



September 23, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

"Interlude on *Resignation*" (hymn 803)

Gilbert M. Martin
(b. 1941)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, buy, and eat!

Our souls thirst for God in a dry and weary land. We seek God's power and glory in the sanctuary.

Listen carefully to God and eat what is good; delight yourselves in the rich food God provides.

Here our souls are satisfied as with a rich feast. Together our mouths praise God with joyful lips.

God offers us steadfast love and a covenant relationship. We are called to be faithful witnesses and leaders.

We have come to meditate on the living God. We seek inspiration and empowerment to do what God asks.

INTROIT

**“Thou Art Worthy”
Chancel Choir**

Pauline Michael Mills

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor, and power; for thou hast created all things and for thy pleasure they are created. Thou art worthy, O Lord.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 837**

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

SHOWALTER

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mary-Linda Armacost, Elder

We have been tempted, loving God, to go our own way without reference to eternal truths. We seek our own gratification rather than the well-being of all your children. We compare ourselves to others and find their failures but seldom discover our own shortcomings. We seek to build our lives by our own limited design rather than by your larger purposes. We engage in immorality in the name of freedom and become enslaved by our selfish ambitions. The ground on which we stand is crumbling under our feet. O God, forgive us and grant us a firmer foundation. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Mary-Linda Armacost

God grants us strength to overcome temptation and offers us a second chance to produce the fruits of repentance. Receive these gifts from God who is faithful, in covenant with us and all the people. Open

yourselves to the continued guidance of the Holy One, for God's steadfast love is better than life. God's mercy is abundant; God's provision for us is extravagant. God's ways are higher than our own. Praise God with joyful lips.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Mary-Linda Armacost

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please exchange signs of reconciliation and peace with those sitting around you.

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 803

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

RESIGNATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 63:1-8

Mary-Linda Armacost

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 648)

Second Lesson: Romans 8:35, 37-39/
I Corinthians 10:13

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 192, 209)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle?"

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

RESPONSE

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“He Never Failed Me Yet”

Robert Ray

Chancel Choir

I will sing of God's mercy, every day, every hour he gives me power. I will sing and give thanks to thee for all the dangers, toils and snares that he has brought me out. He is my God and I'll serve him, no matter what the test. Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet. I know God is able to deliver in time of storm. I know that he'll keep you safe from all earthly harm. One day when my weary soul is at rest, I'm going home to be forever blessed. Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh? And didn't he cool the fiery furnace for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? When I think of what my God can do, he delivered Daniel; I know he will deliver you.

*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 839

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!” ASSURANCE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Praise Him with the Sound of the Trumpet”

(Psalm 150:3)

Carl Simone

(1918-2003)

September 23, 2018

FPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. 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.

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 memory of Glenn Schlecht 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: 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).

ST. PETE FREE CLINIC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Please call 727-821-1200, ext. 114 if interested.

MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS



You are invited to experience meditation in a small group. We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. Next meeting will be September 25 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.

RESPITE CARE

Are you taking care of someone? Do you know a caregiver who may need care themselves? Do you or someone else need a break from caregiving? A time-out? *See insert for additional information.*

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.

Wednesday Night Live Returning in October!



The Arts & Spirituality for Adults. Messy Church and Choir for Children. *See insert for additional information.*

ADULT CLASSES AND LOCATIONS

Contemporary Faith: Meets in room N-218 after the 9 a.m. service. Lynn Kiehne and Vit Gulbis are the coordinators. Their format is generally discussion of topical books relevant to today's Christian.

Faith-Filled Families: Meets in room S-100 after the 9 a.m. service. A lively group with several young families, they discuss a variety of subjects that include exploration of the Bible and relevant topics for Christians.

Faith Journey: Meets in room S-202 after the 9 a.m. service, and Beth Houghton is the coordinator. This

class of Christians enjoys discussing Books of the Bible and social justice topics via selected books. Currently they are studying Rob Bell's book, *What is the Bible?*

Westminster Class: Meets in room N-123 at 9:45 a.m. Marilyn Mulcahy is the coordinator. The class is frequently led by a monthly guest speaker and the topics vary from in-depth study of the Bible to current events that affect Christians and non-Christians.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29 10:00 A.M.



First Presbyterian Church is having its first annual

blessing of the animals, and we hope you will invite your friends and family to join us and bring their adorable animals. We have pet-minded vendors scheduled to attend with great giveaways, and our amazing praise band will be onsite to entertain. *See insert for additional information.*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Communion Worship	8:15 AM	Chapel
Contemporary Worship	9:00 AM	F'ship Hall
Valet Parking	9:30 AM	
Contemporary Faith Class	9:45 AM	N-218
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 24

Parents' Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
DS Timeless Tales "Jack and the Beanstalk"	9:15 AM	F'ship Hall

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

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

Beth Moore Bible Study	6:30 PM	Youth Cntr
Girl Scout Troop 439	6:30 PM	S-206
Meditation For Christians	7:00 PM	Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-121

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Parents' Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Bible Moderators	11:00 AM	S-100
BSF Women's Bible Study	6:55 PM	F'ship Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room
PW Circle 5	7:00 PM	Off-site

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Parents' Morning Out PMO	9:00 AM	Child Care
Bible Study Lunch Bunch	12:00 PM	Off-site
Girl Scout Troop	6:30 PM	S-206

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Blessing of the Animals	10:00 AM	Parking lot
New Hope Christian Fellowship	5:30 PM	Offsite
Al-Anon Family Group	7:00 PM	N-121



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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 Day School: (727) 894-5889 ♦ Web site: www.fpc-stpete.org ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stpete.org