



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 18, 2019

10:30 a.m.

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Please sign the Welcome Pad and pass it along the pew.  
Turn off all cell phones, and refrain from using cameras during worship.  
Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.*

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Holy God, full of grace and just in all your ways  
come to church with us this day with the urgency of  
your call to faith and the wonder of your large and  
magnificent promises.

For so many in our times there are long stretches  
when the good news is stale news.

For some there are times when they are unable to  
vouch for the gospel with the joy it deserves, caught  
in the abundance of life's chores. Spare us when so  
much distracts us. Spare us the corrosion of our en-  
thusiasms, the impurity of our purposes and the  
deterioration of our courage. For if you do not enter  
our lives day after day, we may miss our charge to  
reach out to that segment of humanity that continues  
to stumble for unrighteousness's sake.

Say something today, God, by peace or persuasion,  
assurance or confirmation, as we anticipate by  
singing, listening, praying you're meeting us here  
with differing hopes and wounds. Amen.

*– Arthur Nelson*

## THE VISION OF GOD

VOLUNTARY: Concerto RV 548..... Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)  
*Brent Davis and Susan Fancher, saxophone*

WELCOME, CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & EXTENDING HOSPITALITY ..... Danny Massie

CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Newton Cowan

Leader: Thus says the Lord: "Do not let the wise boast in their wisdom,

**People: do not let the mighty boast in their might, do not let the wealthy boast in their wealth**

Leader: but let those who boast boast in this,

**People: that they understand and know me,**

Leader: that I am the Lord; I act with steadfast love, justice and righteousness in the earth,

**All: for in these I delight," says the Lord.**

*– from Jeremiah 9:23-24*

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 686 – God of Our Life.....SANDON

\* PRAYER OF ADORATION

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

\* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Almighty God: you alone are good and holy. Purify our lives and make us brave disciples. We do not ask you to keep us safe, but to keep us loyal, so we may serve Jesus Christ, who, tempted in every way as we are, yet was faithful to you.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: From lack of reverence for truth and beauty, from a calculating or sentimental mind; from going along with the ways of the world;

**People: O God, deliver us.**

Leader: From cowardice that dares not face truth; laziness content with half-truth; or arrogance that thinks it knows it all;

**People: O God, deliver us.**

Leader: From artificial life and worship; from all that is hollow or insincere;

**People: O God, deliver us.**

Leader: From being satisfied with things as they are; in the church or in the world; from failing to share your indignation;

**People: O God, deliver us.**

Leader: From selfishness, self-indulgence, or self-pity;

**People: O God, deliver us.**

Leader: From token concern for the poor, the lonely or the loveless;  
from confusing faith with good feeling, or love with a wanting  
to be loved;

**People: O God, deliver us.**

Leader: For everything in us that may hide your light;

**People: O God, Light of Life, forgive us.**

Leader: Hear us now, O God, as we confess those private sins that we dare  
not name before others, and forgive us through Christ Jesus our  
Lord...

**All: Amen,**

*A brief period of silence is reserved for personal confession.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* THE PEACE

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

The musical score is written on four staves in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it: Three we name you, While in es - sence on - ly One; Un - di - vid - ed God we claim You, And a - dor - ing bend the knee While we own the mys - ter - y.

# THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WORD READ: *Psalm 16*

*Reader: Carolyn F. Hall*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN ..... Newton Cowan

ANTHEM: Dear Lord and Father ..... C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

*Summer Choir*

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;  
In purer lives, Thy service find,  
In deeper rev'rence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,  
Beside the Syrian sea,  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word,  
Rise up and follow Thee.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease:  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe thro' the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and Thy balm.  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak thro' the earthquake, wind and fire,  
O still small voice of calm.

*– John Greenleaf Whittier*

THE WORD READ: *Judges 8:22-35*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: What Gideon Reveals ..... Danny Massie

4. About Unintended Idolatry

*A brief period of silence is reserved for personal reflection.*

## THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 739 – O for a Closer Walk with God ..... CAITHNESS

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH..... Myles Fish

**We believe in one true and living God.**

**We acknowledge one God alone,  
whose demands on us are absolute,  
whose help for us is sufficient**

**That One is the Lord,  
whom we worship, serve and love.**

**We acknowledge no other God.**

**We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.  
We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.  
We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.**

**We praise and enjoy God.**

**To worship God is highest joy.**

**To serve God is perfect freedom.**

*– from A Declaration of Faith*

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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: Oh Lord, In Thee Have I Trusted ..... George F. Handel (1685-1759)  
*Summer Choir*

Oh Lord, in Thee have I trusted:  
Let me never be confounded.

