

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

10:30 a.m.

BAPTISM SUNDAY

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

Lord, be with us this day—
within us to purify us;
above us to draw us up;
beneath us to sustain us;
before us to lead us;
behind us to restrain us;
around us to protect us. Amen.

— based on a prayer of Patrick of Ireland (c. 389-461)

THE VISION OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

Suzanne Pollak, organ

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE..... Nate Sell

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.

All: **Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with
their whole heart, who do no wrong, but walk in his ways.**

Leader: O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

All: **I will praise you with an upright heart!**

— from Psalm 119 (lectionary)

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 35 – Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty (SEE PAGE 10)

* PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION Doug McLeroy

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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.**

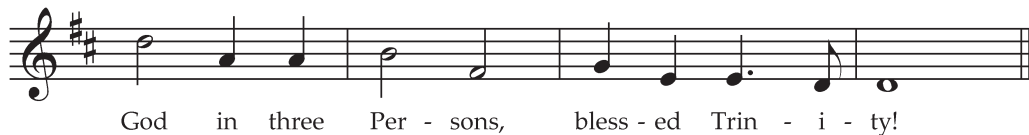
As you share the good news of forgiveness in Jesus Christ, please offer one another these words: "The peace of Christ be with you."

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!NICAEA

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - mighty - y!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!



WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WORD READ: *1 Corinthians 3:1-9*..... (SEE PAGE 9)

Reader: Joyce D’Arconte

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Nate Sell and Doug McLeroy

Introduction of Family

Leader: We come to the font to baptize one of our children and to remember that we are the baptized children of God.

Baptism is a special act of Christian worship that uses visible signs to present God’s grace for us in Jesus Christ.

People: We baptize because Jesus instructed his disciples to baptize and to celebrate this sacrament among God’s people, the Church.

Leader: Through baptism we are adopted and welcomed into God’s family, and we are named and claimed as God’s own. Parents, relying on God’s grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?

Parents: We do.

Leader to the young children of the church:

Do you promise to pray for Anderson, to be a Christian friend and to tell him of the love of Jesus?

Children: We do.

Elder to congregation:

Do we as members of the church of Jesus Christ promise to guide and nurture Anderson and his parents, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his Church?

Congregation: We do.

Baptism

Words of Reflection on Baptism

Prayer

Presentation

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Child of God, I Now Have Chosen FISHER PARK



ANTHEM: Be Thou My Vision Alice Parker
Chancel Choir

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven my victory won,
May I reach heav'ns joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall.
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

THE WORD READ: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20* (SEE PAGE 9)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: “A Matter of Life and Death” Nate Sell

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 833 – O Love That Will Not Let Me Go..... (SEE PAGE 11)

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....Dolly Jacobs

**Jesus Christ is ordained by God the Father
and anointed with the Holy Spirit
to be our chief Prophet and Teacher,
fully revealing to us the secret purpose and will of God
concerning our redemption;
to be our only High Priest,
having redeemed us by the one sacrifice of his body
and ever interceding for us with the Father;
and to be our eternal King,
governing us by his Word and Spirit,
and defending and sustaining us
in the redemption he has won for us. Amen.**

– Heidelberg Catechism

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: Steal Away arranged by Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

Susan Fancher, soprano saxophone

Chancel Choir

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.
My Lord, He calls me, He call me by the thunder,
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here

* 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

* RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 39 – Great Is Thy Faithfulness (SEE PAGES 12 & 13)

*As we bear the Word into the world, we turn to face the back doors of
 the church as we hear the charge & benediction*

* BENEDICTION AND CHARGE Nate Sell

VOLUNTARY

Suzanne Pollak, organ



* Let us rise in body or spirit.

Music reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net A-707283.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Nate Sell, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident | Doug McLeroy, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care | Jim Gentry, FPC Elder |
Joyce D'Arconte, Lay Reader | Zoë Upton, Acolyte
Suzanne Pollak, Guest Pianist and Organist | Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir
Susan Fancher, Soprano Saxophone | Chancel Choir

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered today during the 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary service to Anderson Hislop Bell, son of Logan and Sarah Bell.

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dot and Maxcy McCown by Linda M. Branch.

