FREE CLINIC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Please call 727-821-1200 x 114 if interested.

## MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS



You are invited to experience meditation and a new small group.

We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. Next meeting will be September 11 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](mailto:simsjr@eckerd.edu)). We welcome your inquiries and presence.

## BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP RESUMES



Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) provides a weekly in-depth Bible study for

women on Thursday evenings beginning September 13, 7:00-8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. This interdenominational ministry is introducing a new Old Testament Study, People of the Promised Land Part 1, which covers the history of God's people in the books of Joshua, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, Psalms and Proverbs; from Joshua through Solomon. If you'd like to join us, please contact Wendy Foster at [wendy.foster48@yahoo.com](mailto:wendy.foster48@yahoo.com) to get registered!

### **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?**

If you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian St. Pete or learning more about our church, join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 on Sunday morning, September 16. For additional information, please e-mail Diedra Flora, [diedraflora@aol.com](mailto:diedraflora@aol.com).

### **MEN'S SUNRISE BIBLE STUDY**

Men's Sunrise Bible Study resumed meeting on Friday, September 7, at 7:30 a.m. in room N123. We will start by finishing with Acts,

with breakfast afterwards at Katrina's.

### **FAITH & FICTION RESUMES OCTOBER 1**

All Faith and Fiction meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in classroom N-123. For a list of the books for this year, visit the church website: [WWW.fpc-stpete.org](http://WWW.fpc-stpete.org).

### **YOGA WITH ADAM HIGMAN RESUMES TODAY**

Class is every Sunday at 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. in fellowship hall. *See insert for additional information.*

### **SWIMNIC CANCELLED**

The Swimnic scheduled for this afternoon has been cancelled.



## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

### BAPTISM SUNDAY

Communion Worship	8:15 AM	Chapel
Contemporary Worship Hall	9:00 AM	F'ship
Valet Parking	9:30 AM	
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	S-103
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
Classic Worship with choir	11:00 AM	Sanctuary
Yoga with Adam	3:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Youth Group	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-121

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Parents Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
Personnel & Admin. meeting	5:00 PM	Pastors Stdy
Board of Deacons	5:30 PM	S-100
All Committee Gathering	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
Mission Ministries meeting	7:00 PM	Youth Cntr
CE Meeting	7:00 PM	S-100
Property Committee	7:00 PM	N-123
Worship & Music meeting	7:00 PM	Choir Room

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

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	2:30 PM	N-218
Worship Planning meeting	3:30 PM	Pastors Stdy
Beth Moore Bible Study	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
Meditation for Christians	7:00 PM	Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-121

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Parents Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
Day School Chapel	9:15 AM	F'ship Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous for Women	7:00 PM	N-121
Praise Band Rehearsal	7:00 PM	F'ship Hall

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Parents Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
BSF Women's Bible Study	6:55 PM	f'ship Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Parents Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Bible Study Lunch Bunch at Gigi's	12:00 PM	Off-site

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

New Hope Christian Fellowship	5:30 PM	Offsite
Al-Anon Family Group	7:00 PM	N-121

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Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti, Pastor ♦ Matt Clear, Director of Worship Music and the Arts ♦ Jack Rain, Organist ♦ Susan Key, Parish Associate ♦ Erica Allen, Admin. Assistant ♦ Ashley Davis, Day School Director ♦ Carol Riley, Children's Ministry Coordinator ♦ Stacey Ramirez, Director of Child Care ♦ Blanche Ganey, Office Manager ♦ Johnny Miller, Building & Grounds Superintendent ♦ Bob Langley, Custodian

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