

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 1, 2023 – 10:30 AM
Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list, too. Welcome!

Prelude "The Christ Child"

Call to Worship

Hymn 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

God comes to us just as we are, with all our triumphs, our worries, our gratitude, and our failures. We deepen our relationship with God now by drawing close and confessing our sins.

Shepherd of our souls, we anticipate your coming but do not feel ready. We have done too much and not done enough. We have focused too much on ourselves and not enough on others. Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we might be saved.

Assurance of God's Grace

Emmanuel did not come to this world to condemn, but to save.

God does not come to imprison us, but to set us free.

Through this abundant love, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "Another Year of Grace" Lovelace

Now greet the swiftly changing year with joy and penitence sincere. Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace. This Jesus came to end sin's war; this Name of names for us he bore. Rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace. His love abundant far exceeds the volume of a whole year's needs. Rejoice with thanks embrace another year of grace. With such a Lord to lead our way in want or in prosperity, what need we fear in earth or space in this new year of grace? "All glory be to God on high and peace on earth!" the angels cry, rejoice embrace another year of grace.

Doxology

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. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.

First Lesson

Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord; how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens. Through the praise of children and infants you have

established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and all the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the path of the seas.

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Hymn 146

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

Second Lesson

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-13

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil-this is the gift of God.

Sermon

“Time Refreshed”

Rev. Steve Frazier

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Table

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore with apostles and prophets, and that great cloud of witnesses who live for you beyond all time and space, we lift our hearts in joyful praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

...Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

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.

Distribution of the Elements and Communion of the People

Hymn 119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Benediction

Postlude

“Noel”

D’Aquin

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

There is an urgent need for additional FPC volunteers to be on hand between 3:30-5:00 pm on Sundays. Most weeks, it simply requires someone willing to be on-site, greet the partner church volunteers who have prepared and will serve the meal, then locking up afterward (including the Courtyard). At least 1 (and often 3) FPC veterans are there each week, too. We’re all in this together! Anyone interested in learning the (very minimal) ropes, please see Oralie Wilhite, Mary Ann Taylor or Sue Fay.

Week of December 18- Prayers of the People

Mary Lemming
Frances Hasty
Paul Butler
Lane Pittman
Agnes McFadden

Alice Simpson
Becky Kullman (Alyssa
Furman’s Grandmother)
Karen Diggs
Emily Bond

Linda Thompson
Monica Manley
Those who have COVID

January Birthdays

7 David Turner
17 Carl Rhodes, Jr.
18 Brantley Aliff

26 Sylvie Joyner
27 Kay Kidd
27 Kerry Westerwick

31 Kelsey Smith
31 Abbey Taylor

Update on The Rev Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, pastor of FPC from 2010 to 2015

Kerry has had some turmoil in her life in the last couple of years: In February 2021, she was diagnosed with lung cancer and subsequently had one lung completely removed. In July 2021, her husband, Barry, was found on their front porch in Florida – suddenly deceased. Early in 2022, Kerry’s cancer had returned to her remaining lung and metastasized to other organs. On 12 23 2022, I received a note from Kerry saying that she is now receiving in-home hospice care with a prognosis of maybe 6 months before the end. She confided that she does not think it will be that long.

Kerry said she is too weak to engage in telephone conversations, but she does welcome texting and written notes. Her telephone # (texting only) is 757 275 4676, Her mailing address is: 575 West River Road, Wewahitchka, FL 32465-4536.

May God have mercy on her body and soul and give her comfort and peace.
Michael Broadhurst