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

WINTER IS UPON US! To begin receiving FPC alerts for weather and closings, text FPCGSO to 41411 and follow the instructions to opt in. *(Standard text rates may be applicable based on your individual carrier.)*

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.

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NEWS: You can sign up for our weekly E-News and our Thursday morning Sunday Preview at fpcgreensboro.org/connect/our-media.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 1 – At its meeting on February 17, the Session will call a meeting of the congregation for March 1, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary, for the purpose of presenting the slate of officer nominees for election. Nominees are: Bill Benjamin, David Cashwell, Katherine Farless, Emily Faucher, Jack Harrington, Robbie Hassell, Catherine Johns, Christie Mitchell, Allison Morrisette, Chuck Norman, Chip Permar, Lori Richardson, Hunter Ricks, Karen Rinehart, Karen Schaede, Doug Shaw, John Sullivan, Andy Supple, Camille Townsend, Martha Turner; youth elders, Mac Faircloth and Cameron Jones; and trustee, Jim Hegner. *More information on the nominees is available at fpcgreensboro.org. Click on "Members" at the top of the home page.*

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)

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 4 on the **first floor of Mullin Life Center**. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

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.

Worship Enrichment: After the children's message, ages 4 to 7 are invited to follow adult leaders to the Children's Space in the Welcome Center for Worship Enrichment. Children will return to the sanctuary after the sermon.

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

February 23, 9:15 a.m.

- **Luke Powery**, our Mullin Forum speaker, leads a special class in Redhead Hall. All are invited, with Homebuilders and Faith Matters, YMBC, Ted Talks Faith and Commitment classes joining.
- **"Working Through Tough Theological Issues"** continues, led by Sandie Gravett in the Agape Class. This series addresses some of the toughest theological questions of the 21st century, and how contemporary theologians grapple with them. Smith 124, the Garden Room.
- **Seekers Class** continues a study of Exodus, led by Gerard Davidson, in Vaughn Conference Room, Main 125.
- **Confirmation Parents** meet in Memorial 300, and Nate Sell leads the discussion, "What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?"

FELLOWSHIP IN THE WELCOME CENTER *with coffee & snacks:*
8:45-10:30 a.m., hosted by Discipleship Committee, Todd Nabors.

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

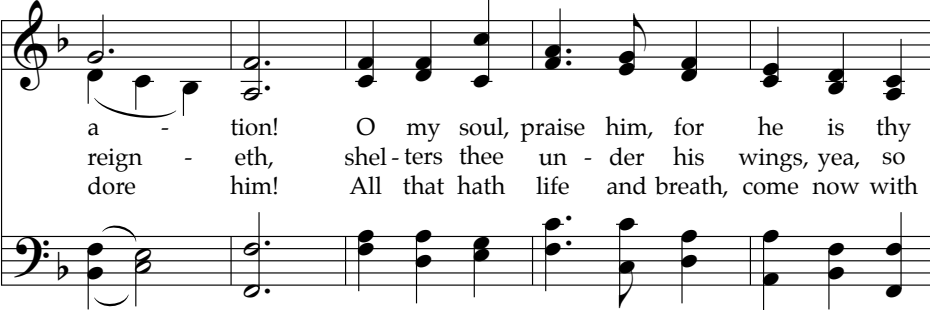
Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty



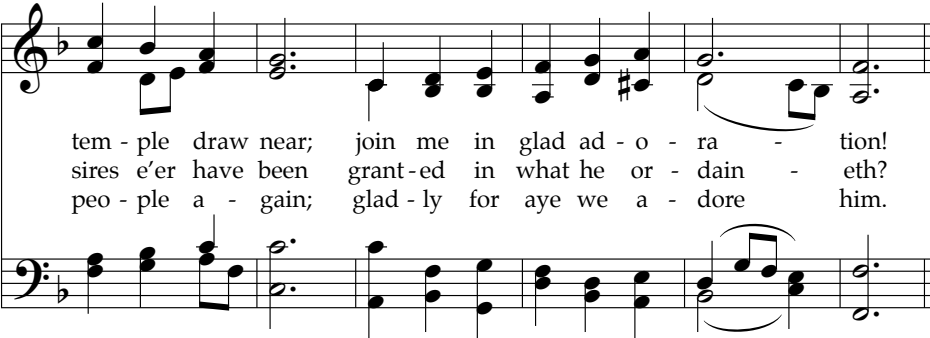
1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go 833

1 O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
 2 O Light that fol-lowest all my way, I yield my
 3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not
 4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not

wea - ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that
 flick-ering torch to thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that
 close my heart to thee; I trace the rain-bow through the rain, and
 ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos-soms red life that shall end - less be.

