



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 12, 2018, 10:30 A.M.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship begins when the first person arrives. Please worship silently through the prelude.

The congregation reads or sings parts in bold.

*Please stand if able

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

We express gratitude that through God's grace and Christ's giving of himself on the cross we are forgiven and restored to God and one another.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

We invite young children to come to the front at this time.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

In II Samuel, King David's son, Absalom, rebels against his father and is killed in battle. The victory of David's army is overshadowed by his anguish over the loss of his beloved son. In the letter to the Ephesians, Paul seeks to equip Jesus' disciples for a life that imitates the self-sacrificial love of Christ. Through the first of seven "I am" sayings in John's Gospel, Jesus reveals himself to be the Bread of Life, and the only way to eternal life. In the breaking of Jesus' body on the Cross, reflected in the breaking of Communion bread, we are invited to share in that life of self-sacrifice. It is in this place that enemies are reconciled, wounds are healed, and life in all its fullness is given to those who believe.

PRELUDE

*Intermezzo
Prelude on the Hymntune "Kingsfold"*

Johannes Brahms
John Carter

WORDS OF WELCOME

(Please circulate the friendship forms found in the aisle seats.)

Rev. Robert Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We have come together as those who choose the company of Christ.

P: Meet us as we gather, Jesus our Christ.

L: We have come in faith to reach out toward our God.

P: Be with us as we wait, O God.

L: We have come as those who long for the life of the Spirit.

P: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Jane Woodrow

*HYMN 462

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Loving Jesus, you offer us so much in your life and your death, and we often fail to hold our lives open to receive what you bring to us. We are those who tell the world that we are your people and then so often go our own way, hardly pausing to ask ourselves whether there is more that you have to teach us. If we are content to live as we have always lived rather than going deeper into the life that we are called to, avoiding the challenges and complexities rather than growing and changing in response to your truth: Be gracious to us this day, we pray. Do not turn your face away from us, O God. This we pray in humble faith. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri - 579** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen and Amen.*

*Passing the Peace and Greetings

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children are encouraged to go downstairs for Children's Church following the Children's Moment.)

Robert Martin

SPECIAL MUSIC

In the Garden
Mindy King, soprano

Traditional hymn/Austin Miles

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us grace now to hear from your word afresh; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURES Psalm 130 (pages 573, 574 in pew Bible) Liturgist Woodrow
John 6:35, 41-59 (pages 98, 99 in pew Bible) Rev. Martin
L. This is the Word of the Lord!
P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *The Body and the Blood* Rev. Robert Martin

***HYMN 504** *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* UNION SEMINARY

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Martin

OFFERING / OFFERTORY *On the Hymntune "Candler"* John Carter

***Doxology - 592 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.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (in unison)

God, you say yes to each one of us, affirming your promises to us. And so we say yes to you by dedicating these offerings to the expansion of your work in this world. May they be used for ministries of healing, justice, compassion, and love. Amen.

***HYMN 404** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* PRECIOUS LORD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Allegro* Cesar Franck

Earth Justice Potluck Picnic Today - Sunday, August 12th at 6:00 p.m. the Earth Justice Group potluck picnic, home of Keith Wiens and Becky Pankratz. All Church members are invited. Theme of the FPC Earth Justice Group in 2017-18 was water. Keith and Becky will discuss their water system.

Directions to Keith Wiens and Becky Pankratz' home – Take Columbus Road out of Athens. At the stoplight keep going straight onto Hwy 550 for 5.9 miles. Turn left onto Hooper Ridge Road for 4.9 miles. At Concord Church Road turn left. In .5 mile turn left into their driveway, 130042 Concord Church Road. Their house gray with white trim. NOTE: Do not rely on GPS as cell phone coverage is not reliable.

Worshiping With Children

- * AFPC welcomes children in the worship service, whether in the pews or in the Children's Corner.
- * Nursery is available for infant thru age 6 downstairs.
- * Please tell childcare staff about any allergies.
- * Bathrooms are located at the top of the stairs to the overflow area and in Fellowship Hall.
- * Changing tables are located in the nursery and upstairs restroom.
- * All children are welcome to attend the church service with their families or the childcare staff until after the Children's Moment.

On behalf of the congregation, the Pastor expresses the corporate prayers of the congregation. These prayers are for world, local and personal concerns.

Doxology literally means "words of glory." Doxologies have long been used by Jews and Christians to praise God. Here we honor and thank God "from whom all blessings flow."

**REVISED COMMON
LECTIONARY**

This lectionary provides a three-year series of readings for Sunday starting with the season of Advent, four weeks before Christmas Day.

The three year cycle is split into years – A,B, and C. For each Sunday and festival, three readings and a psalm are suggested and include: a Gospel reading, an Old Testament reading, and a New Testament reading.

The lectionary is a work of The Consultation on Common Texts, an ecumenical consultation

of liturgical scholars and denominational representatives from the United States and Canada, who produce liturgical texts for use in common by North American Christian Churches.

Each year of the Revised Common Lectionary centers on one of the synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark and Luke. The Gospel of John is read periodically in all three years and is especially frequent in Year B.

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday, August 12, 2018, the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading	II Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33
Psalm	Psalm 130
Second Reading	Ephesians 4:25-5:2
Gospel	John 6:35, 41-59

First Reading II Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

5The king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

6So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim.

