



First Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

September 30, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Twenty-sixth 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

"Come, Thou Almighty King" (hymn 2)

Jack Jones
(1940-2018)

Jack Rain, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, foolish people; God is calling us. The God of all time and space wants our attention.

Why are we called foolish in the church? Does God think we are foolish people?

Have we embraced the world's talk and actions? Have we turned away from God's expectations?

People call us foolish when we take faith seriously. The world thinks us strange if we are different.

God says to us: You shall be holy because I am. You shall be true and just, generous and loving.

How can God expect us to be perfect? How can we help others if we don't fit in?

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 2**

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Ken Young

Gracious God, we do not understand your ways. We have forgotten that you call us to standards far different from the accepted norms of our society. We confess that we have dealt falsely with others. We have benefitted from systems that defraud many of a living wage for their labors. We have slandered people you invite us to love and hated some for whom you have asked us to pray. O God, we admit that we are people of vengeance and grudges. We cry to you for help. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Ken Young

The grace of God is available to all who repent and put their trust in God. We are, each of us, God's temple. God's Spirit dwells in us, creating in us a holy place. We belong to Christ, who lifts our guilt from us that we might begin again to love ourselves and our neighbors.

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ken Young

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 792

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

BALM IN GILEAD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 119:33-40

Rev. Ken Young

(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 697)

Second Lesson: Matthew 5:38-48

Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti

(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 6)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "God Said It; I Believe It; That Settles It?" 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

“Open My Eyes”
Chancel Choir

K. Lee Scott

Open my eyes and I shall see; incline my heart and I shall desire; order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of your commandments. O God, be my only Lord, and beside you let there be none else, no other, none else with you. Teach me to worship you and serve you in all my undertakings with truth of spirit, with honor of body, with blessing of mouth both in public and private. 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.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 39

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Toccata on *Lobe den Herren*” (hymn 35)
(Psalm 150:3)

Gordon Young
(1919-1998)

September 30, 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

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).

MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS



You are invited to experience meditation in a small group. We

meet on alternate Tuesday evenings. Next meeting will be October 9 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.

PEACEMAKING SPECIAL OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

Our Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world. Your gifts will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. Let us offer the peace of Christ at all times and all ways.

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.*

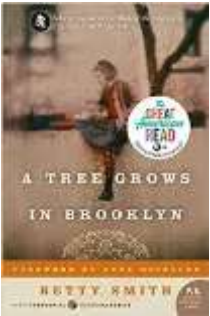
HYMN SING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

. Sunday, October 14, 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. *See insert for additional information.*

TRUNK OR TREAT!

You will find collection baskets at the entrance to the sanctuary and fellowship hall for your individually wrapped candy donations.

FAITH & FICTION RESUMES OCTOBER 1



The October 1 meeting will be held in the chapel due to a special called session meeting being held in N-123. For a list of the books for this year, visit the church

website: www.fpc-stpete.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE RETURNING OCTOBER 3



The Arts & Spirituality for Adults. Messy Church and Choir for Children. Make plans to come out

and invite a friend. *See insert for additional information.*

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY RESUMES "PSALM 23" THE SHEPHERD WITH ME

For 7 weeks we will explore the depths of God's care tucked into the Psalm we've always loved. Join us either on Tuesday mornings or Tuesday evenings, October 16 – November 27, 2018. Everyone is welcome—no previous Bible study experience is required. The workbook will be available for \$15. Free childcare is available by reservation: e-mail childcare@fpc-stpete.org or call/leave a message with childcare at 828-3971 (sign up for all 7 weeks or let childcare know if you are unable to come for specific dates). If you have any questions, call April at 420-1758 or e-mail stapler39@aol.com.

SIX TO MIX INVITES YOU TO JOIN A TIME OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

This One's for You! Are you hungry for more Christian fellowship, in a setting that is welcoming and easy, casual and face-to-face? We are putting together small groups of FPC adults 18 to 100-plus. *See insert to sign up and for additional information.*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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'shp Hall
Youth Group	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-121

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Coordinating Team	9:00 AM	S-100
Stephen Minister Meeting	5:00 PM	S-100
PCAT	6:00 PM	S-105
Session Social Hour	6:00 PM	Off-site
Session Meeting	7:00 PM	N-123
Faith and Fiction	7:30 PM	Chapel

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
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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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Children's Chapel	9:15 AM	F'shp Hall
MOPS	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr
Children's Music with Mrs. Carol	5:00 PM	Choir Room
WNL Dinner	5:30 PM	F'shp Hall
WNL Bible Study	6:00 PM	F'shp Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous for Women	7:00 PM	N-121
Praise Band Rehearsal	7:00 PM	F'shp Hall

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
BSF Women's Bible Study	6:15 PM	F'shp Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Choir Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Bible Study Lunch Bunch	12:00 PM	Off-site
Girl Scout Troop 570	6:30 PM	S-206

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

Kids' Night Out	5:00 PM	Child Care
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
 701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 ♦ Church Office: (727) 822-2031 ♦ Fax: (727) 894-2971
 Day School: (727) 894-5889 ♦ Web site: www.fpc-stpete.org ♦ E-mail: office@fpc-stpete.org