This intense hymn of commitment to God (addressed as Love, Light, and Joy) closes with an invocation of the ultimate testimony to those attributes (the Cross). The composer, a Scotsman, named this specially-composed tune for the 11th-century patroness of Scotland.

TEXT: George Matheson, 1881, alt.
 MUSIC: Albert Lister Peace, 1884, alt.

ST. MARGARET
 8.8.8.8.6

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

**Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."*

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

COMING UP

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

FEBRUARY 16 - 23, 2020 • MORE AT FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

TODAY

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES POP-UP STORE in Welcome Center, until 12:30 pm.

MONDAY

DEADLINE to RSVP for Mullin Forum lunch. See "Next Sunday" for more info.

WEDNESDAY

FELLOWSHIP DINNER: 5 pm in Mullin Life Center: Chicken Parmesan, spaghetti & tomato sauce, and hazelnut cake. Children's option available. Tickets: receptionist@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4799.

VESPERS – 6 pm, Memorial Chapel. New series on the parables of Jesus continues, with Dolly Jacobs speaking.

PARABLE TALK BACK: After vespers, talk more with the preacher in the Blair Hagan Room behind the chapel.

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE SERVICE – 6:30 pm, Sanctuary. Second-graders & families conclude their Milestone class. Reception following in the Welcome Center.

serious playfulness
& wise foolishness

THE
PARABLES



NEXT SUNDAY IS MULLIN FORUM SUNDAY

with guest preacher Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, dean of Duke University Chapel

- 9:15 am, he will teach in Redhead Hall, hosted by YMBC and Agape classes and open to all.
- One 10:30 am service in the Sanctuary.
- Lunch after worship is open to everyone, \$10. Dr. Powery will speak briefly on challenges for the local church, followed by Q&A time. RSVP by Monday to Stephanie Olson, 336.478.4799 or solson@fpcgreensboro.org, or at the reception desk.



... and continuing to Monday, February 23

Workshop, "Living the Questions of the Bible," open to all. RSVP by Monday, February 16, at fpcgreensboro.org/mullinform. \$25 workshop fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.

AND IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

ENNEAGRAM RETREAT

Saturday, March 7

9:30 am-2:30 pm



Gina Roes, counselor,
spiritual director &
Enneagram facilitator

LEARN HOW GOD HAS WIRED YOU!

Reformer, Helper, Achiever,
Individualist, Investigator, Loyalist,
Enthusiast, Challenger, or Peacemaker?

RSVP by February 25:

fpcgreensboro.org/signup or at reception desk

\$30 includes lunch, snacks. Child care available.

Understanding Dementia- Related Behavior:

Thursday, March
5, 10:30 am to
noon in the Garden
Room, Smith 124,
presented by Well-
Spring Solutions.
RSVP by Feb. 27 by
contacting Maggie
Turner, [mturner@
fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:mturner@fpcgreensboro.org)
or 336.478.4724.



FEBRUARY 26 IS ASH WEDNESDAY

Services and imposition of ashes at 7:30
am in Memorial Chapel with coffee and
biscuits afterward in the Welcome Center;
9:45 am children's chapel; and 6 pm in the
Sanctuary.

MARCH 1: SISTERS IN SONG – 4 pm, Sanctuary. A duet recital featuring five singers and two pianists: Our Chancel Choir members Julie Celona-VanGorden, Emily Ford-Coates, and Anne Albert, sopranos; Stephanie Foley- Davis, mezzo-soprano; and Radha Upton, pianist; will be joined by Hilary Webb, soprano, and Christy Wisuthseriwong, pianist. The recital features duet works by Purcell, Quilter, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Britten, Chausson, Faure, Massenet, Schubert and Paladilhe.