

First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue

New Orleans, La. 70125

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

LEARNING GOD'S WORD

ACTS 4:1-21

“Can’t Stop Talking about Jesus”

So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, ‘Whether it is right in God’s sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.’

Acts 4:18-20

First Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

11:00 am

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

*Please stand as you are able.

Please silence your phones during worship service.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 23 (King James Version)

All: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*HYMN 246 "Christ Is Alive!"

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

No matter how many times we fall short of who we were created to be, God is still faithful. In the confident assurance of God's great love for us, let us confess our sins.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd. And we, like sheep, have gone astray. We didn't mean to. When we set out, we thought we were on the right path. But we got distracted.

(cont'd next page)

We turned our eyes away from you. Help us, Lord, when we lose our way. Help us find our way back to you. Thank you for loving us and caring for us like the good shepherd cares for the sheep.

Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

Response: And also with you!

HEARING THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (GtG 472 vs. 1) "Kum ba Yah"

"Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!

Kum ba yah my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!"

SPECIAL MUSIC Sydney McMath

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament Reading

John 10:11-18 (pgs. 868-869)

Liturgist: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading

Acts 4:1-21 (pg. 884)

Pastor: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON "Can't Stop Talking about Jesus" Rev. Kathleen Crighton

*HYMN 726 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (From A Brief Statement of Faith):

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the

(cont'd next page)

brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SHARING THE WORD WITH THE WORLD

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Avery & Marsh

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(...Now, please be with us as we conclude this time with the prayer, taught to us by
your son, saying...)

**ALL Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is he
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN 748 (*sing twice*) "Go with Us, Lord"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

+ +

LEADERSHIP IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

PASTOR: Rev. Kathleen Crighton

LITURGIST: elder, Tracy Rene’ Helms/Capasso

PIANIST: Aya Magavina

SPECIAL MUSIC: Sydney McMath

YOUTH’S MOMENT: elder, Ken Allen

OFFERING: elders, Henry and Diane Kleinfeldt

BELL RINGER: deacon, David Rabinowitz

+ +

FPCNO THIS WEEK

| | | | |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| Monday | 7pm-9pm | “Carrollton” AA Group | Fellowship Hall |
| Tuesday | 9:30-12:30
9am-11am
7pm-9pm | Baby Music Class
Program of Hope (setup)
“Big Easy” AA Group | Room 207
Sanctuary
Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday | 9am-10:30am
9:30-12:30
7pm-9pm | Program of Hope
Baby Music Class
Dancing Amigos | Sanctuary
Room 207
Fellowship Hall |
| Thursday | 6pm-7pm | MCC | Fellowship Hall |
| Saturday | 9:30-12:30 | Baby Music Class | Room 207 |
| Sunday | 9:45am -10:15am
10am-11am
11am-12pm | FPC Adult Bible Study
MCC Sunday Service
FPC Sunday Service | Conference Rm.
Fellowship Hall
Sanctuary |



Prayer List

Please pray for these
Individuals and their families.



PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Dave Rabinowitz's sister **Dani Tracey** and his mother **Eleanore Valek**.
Emily Ruppel, FPCNO member attending Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

RECOVERING

May Ball, in treatment for cancer.

Mary Frances Brashears, recent oral surgery.

George Cheate; **Linda Robertson**; **Tom Tatum**; **Sandra Sarr**.

Ethan Horn, son of Mike and Angela Horn and brother of Jack. Ethan Horn has been hospitalized since being in a horrific accident on September 11, 2023. He is scheduled to go home soon, but he will need round the clock care. Prayers for Ethan and his family

ILLNESS

Wilma and Donald Lejeune, sister and brother-in-law of Linda Robertson, dealing with cancer.

Marshal Fisher and his roommate Perry, have health issues.

Bob Sarradet, Canna's stepfather is having health issues.

Martha Pearl Williamson, Lamar's mother, health issues.

Mahmoud Aslanbaigi, Marjan's father has had cancer surgery on his face.

Sandra Boling, sister of Randy Boling.

OUR HOMEBOUND FAMILY

Jennings Hutton, Sherri Hutton's dad.

Nancy Wadsworth, in a Nursing facility.

Adrian (Tudy) Manson, at her home.

Linda Donato' assisted living, Sherri Hutton's mom.

DEATHS

Sgt. Wayne Miller, husband of Pastor Kathy's friend and a Vietnam veteran.

Wallace Hoffman, father of Christie Hoffman Ruppel.

Frank Cardaronella, brother of Mary Frances Brashears.


James Bailey Henderson Jr., Cheryl's brother, and Chris's uncle.



WELCOME VISITORS!

We Are Glad You Are Here

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

- If you are a visitor or guest we invite you to sign the visitor/guest register which is located in the Narthex and/or 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.
- 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.
- During the time of the passing of the peace, some may be comfortable with hugs, laughs, and conversation, but others may not. Please be respectful of one another's comfort levels. If you would prefer to maintain a social distance, you may pass the peace by folding your arms, making a peace sign, or whatever is comfortable for you.
- **Great news!** We have resumed having coffee available in the narthex before, during, and after worship. Big thanks to our elder, Henry Kleinfeldt for preparing the coffee! We are also offering snacks. Feel free to donate your favorite kinds and leave them on the table beside the coffee fixings.
- We were the first "More Light" congregation in New Orleans and now are the first congregation to be a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians in New Orleans. Which means we welcome not only the membership, but the leadership and talents of all genders, abilities, races, and sexual orientations.  EQUALITY
FOR ALL
- We appreciate the spiritual and financial support your attendance brings. If you wish, you may put cash or a check in the offering plate that will be passed towards the end of the service. If you would like to use a credit card or PayPal to make a secure donation to the Program of Hope or the Capital Campaign, you can go to the church's website, www.fpcno.org and click on the links on the right hand side of the home page.

Please like us on Facebook at facebook.com/fpcno and also follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/fpcno!

We don't have an official church newsletter, but you can find updates on our Facebook page (above) and website, www.fpcno.org.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

504-866-7409 * FAX 504-910-4477

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

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

PASTOR

REV. KATHLEEN CRIGHTON

REVKATHY@FPCNO.ORG

OFFICE MANAGER/LEASING CONSULTANT

CHERYL A. ROBERTS

CHERYL@FPCNO.ORG

CHOIR DIRECTOR

MAY BALL

MUSICIANS:

AYA MAGAVINA-ALVAREZ; AMANDA WADSWORTH

WEDDING COORDINATOR:

DEE BOLING

WEDDINGS@FPCNO.ORG

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR

BRUCE MATHER

WEBSITE TECHS:

TERRY RUPPEL; CARRIE FISHER

TECH SUPPORT:

RICHARD TATUM

SEXTON:

WALNICA GIPSON (CORVUS JANITORIAL)

THE SESSION

CLERK OF SESSION

KEN ALLEN

ASSISTANT CLERK OF SESSION

BRUCE MATHER

CLASS OF 2023

KEN ALLEN
BRUCE ROBERTSON

CLASS OF 2024

HENRY KLEINFELDT
LYDIA POLLARD

CLASS OF 2025

BRUCE MATHER
CHRISTIE RUPPEL

PROGRAM OF HOPE DIRECTOR

DIANE KLEINFELDT

This bulletin and all paper used at F.P.C.N.O. are recycled