

First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70125

January 14, 2018

Darkness cannot
drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

First Presbyterian Church
Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 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

BELLS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 29

Leader: Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

We live sustained by God's presence and love.

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: As we mourn the wounds of God's children,

People: God weeps with us.

Leader: As we give thanks for brothers and sisters
who have lived in faith,

People: God gives thanks with us.

Leader: As we struggle for justice,

People: God struggles with us.

Leader: As we strive for peace,

People: God strives with us.

Leader: As we work to build to build the beloved community,

People: God works with us.

Leader: As we offer our gifts to all,

People: God blesses us.

Leader: Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

**People: Sustained by God's presence and love
we worship God.**

*HYMN 749

"Come! Live in the Light!"

We Are Called

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Most holy and merciful God: we acknowledge and confess
our slowness to do good, our blindness to injustice, and our**

complicity in deferring the dreams and hopes of the oppressed. We have refused to heed your call to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you, our God.

We condemn racial injustice in our pronouncements, yet we cling to the privileges derived from inequity. We participate in our own oppression.

Help us to name our sin, to claim responsibility for our actions, and to change our behavior. In accordance with the commands of Jesus Christ our savior, shake us from our sleep with your imperative to do justice; move us to action with the compassion of your grace; and give us courage to pay the price that justice may be done, on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the
Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

*RESPONSE (*GTG 436, v.1*)

O Quanta Qualia

**God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.
Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,
patience untiring and courage unailing.**

Hearing the Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON (*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

ANTHEM "From the Nets of Our Labor"

Bringie/Kleinheksel, Sr.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Readings

From the Hebrew Scripture

Amos 5:21-24

From the Gospels Luke 4: 14-21
Response (GTG 494 v.1) "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" Quebec

From "Letter from the Birmingham Jail" Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
A Reflection

From "I Have a Dream" Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Response (GTG 772 vv.1, 3, 4) "Live into Hope" Truro

From "SOULa SCRIPTURA" Rev. T. Denise Anderson
Response (GTG 729 vv.1 & 2) "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"
I Want to Be a Christian

Sharing the Word with the World

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (GTG 729, vv 3 & 4) I Want to Be A Christian

A LITANY OF CELEBRATION

Leader: Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream. The ideals of justice and freedom and the belief that all are created equal in the eye of God are noble principles. But they are meaningless unless they become the personal possession of each one of us.

People: For Zion's sake I will not keep silent. I will struggle with myself. I will not rest until the dream of justice and freedom becomes my personal dream. I must realize that I am not an innocent bystander. I can help realize the dream by my action, or delay it by inaction.

Leader: Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. dreamed of a day when people from all races and nations, even the offspring of slaves and former slave owners, can sit at a table as brothers and sisters and find ways of transforming their differences into assets. That was Martin's dream. What is your dream?

People: My dream is that one day soon I will find a way to stop just celebrating the dream and start living it. It must become a part of my daily life; or nothing much will change.

Leader: The dream is not about an ideal world; it is about the real world. Rev. Martin Luther King's poetic refrain, "I Have A Dream," is a call for us to remember the real world where injustice abounds.

**People: When I am in the shelter of my home I must remember the homeless.
When I eat, I must remember the hungry.
When I feel secure, I must remember the insecure.
When I see injustice, I must remember that it will not stop unless I stop it.**

Leader: I have a dream!

People: I also have a dream. I have a dream that the Holy Spirit will arouse in me that very flame of righteousness that caused Martin Luther King to become a living sacrifice for the freedom and liberation of all of God's Children. Then I will be able to resist racial injustice everywhere I see it, even within myself.

*HYMN 339

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Lift Every Voice

*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 include:
www.pcusa.org/peacmaking

January 14, 2018

Leadership in today's service

PASTOR

Kim Rodrigue

LITURGIST

Sherri Hutton

READERS

Dee Boling

Anton Constance

Carolyn Graetz

MUSIC DIRECTOR

May Ball

PIANIST

Amanda Wadsworth



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 near the beginning 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.

MLK Paint & Sip Party – in commemoration of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. there will be a paint party on Saturday, January 20 from 1pm-3pm. We will paint the Edmund Pettus bridge, you will have the opportunity to fill in the open space. All are welcome to come. A donation of \$10.00 per person will be appreciated for the cost of items and food. Children under the age of 10 are free. **Please RSVP before Wednesday, January 17.**

FPCNO THIS WEEK

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|------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Monday | Church Office CLOSED in recognition of MLK Day 1pm-3pm | Program of Hope Setup | Sanctuary |
| Tuesday | 6:30pm | Session meeting | Room 102 |
| Wednesday | 9am-10:30am | Program of Hope | Sanctuary <i>(worship and outreach to less fortunate, all are welcome to volunteer or seek help)</i> |
| Thursday | 6pm-7pm | Meditation Service | Session room |
| Saturday | 1pm-3pm | MLK paint party | Fellowship Hall |
| 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...



Zane Fisher and his family – Zane’s mother died after the Christmas holiday. Please keep the Fishers and relatives in your prayers for God’s comfort through this healing time.

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

504-866-7409 * Fax 504-910-4477

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

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

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WEBSITE TECHS:

TERRY RUPPEL; CARRIE FISHER

SEXTONS:

REV. TODD & LADONNA VANDEGRIFT

THE SESSION

CLERK OF SESSION, SHERRI HUTTON
CANDICE BELLAU, TREASURER

CLASS OF 2017

SHERRI HUTTON
ZANE FISHER

CLASS OF 2018

DIANE KLEINFELDT
CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS

CLASS OF 2019

CANDICE BELLAU
TRACY RENE' HELMS-CAPASSO

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

DAVID CAPASSO, CHAIR

CLASS OF 2017

DAVID CAPASSO
JUSTIN WOOD

CLASS OF 2018

RANDY BOLING
CARRIE FISHER

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