



First Presbyterian Church

Welcome Home!

Order of Worship

3rd Sunday in Lent March 15, 2020 11 AM

PREPARATION

A Prayer of Preparation

Gracious God, we pray for your church universal. Fill it with all truth in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen.
(William Laud, 1573-1645)

Welcome

Rev. Lee Koontz

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

Tranquillo, ma con moto

Herbert Howells

ADORATION

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 133)

Rev. Dr. Margaret Turney-Ayer

Leader: Though we may be inclined to pride, let us come together with humility.

People: How good it is when God's people live together in unity!

Leader: Though we may be tempted to use harsh words, let us come together with gentleness.

People: How good it is when God's people live together in unity!

Leader: Though we may want everything to happen quickly, let us come together with patience.

People: How good it is when God's people live together in unity!

Leader: Though the world around often encourages hate, let us come together in love.

People: How good it is when God's people live together in unity!

Leader: In humility, gentleness, patience, love, and unity,

All: Let us worship the God who has called us together!

*Hymn 386

Come, Worship God

O QUANTA QUALIA

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.

Prayer of Confession

God of Love, we have come here today as family. We know that we are sisters and brothers in Christ. Each of us is your precious child. And yet we struggle with division in our community, nation, and world. There are persistent conflicts, old resentments, and new irritations. We are quick to anger and slow to forgive. We would rather choose our brothers and sisters than acknowledge the welcoming nature of your family. Open our hearts to your love, and show us the way of reconciliation. Teach us to see each brother and sister with your eyes. Help us claim our heritage as your children, and live together in unity as your family.

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Celebration of Forgiveness

Hear the Good News of Salvation (Hymn 441, v. 1)

NETTLETON

**Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

Time with Our Children

Rev. Koontz

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

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95
(Pew Bible page 559)

Anthem

Jesus, So Lowly

Harold Friedell

Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth: christen me wholly, bring me new birth. Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; teach me that only Love maketh glad. Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token; Love will not fail. Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be. (Edith Williams)

New Testament Reading
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Romans 5:1-11
(Pew Bible page 144)

Sermon

Stronger in the Broken Places

Rev. Koontz

Moment of Reflection on God's Word

RESPONSE

*Affirmation of Faith, (*from The Confession of 1967*)

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which we are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables all people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of our sin, the Spirit gives us power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all. The new life in Christ takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of what we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. Amen.

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 *Like as the Hart Desireth the Waterbrooks* Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee O God. My soul is athirst for God yea, even for the living God. When shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me: Where is now thy God? (Psalm 42:1-3)

*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

*Hymn 213 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* RATHBUN

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Wondrous Love* Samuel Barber

* Please stand as you are able.

Jacob McVey, conductor

TODAY'S SERVANTS

Chancel Flower Guild

Patsy Seals, Judy Holcomb,
Kathy Seals, Amy Holcomb

Sound and Lighting

Jay Fulenwider

Ushers and Greeters

Cid DeLisle, head usher;
Joe and Susan Biddy, Don and
Gerri Crane, Sally DeLisle,
Andy and Stacy Morley, ushers;
Garry and Margaret McGlaun,
Dottie Rigby, greeters

Welcome, guests!

Your presence is a wonderful blessing to this church family! If you would like to know more about the church or would like to ask for prayer, please speak with one of the pastors following the service. We would love the opportunity to get to know you and minister to you!

Our Staff

Lee Koontz
Senior Pastor
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Shon Peppers
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Margaret Turney-Ayer
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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

BE THOU MY VISION

Women's Retreat

Fri-Sat, March 20 – March 21
Junior League Lodge
1547 Riverside Drive

Led by Dallas Thompson.

Brochures with registration forms are at the Information Centers. Contact Margaret Turney-Ayer or Ali Thompson to register (registration \$25, light supper \$10, luncheon buffet \$15).

BBQ Contest and Covered Dish

Sunday, March 22

Call the church office

to sign up to enter your BBQ for the contest. Bring your entry at 3:30 to be judged. The covered dish supper is 4:00-6:00.



The next **Community Lenten Worship & Luncheon** will be held Wednesday, March 25 at FPC. The suggested donation for the meal is \$5.

BENJI STEGNER | Organist

Presenting a recital of hymn-based works by modern American composers
Sunday, March 29
4 PM in Sanctuary



Men's Retreat

April 17-19
Natahala National Forest
Cost: \$20
Contact Rev. Shon Peppers for more information.



All Aboard!

VBS Volunteers needed July 6-10
9:30-12:30

athompson@fpcga.org

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

9:00am Chancel Ringers
9:00am Morning Light Worship SH
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
6:00pm Financial Peace M303
6:00pm Youth Fellowship

MONDAY, MARCH 16

11:00am FPC Staff Mtg CR
2:00pm Gentle Yoga SH503
6:00pm Perspectives Class SH

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

9:00am Yoga SH503
10:00am Prayer Group, Cabin 1
1:30pm Endow Grants Cmte CR*
3:00pm Budget Cmte CR*

5:30pm Lanier Volleyball, Gym

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

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 19

9:00am Yoga SH503
10:00am Wonderful Works M303
6:00pm Faith Development CR*

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

5:30pm Women's Retreat, Jr. League Lodge

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

9:00am Womens Retreat, Jr. League Lodge

*Committee Meeting
CR-Conference Room
SH-Swetenburg Hall