7The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. 8The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

9Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.

15And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

31Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, "Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you." 32The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man."

33The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Second Reading Ephesians 4:25-5:2

25So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. 26Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27and do not make room for the devil. 28Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. 29Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. 30And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. 31Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, 32and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

1Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, 2and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**You can watch a
broadcast of FPC
Worship service on
Athens Community
Television.**

Schedule
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Monday through
Friday
and

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday.

Minister: Rev. Robert E. Martin
CE Coordinator and Handbell Director: Kirsten Trachsel
Administrative Assistant: Jane Baker

Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart
Organist: Janice Robison
Choir Director: David Tadlock

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Chancel Prep - Margie Shelton
Ushers - Martha Johnson and Margie Shelton

Acolyte - Brandon James
Liturgist - Jane Woodrow

Church Activities for the Week

SUNDAY, August 12th

10:30 A.M. - Worship, Sanctuary
Following Children's Moment - Children's Church, classrooms
11:30 A.M. - Children's crafts, classroom 3
11:30 A.M. - Coffee and fellowship, fellowship hall
11:45 A.M. - Staff and Worship Committee meeting, library
1:00-1:30 P.M. - Lindley Inn hymn sing, The Plains

MON., 13th - Noon - Al-Anon, library

TUES., 14th - Noon - Bible study, library

WED., 15th - 7:00 A.M. - AA, library

TUES., 16th - 6:30 P.M. - Church Community Committee meeting, library
7:30 P.M. - Session, fellowship hall

FRI., 17th - Last Day of Office Summer Hours
10:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. - Cooking for Friday Night Life meal, kitchen

SUNDAY, August 19th

10:30 A.M. - Communion during Worship, Sanctuary
Following Children's Moment - Children's Church, classrooms
11:30 A.M. - Children's crafts, classroom 3
11:30 A.M. - Coffee and fellowship, fellowship hall
11:45 A.M. - Mission trip presentation, fellowship hall
6:00 P.M. - Earth Justice Group potluck picnic, home of Keith Wiens and Becky Pankratz. All Church members are invited. (See page 2 for directions.)

Rally Day 2018 - Sunday, August 26th - Celebrate the beginning of a new school year with the Puppet Ministry, activities for all ages, and the kick-off of this year's education theme: "Lost in Translation". Regular education classes and Children's Church will also resume.

Star Gifts - On Rally Day, everyone in the congregation will receive a Star Gift. What is a Star Gift? Just a piece of paper with a word printed on it that you will be asked to reflect on during the coming year. What could this gift bring to you? What possible significance could it hold? Let's find out together!

Christian Education Theme 2018-19 - "Lost in Translation"
Words can be tricky. Do they really mean what we think they mean? Are they being used correctly? Has the meaning of the word changed over time or has it been "Lost in Translation"? This year we will delve into the world of words - words in the Bible and words in our every day lives. Join us as we unravel, decipher, and bring new, deeper understanding to words and the way they enrich (or muddy) the stories that contain them.

Fall Office Hours - Fall office hours begin on Friday, August 24th with the office being open M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Going Deeper Bible Study series will continue! Pastor Rob has agreed to continue holding the studies which focus on a single book of the Bible at each meeting. Participants this past year have enjoyed the opportunity to take a closer look at the overall composition and content of each book they have discussed. It has brought deeper understanding and wider perspective on the history and purpose of the writings. The study does not require participation in the "Read the Bible in a Year" program and participants do not need to have read the book that will be discussed prior to the evening of the study. The studies take place on Tuesday evenings about once a month. A light dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. with discussion from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Stay tuned for further information and a schedule of dates.

Do you like to cycle? Would you be interested in a "Presby Peddlers" group? Fun exercise and great fellowship. Interested? Contact Paul Mullins at 740-591-4162 or pbumullins@columbus.rr.com



Read the Bible in a Year - Did you make it through the Bible last year? Yes? No? Almost? Great! No matter what your level of participation was, you are invited again to enrich your understanding of the Bible by reading it on a daily basis with the "Read the Bible in a Year" program. A new program booklet undated for the 2018-19 year will be available on Rally Day. Readings begin on September 1st. Daily readings usually include about 1-2 chapters from two books of the Bible. This year there will also be a companion booklet that includes all of Pastor Rob's writings from the weekly email blasts. Contact Kirsten Trachsel or Pastor Rob with any questions.

Food Pantry Sunday is the fourth Sunday of each month. Canned goods, non-perishables and monetary donations are needed and welcomed. Use brown envelopes on the back of pews (check Food Pantry) for monetary donations. Foods can be dropped off at the church or church office. Contact Dan Neason (592-2823), FPC representative, for more info.

Trail Mix Ministry Assembly - Snack bags are assembled the fourth Sunday of each month, 10:00-10:20 a.m. and 11:35 a.m.-Noon in Fellowship Hall. Monetary (use the brown giving envelopes and mark Trail Mix on it). In kind donations are appreciated. Next date is August 26th.

Earth Justice Group Green Tip - Composting your kitchen and garden waste is important to the environment because organic waste in the landfill produces methane. Methane is a far more powerful greenhouse gas than CO2. An estimate is that Americans trash 20 lb of food per person each month! So reducing food waste and composting what we must discard can reduce greenhouse gases.