

First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70125

February 4, 2018

**Have you not known?
Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of
the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
God's understanding is
unsearchable.**

Isaiah 40:28

First Presbyterian Church
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany
Communion Sunday

February 4, 2018

11:00 am

Writing in **bold** is for the congregation response.

*Please stand as you are able.

Gathering Around the Word

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of God, as Jesus astonished the people of Galilee with his teaching and the miracle of his healing grace, so he would work among us, surprising us with joy.

People: Let us worship God, celebrating the graciousness of divine mercy.

*HYMN 305

“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

Darwall's 148th

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of the just and unjust, we confess that your ways puzzle us and your commands are difficult. It is not easy to bless those who insult us and to pray for those who abuse us. You summon us to love the grateful and the selfish, just as we love those who are kind and generous. This too is a hard demand. In your mercy, God, forgive us. Deliver us from bitterness. Rescue us from resignation. And lift us from despair to hope and trust in your mercy and justice. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Leader: The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and offered a new life.

*RESPONSE (GTG 591)

Halle, Halle

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hearing the Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON (GTG 175, v.1)

"Seek Ye First"

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

A Reading from the Prophets

Isaiah 40:21-31

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the Gospels

Mark 1:29-39

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"With Renewed Strength"

Rev. Kim Rodrigue

*HYMN 834

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Precious Lord

Sharing the Word with the World

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Avery and Marsh

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW;

Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;
Praise God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;
Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.
A-men (sing 7 times)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We invite all baptized people to receive communion today. This invitation is not reserved for Presbyterians, nor is it just for adults; it is for all baptized persons who wish to come. We receive communion by coming forward, taking a piece of bread from the loaf, then dipping it into the cup. The pastor will be offering wine; the elder will offer unfermented grape juice. All of the bread is gluten free.

“Access to the table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.” Book of Order, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

ANTHEM

“Come to the Table”

Allen Pote

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Gratitude, praise

hearts lifted high,

voices full of joy...

...So now, in gratitude,

we join our voices

to those of the Church on earth and in heaven.

People: (singing) (GTG 1, v1) Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.

Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

(the prayer continues)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER

*HYMN 504

“We Come as Guest Invited”

Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien

*BENEDICTION

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Greet each other in the love & forgiveness of Christ; saying
“Peace be with you!” and responding “and also with you!”

Resources used in today’s worship service includes:

All The Seasons of Mercy; A Wee Worship Book

February 4, 2018
Leadership in today's service

PASTOR

Kim Rodrigue

LITURGIST

Tracy Rene' Helms-Capasso

MUSIC DIRECTOR

May Ball

PIANIST

Amanda Wadsworth

Join us for breakfast and prayer on February 11, the Sunday before Mardi Gras. **We will not have 11:00 worship that day**, as most people are engaged with parades or hampered by traffic. Instead we will gather at the back of the sanctuary and share fellowship and a simple morning prayer service. Breakfast will be available anytime between 9 and 10; morning prayer will begin at 9:15. Start your day off with your church family, enjoying spiritual and physical sustenance before you join in the city's day of festivities. There will be no other scheduled church activities that day.

Curbside Ashes to Geaux Pastor Kim and friends will be offering ashes at the corner of S. Claiborne and Jefferson from 11:00am-1:00pm and from 4:30-5:30pm. On Ash Wednesday the ashes will be given to people on foot or in cars and will be accompanied by a short prayer for the person receiving ashes.

The sanctuary will be open during those times for quiet meditation. Please let your friends and colleagues know of this opportunity. If you would like to help distribute ashes, please let Pastor Kim know in advance. **Ash Wednesday is February 14.**

Called Congregational Meeting

The session has called a congregational meeting for **Sunday, February 18** immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect a nominating committee. Proposed members of the committee are Sherri Hutton from the session and Dee Boling, Kelly Mallary and David Capasso from the congregation.



WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are a visitor or guest we invite you to sign the visitor/guest register which is located in the Narthex and sign the guest/visitors card located in your bulletin and put in the offering plate. We care about you and want to know who you are.

We welcome you to historic, progressive First Presbyterian Church this morning! Here are a few things to get you up to speed.

- A bathroom is available (with a changing table) at the back of the church in the left hand alcove as you face the entrance doors.
- We take the passing of the peace at the end of the service seriously, so don't be surprised if you get offered hugs!
- Please plan to stay after worship for a few minutes to share refreshments at the back of the church; it's an extension of our understanding of communion and a chance to share God's hospitality.
- We are the only "More Light Congregation" in New Orleans which means we welcome not only the membership, but the leadership and talents of all genders, abilities, races, and sexual orientations.
- We appreciate the spiritual and financial support your attendance brings. You may put cash or a check in the offering plate that will be passed towards the end of the service, or give using your smartphone to scan this code--->
- Even if you are just visiting the city, we want you to feel welcome in our community and to involve yourself in the life of this place. Please sign the visitor book in the vestibule before you go and like us on Facebook at facebook.com/fpcno and follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/fpcno! We also have a Yahoo Group (go to www.fpcno.org and click on the Yahoo Group connection) that will keep you up to date on all the fun activities and service opportunities with the church.

EQUALITY



FOR ALL



WHAT'S UP?

Don't forget to check out the updated First Presbyterian Church website www.fpcno.org to catch up on breaking church news, events and links to the wider world of mission! Also, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

The FPCNO adult Bible study

Takes place every Sunday morning from 9:30am to 10:30am in the Session room. Each week we read and discuss the current lesson from "The Present Word" Bible study series (published quarterly by PCUSA). Our Sunday morning gatherings are informal and typically consists of approximately 6 to 8 participants. All are welcome to attend. Coffee and refreshments are served.

FPCNO THIS WEEK

Monday	1pm-3pm 6:30pm	Program of Hope Setup Session meeting	Sanctuary Session room
Tuesday	6:30pm	pre Mardi Gras Men's Night	Bonfire area
Wednesday	9am-10:30am	Program of Hope <i>(worship and outreach to less fortunate, all are welcome to volunteer or seek help)</i>	Sanctuary
Thursday	6pm-7pm	Meditation Service	Session room
Sunday	9:30pm 11am	Adult Bible Study Sunday Worship	Session room Sanctuary



Prayer List

Please keep this list with you
this week and pray for...



Leah Eskine – a friend and co-worker of Dee Boling.

Selina Cho – aunt of Peter Cho.

Allison Daye Hoy – friend of Sydney McMath

Stacker – May and Larry's pet cat.

Our Homebound members and friends.

Please visit them and remember them in Prayer.

Mary Knight

Mina Crais

Gloria Boling (Randy Boling's mom)

Adrian (Tudy) Manson

Joyce Kleinfeldt (Henry Kleinfeldt's sister)

Prayers for the homeless



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WWW.FPCNO.ORG; FACEBOOK.COM/FPCNO; TWITTER.COM/FPCNO

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

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WEBSITE TECHS:

TERRY RUPPEL; CARRIE FISHER

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REV. TODD & LADONNA VANDEGRIFT

THE SESSION

CLERK OF SESSION, SHERRI HUTTON
CANDICE BELLAU, TREASURER

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SHERRI HUTTON
ZANE FISHER

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DAVID CAPASSO, CHAIR

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CARRIE FISHER

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