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise  
God, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-

lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\* CLOSING HYMN: No. 612 – We Praise You, O God .....KREMSER

\* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ..... Danny Massie

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY: Concerto RV 548.....Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)  
*Brent Davis and Susan Fancher, saxophone*



### TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

*Danny Massie, Interim Pastor | Newton Cowan, Pastoral Care | Myles Fish, Director of Stewardship |  
 Carolyn F. Hall, Lay Reader | John Alexander, Director of Music and Principal Organist |  
 Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir | Brent Davis and Susan Fancher, Saxophone | Summer Choir*

“God of Our Life” Text: Hugh Thomson Kerr; Music: Charles Henry Purday.

“O for a Closer Walk with God” Text: William Cowper; Music: Scottish Psalter.

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng.*

“We Praise You, O God” Text: Julia C. Cory; Music: *Neder-lanstsch Gedenck-Clanck.*

\* Please stand as you are able.

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## THIS MORNING IN REJOICE!

Rejoice!, our non-traditional service, takes place Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in Mullin Life Center, receiving the sermon via video link. Also leading Rejoice! today are:

*Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care |  
Donna Chase, Director of Christian Formation | Hilda Courter, Lay Reader |  
James Keith, Associate Director of Music for Rejoice! | Rejoice! Band*

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**THE LITURGICAL COLOR GREEN** seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the season of "Ordinary Time." This season is a time of spiritual growth when the scriptures about Jesus' preaching, teaching and healings are read and proclaimed.

**ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS:** The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Martha Morrison Brown by Nancy and Trip Brown and Eleanor Brown Walker.

**FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE** – Honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our worship service in the Sanctuary. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. Contact Carolyn Yow, 336.478.4768 or cyow@fpcgreensboro.org to learn more.

**PASTOR ON CALL:** When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

**DON'T ASSUME ...** that the pastors know that you or other members are in the hospital or home with a lengthy illness. Please call the church offices at 336.373.0445 and let us know so that we can extend a hand in prayer and care.

**THIS MORNING OUR YOUNG ADULTS** will worship together and have a Communion service at Hanging Rock State Park, led by Nate Sell, Matt Logan, Alexandra Mauney and Keith Dove.

**HYMNS FOR THE UPCOMING REVIVAL** – Congregation members are invited to request favorite hymns that we will hear and sing as part of revival services. Send your favorites to Debby Foster, dfoster@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4702, by Thursday, September 12.

**SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NEWS:** You can sign up for our weekly E-News and our Thursday morning Sunday Preview at the link at [fpcgreensboro.org/connect/our-media](http://fpcgreensboro.org/connect/our-media)

**THE MINISTRY OF MEMBERS** – Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. *Such involvement includes:*

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed;
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation;
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support;
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life;
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents;
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church;
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others;
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life;
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment;
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church;
- and reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

*(from the Book of Order)*

**OUR 10:30 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SERVICE IS LIVE-STREAMED** on the web, and can be accessed at [fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live](http://fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live), or via our Facebook page. You can also sign up for reminders and alerts at [livestream.com/fpcgreensboro](http://livestream.com/fpcgreensboro), and you can stream the service on mobile devices by installing the Livestream app (free account sign-in required).

**THE SAFETY OF FPC members and visitors is a priority for our ushers and greeters, who receive training in Session-adopted procedures. Please let them know if you observe anything that might require their attention.**

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith. We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

**IF YOU ARE A VISITOR**, we encourage you to wear a name tag, available in the blue Welcome notebooks on your pew.

**VISITORS AND MEMBERS**, please sign the attendance pad in the Welcome notebooks. We care about how folks are doing and try to pay attention when our members haven't worshiped with us in a while. And please note the names of others on your pew and say "Hello!"

**FAMILIES** can find comfortable seating, a nursing screen, and a live feed of the service in the Myers Loyalty Room behind the Sanctuary. Parents must supervise children.

**IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN**, we offer ways to make worship meaningful for them:

*Nursery care* is provided for infants through age 6 on the **first floor of Mullin Life Center**. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

*Ages second grade and up* are encouraged to participate with the congregation in the full service.

*Children in Worship bags*: Young children are invited to choose from an assortment of crayons, coloring books, and other activities to create their own worship bag for the service. These items are located on a cart in the Tower Room. Please ask an usher for assistance, if needed. Bags should be returned to the cart after the service.

*Restrooms*, including a family room, are located off the hallway behind the pulpit and chancel. We encourage young children to be accompanied by parents any time they leave the Sanctuary.

## NEXT WEEK IN CHURCH

### SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.

- Rev. Danny Massie concludes a Bible study of the narrative portion of the book of *Daniel*.

Meets in the Garden Room,  
Smith 124.

- A deep study of *Exodus*, the second book of the Bible, led by Gerard Davidson. Seekers Class meets in Vaughn Conference Room, Main 125.

- Gerald Donnelly will lead a discussion in YMBC, which meets in Redhead Hall.