

# First Presbyterian Church

5401 S. Claiborne Ave.,  
New Orleans, La. 70125

## Morning Breakfast Prayer

February 11, 2018

### OPENING AFFIRMATION

Leader: Among the poor, among the proud, among the persecuted,  
among the privileged.

**ALL: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.**

Leader: In the private house, in the public place, in the wedding feast,  
in the judgement hall.

**ALL: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.**

Leader: With a gentle touch, with an angry word, with a clear conscience,  
with burning love,

**ALL: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.**

Leader: That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,  
that the powerful might stumble, that the hidden might be seen,

**ALL: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.**

Leader: Within us, without us, behind us, before us, in this place,  
in every place, for this time, for all time,

**ALL: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.**

### HYMN 175 "Seek Ye First"

**Seek ye first the Kingdom of God**

**And God's righteousness**

**And all these things shall be added unto you**

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you**

**Seek and ye shall find**

**Knock and the door shall be opened unto you**

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

### PRAYER

Leader: Because you made the world, and intended it to be a good place, and  
called its people your children; because, when things seemed at their  
worst, you came in Christ to bring out the best in us, so, gracious God,  
we gladly say:

**ALL: GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL,  
LOVE IS STRONGER THAN HATE,  
LIGHT IS STRONGER THAN DARKNESS.  
TRUTH IS STRONGER THAN LIES.**

Leader: Because confusion can reign inside us, despite our faith; because anger,  
tension, bitterness and envy distort our vision; because our minds

sometimes worry small things out of all proportion; because we do not always get it right, we want to believe:

**ALL: GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL,  
LOVE IS STRONGER THAN HATE,  
LIGHT IS STRONGER THAN DARKNESS.  
TRUTH IS STRONGER THAN LIES.**

Leader: Because you have promised to hear us, and are able to change us, and are willing to make our hearts your home, we ask you to confront, control, forgive and encourage us, as you know best.

*(pause)*

Then let us cherish in our hearts that which we proclaim with our lips;

**ALL: GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL,  
LOVE IS STRONGER THAN HATE,  
LIGHT IS STRONGER THAN DARKNESS.  
TRUTH IS STRONGER THAN LIES.**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayer, and change our lives until we illustrate the grace of the God who makes all things new.

**ALL: AMEN.**

## WORD OF GOD

Mark 9:2-9

## PRAYERS

Leader: Holy God, though this world depends on your grace, it is governed and tended by mortals. So we pray for those who walk the corridors of power, our president and congress as well as rulers of other lands.

*(Names may be said aloud)*

May they always consider those they represent, make decisions with courage and integrity, and resist any temptation to abuse the trust placed in them. Lord hear us.

**ALL: LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.**

Leader: We pray for those who are leaders in the worlds of finance, business and industry, whose decisions may profit some or impoverish many.

*(Names may be said aloud.)*

May they always value people higher than profit; may they never impose burdens on the poor which they would not carry themselves; and may they never divorce money from morality or ownership from stewardship. Lord hear us.

**ALL: LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.**

Leader: We pray for those in the caring professions, who look after and listen to kind, cruel and difficult people, and for those who make decisions regarding the nation's health and welfare.

*(Names may be said aloud.)*

May they always sense the sanctity of life and every person's uniqueness; may they help heal by their interest as well as their skill; and may they be saved from tiredness and an excess of demands. Lord hear us.

**ALL: LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.**

Leader: We pray for everyone in the city of New Orleans this Mardi Gras, people from right here in our neighborhood and people from all over the world.

*(Names may be said aloud.)*

May we all act as community with one another, together to enjoy life and have a good time. May the city be safe and may people enjoy a break from the ordinary crossing boundaries of race and class to become one community of celebration. Lord hear us.

**ALL: LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.**

And let us remember those for whom we are responsible and to whom we are accountable in what we do today.

*(Names may be said aloud.)*

May we show them the thoughtfulness, tolerance and kindness of Jesus. Lord hear us.

**ALL: LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayers, and if today we might be the way by which you answer the prayers of others, then may you find us eager to fulfill your purpose for Jesus sake..

**ALL: AMEN.**

### HYMN "We Are Marching in the light of God"

(2x) We are marching in the light of God,  
We are marching in the light of God,

(2x) We are marching, marching,  
We are marching O o o  
We are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing...

We're are parading...

We are singing...

### CLOSING RESPONSES

Leader: From where we are  
to where you need us,

**ALL: JESUS, NOW LEAD US.**

Leader: From the security of what we know  
to the adventure of what you will reveal,

**ALL: JESUS, NOW LEAD US.**

Leader: To refashion the fabric of this world  
until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,

**ALL: JESUS, NOW LEAD US.**

Leader: Because good things have been prepared  
For those who love God.

**ALL: JESUS, NOW LEAD US.**

# Happy Mardi Gras

