



First Presbyterian Church

Welcome Home!

Order of Worship

2nd Sunday in Lent March 17, 2019 11 AM

PREPARATION

A Prayer of Preparation

May the strength of God pilot us. May the wisdom of God preserve us. May the wisdom of God instruct us. May the hand of God protect us. May the way of God direct us. May the shield of God defend us. May the host of God guard against the snares of evil and temptations in the world. May Christ be with us, Christ before us, Christ in us, Christ over us. May your salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and forevermore.

(5th century prayer of Patrick of Ireland)

Welcome

Rev. Shon Peppers

Ministry of Friendship

Please pass the friendship register so all may sign it; pass it back so you may become acquainted with those sitting on your pew.

Prelude

Aria from *Semele*

George F. Handel

ADORATION

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 32)

Rev. Dr. Margaret Turney-Ayer

Leader: Oh, what a joy it is to gather in the midst of God's grace-filled presence!

People: What a joy it is to be forgiven!

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: We are grateful to the Lord for unearned guidance, protection, and peace.

Leader: Lord, shower us with your persistent, unfailing love.

People: Shout for joy, all who trust in God!

*Hymn 440

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

ABERSTWYTH

CONFESSION

Large print bulletins are available. Please let an usher know if you would like one.

The 11 am service is streamed live at www.fpcga.org and later is available on our website. Sunday sermons are also broadcast on WDUN AM 550 each Sunday following the 8:30 am news.

We give thanks to God for the musical gifts of our Chancel Choir, proclaiming the good news in song this morning.

The Hebrew word for shofar is derived from the word *yobel*, meaning a ram's horn. To make a sound from the shofar is to "blast" or "carry" (*yabal*) one's breath from it.

Josh Thompson, shofar

FPC has begun an endeavor to read the entire Bible together in 2019! Reading plans are available through the Bible in One Year app or on the FPC website at fpcga.org.

Larry Preiss, clarinet

The Hebrew word *'ashar* is translated as "happiness" or "blessedness."

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways. We have wasted the gifts you have given us. You gave us the earth for our home, but we squander the earth's resources and hoard its bounty. You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions. You gave us commandments that lead to the flourishing of all your people, but we seek our own fulfillment and neglect what you have taught us. Forgive us our sin and bring us back to repentance. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love...

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Celebration of Forgiveness (Hymn 223, stanza 4)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Time with Our Children

Dallas Thompson

All children are invited to come forward. When dismissed, children (ages three through second graders) may participate in Children's Church in the Sunshine Lodge in the Children's Wing.

PROCLAMATION

Scripture Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Leviticus 25:8-24
(Pew Bible page 114)

Anthem

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Robert Leaf

The text and tune can be found at No. 221 in the hymnal.

Scripture Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32:1-11
(Pew Bible page 512)

Sermon

The Happiness Myth

Dallas Thompson

Moment of Reflection on God's Word

RESPONSE

*Affirmation of Faith, *The Apostles' Creed*

Rev. Lee Koontz

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The white rose in the narthex today is in memory of Jean Roberts, who passed away March 4.

Prayers of the People, concluding with *The 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.

Offertory

There Is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Jacob McVey, soloist

*Presentation Hymn

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn 618 *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

DEO GRACIAS

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Lift High the Cross

arr. Larry Shackley

TODAY'S SERVANTS

Chancel Flower Guild

Patsy Seals, Judy Holcomb,
Kathy Seals, Amy Holcomb

Sound and Lighting

Jay Fulenwider

Greeters and Ushers

John Testament, Head Usher;
Ayuk Agborsangaya, Enow
Agborsangaya, Nancy
Alexander, Ida Cook, Robert
Faith, Ushers; Roger and Molly
Drake, Dottie Rigby, Greeters

* Please stand as you are able.

Welcome, guests!

If you would like to know more about our church, learn more about Jesus as Lord, or are in need of prayer, please join one of our pastors and elders in the church parlor following this service.

Our Staff

Lee Koontz
Senior Pastor
lkoontz@fpcga.org

Shon Peppers
Associate Pastor
speppers@fpcga.org

Margaret Turney-Ayer
Interim Director of Faith Development
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Sam Marley
Director of Choirs

Sophie Shoults
Contemporary Worship Leader

Dallas Thompson
Director of Youth Ministry
dthompson@fpcga.org

Ali Thompson
Director of Children's Ministry
athompson@fpcga.org

Ronny Childs
Audio/Visual Coordinator

B.J. Maher
Substitute Organist

Are you interested in joining First Presbyterian Church?

Anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and desires to follow and serve Christ is invited to become a member of this congregation. If you're interested in discovering more about how to become a member, please speak to one of the pastors following the service.

Pastor on call

If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 770-718-8584.

800 South Enota Drive
Gainesville, GA 30501
www.fpcga.org
770-532-0136

Opportunity for Ministry

FPC will host Family Promise families the following weeks....**March 17, June 16, September 8, and December 8.** This is a vital ministry that offers hope and Christ's love to those in need in our community.

To learn more about Family Promise, please contact Shon Peppers. To volunteer for overnight hosting, contact Jane Davenport; to provide a meal, contact Kay Spence.

Women's Day Retreat: WAIT LIST NOW OPEN

Fill Your Cup, led by Dallas Thompson, March 22, 6-8 pm and March 23, 9:00-3:00 at the Junior League Lodge on Riverside Drive. Registration is nearly full. **Call the church office to be placed on the wait list, 770.532.0136.** We will call you as space permits.

Retreat brochures are available at the information centers. The total cost is \$50. Free childcare on Saturday, 8:45-3:00, will be provided at the church. Contact Ali for reservations by March 20. The cost includes a wonderful supper Friday night and a chef-prepared gourmet luncheon on Saturday.

JOHN LAFORGE
MICHELLE MARTIN

A GRAND NIGHT FOR Singing

Sunday, March 31 | 4 PM
Presented by the First Presbyterian Fine Arts Series

ADULT TICKETS \$15 AT THE DOOR | STUDENTS FREE | 770-532-0136

Follow us on Facebook

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

Family Promise Week

9:00am Morning Light Worship SH
10:00am Pancake Breakfast SH
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
5:00pm Chancel Ringers
6:00pm Youth Fellowship, Señor Fiesta

MONDAY, MARCH 18

11:00am FPC Staff Meeting CR
2:00pm Gentle Yoga SH503
6:00pm Long Range Planning CR*
6:30pm Beginners' Sq Dancing Class, Gym
7:00pm Boy Scouts, Lakehouse

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

9:00am Yoga SH503
10:00am Prayer Group, Cabin 1
1:30pm Endow Grants Cmte CR*
3:00pm Operating Budget Cmte CR*
4:00pm CDC Council M303*
5:30pm AA Group, Lake House
7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study, Dallas' home

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

10:45am Primetime Singers
12:00pm Gentle Yoga SH503
5:15pm Andrew Ministry, Cabin 1
5:45pm WOW Supper & Activities
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

9:00am Yoga SH503
10:00am Wonderful Works M303
5:00pm Phoenix, Lake House
6:00pm Faith Development CR*

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

6:00pm Women's Retreat

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

9:00am Women's Retreat

***Committee Meeting**
CR-Conference Room
SH-Swetenburg Hall