



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16 EAST FIFTH STREET
ROANOKE RAPIDS, NORTH CAROLINA

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Church Office Hours: Wednesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(A children's nursery is available upon request. Please see an usher to assist you)

ORGAN PRELUDE

(Please use the prelude as a time to quietly prepare for worship)

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Come Before His Presence*

****CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: We are called to follow—to walk in the way of justice and righteousness,

All: for we are children of God!

One: We are called to serve—to be Christ with and for one another,

All: for we are the salt of the earth!

One: We are called to shine—to be beacons of hope and witnesses to truth,

All: for we are the light of the world!

One: Come, you who are claimed as children of God, salt of the earth and light of the world.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

****OPENING PRAYER**

One: Holy God, you gave the law to show your people the way of righteousness.
Help us receive your commandments as grace and live as your obedient children
that your goodness may shine through us, to the glory of your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

****HYMN 667**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

****CALL TO CONFESSION**

****PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lover of justice, Giver of mercy, you call us to share our bread with the hungry and to open our homes to the homeless, to care for the poor and to satisfy the needs of those who suffer. Some of your commandments are easy to follow; others require so much of us! How can we break the chains of injustice and untie the cords of oppression? When we consider the brokenness of our world, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Forgive us when we use our sense of helplessness as an excuse. Remind us, we pray, that you are at work in and through us to bring about your reign. Free us from fear and stir our hearts toward a greater generosity, that we might be the salt and light you have called us to be.

****KYRIE ELEISON**

Hymnal No. 576

****TIME FOR SILENCE** *(We ask for forgiveness for our individual faults)*

****ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

****THE PEACE**

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

(The congregation is invited to exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.)

****GLORIA PATRI**

Hymnal 581

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ellen Bryant, liturgist

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God.
‘Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?’
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

ANTHEM

True Light

Keith Hampton

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 23:13-39

‘But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you lock people out of the kingdom of heaven. For you do not go in yourselves, and when others are going in, you stop them. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cross sea and land to make a single convert, and you make the new convert twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

‘Woe to you, blind guides, who say, “Whoever swears by the sanctuary is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary is bound by the oath.” You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the sanctuary that has made the gold sacred? And you say, “Whoever swears by the altar is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is on the altar is bound by the oath.” How blind you are! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So whoever swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it; and whoever swears by the sanctuary, swears by it and by the one who dwells in it; and whoever swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by the one who is seated upon it.

‘Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!

‘Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean.

‘Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

‘Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous, and you say, “If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.” Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors. You snakes, you brood of vipers! How can you escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.

‘Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you, desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” ’

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

TIME WITH YOUNG CHRISTIANS

SERMON

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**HYMN 343

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into

heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: We approach God in prayer not as strangers, but as beloved children, baptized in Christ Jesus. As children of God, we pray for the church . . . By Christ's grace, let us be what you intended—salt of the earth and light for the world, a living sign of your coming realm.

Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: As children of God, we pray for the earth . . . Let new life spring up in parched places; restore the forests, rebuild the cities; renew and repair your good creation.

Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: As children of God, we pray for all nations . . . Blow the trumpet and sound the alarm! Loose the bonds of injustice in every place; break the yoke, and let the oppressed go free.

Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: As children of God, we pray for this community . . . Help us to share our bread with the hungry, to welcome the poor into our homes, to clothe the naked and protect the vulnerable.

Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: As children of God, we pray for loved ones . . . Be near to those who cry to you for help. Be with them in the gloom of their despair; satisfy their needs and restore their souls.

Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Holy One, as you are well pleased with Christ, help us to live in a way that will be pleasing to you. As you have called us to listen to Christ, help us to always heed his word and seek his will. These things we pray in the name of Jesus, your beloved Child, our Savior and Lord, saying Our Father . . .

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnbook p. 35

CHORAL PRAYER

Hear Thou Our Prayer

GIVING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

****DOXOLOGY**

Hymn No. 606

****PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: Lord see the offerings we place before you and hear the pledges of service we make in our prayers.

All: All in the heavens and on the earth is yours, and of your own we give you.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

****HYMN 694**

Great God of Every Blessing

****CHARGE AND BLESSING**

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

****CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

HYMN 826

Lift High the Cross

(verse 4 only)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

WELCOME !

If this is your first time at First Presbyterian Church, we thank you for choosing to spend some time with us in worship.

If you have questions about us, or what we believe, you can talk to Rev. Sandoval after the service.

If you are just curious about us, we encourage you to take a welcome brochure with you. You can also check us out on the web at: www.fpc-rr.org.

If you feel that you have found a church home here and would like to join, that is wonderful! You can transfer your membership from another church or simply profess your faith in Jesus Christ. Talk to Reverend Sandoval after the service to make arrangements for joining.

In any event, be sure to fill out the friendship pad and include your email address. We'd love the opportunity to keep you informed about the wonderful things we are doing here at FPC.

THE SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
Jimmy Bryant	Jack Kiger	Susan Barmer
Nancy Crowe	Mike Knudson	Susan Gaylor
Mary Shelby	Jim Small	Gary Hackenburg
Wally Spragins	Pet Spears	Nancy Sandoval

WORLD MISSIONS

Our church supports the missionary work of Larry and Inge Sthreshley in the Congo, and the Rev. Donald Marsden, Frontier Fellowship.

OTHER SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Sunday School meets at 9:45 am for adults.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The morning CIRCLE meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am in the Parlor, and an evening CIRCLE meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Loy Building. Tammy Spragins and Judith Clary are the Moderators of the Presbyterian Women.

PRESCHOOL

Our Preschool Program for two-year-olds meet Wednesday mornings from 9:00-11:00 am. Three-year-olds meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-11:00 am or 12:00-2:30 pm. Twos and Threes are taught by Leesa Daughtry and Shannon Knight. Four year old classes meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and are taught by Susan Gaylor and Becky Faison. Classes are 8:30-11:30 am and 12:30-3:30 pm. Contact the church office for further information.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

Jim Allen and Jimmy Bryant are the Co-President's of the Presbyterian Men. Sunday morning breakfast meetings are held periodically.

CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Joe Sandoval, Pastor
Tammy Spragins, Administrative Assistant
Denise Hackenburg, Choir Director
Nick Stephenson, Organist/Choral Accompanist**