

First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70125

January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

HAVE YOU NOT KNOWN
have you not heard
THE LORD IS THE **GOD**
Everlasting
the **CREATOR** *of the* **ENDS** *of the* **EARTH**
HE *DOES NOT FAINT* **HIS** *understanding*
or grow weary *IS UNSEARCHABLE*
HE GIVES *to the faint* **& MIGHT** *TO HIM WHO HAS NO*
POWER **HE INCREASES STRENGTH**
even youth shall faint and be weary
and young men shall fall **EXHAUSTED**
but they who wait for the **LORD** *shall renew their* **STRENGTH**
THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS LIKE **Eagles**
THEY SHALL RUN AND NOT BE WEARY **Isaiah**
They shall walk and not faint **40:28-31**

First Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 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 (from Psalm 139)

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up.

Leader: You discern my thoughts from far away.

People: You search out my path and my lying down.

Leader: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me.

People: It is so high that I cannot attain it.

Leader: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

People: Even there your hand shall lead me.

All: Let us worship God.

*HYMN 616 (*sing twice*) “Our God Is an Awesome God”

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Our God is, indeed, an awesome God. Yet God hears our cries, even the cries of our inward hearts. Let's come to God in prayer.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Holy and loving God, we've had another one of those weeks. We had no idea on Monday where we'd be by Sunday, but here we are, wondering how we got here and why things didn't go according to our plans. And we had plans. Plans for good and not for harm. We really did. Forgive us, Lord, when we don't live up to being the people you created us to be. Help us to forgive others who have let us down. And help us to forgive ourselves for the things we wish we hadn't said or done. Thank you for loving us and sending Jesus to us.

Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (from 1 Corinthians 13)

Now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

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 700 vs. 1) "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

"I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, any time!

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, any time!"

ANTHEM "Sing Out Earth and Skies" Marty Haugen

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:21-28 (pg. 807)

Liturgist: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Readings

Isaiah 40:28-31 (pg. 579)

Pastor: The word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON "Have You Heard?" Rev. Kathleen Crighton

*HYMN 43 "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord"

"On Eagle's Wings"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

(cont'd next page)

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

*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. 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 the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN 22 “God of the Sparrow”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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LEADERSHIP IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

PREACHING: Rev. Kathleen Crighton

LITURGIST: elder, Bruce Robertson

PIANIST: Amanda Wadsworth

CHILDRENS MOMENT: elder, Bruce Robertson

OFFERING: elders, Henry and Diane Kleinfeldt

BELL RINGER: deacon, David Rabinowitz

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**Ways you can support F.P.C.
Homeless Outreach Ministry
“The Program of Hope”**

- Every 1st Sunday of the month a monetary donation can be put into the offering plate, with that designation on the provided envelope.
- Seasonally appropriate clothing donations can be brought to the church office or on Wednesday mornings, please check with Diane Kleinfeldt if you have a large donation.
- ***NEW*** Amazon gift registry. All items can ship quickly with Amazon Prime and will be delivered to the Program of Hope director’s home or to the church: tinyurl.com/helphomelessnola this link will be good through the end of January.

We appreciate your generosity! Thank you!

FPCNO THIS WEEK

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|------------------|---|---|--|
| Monday | 10am-11:30am
7pm-9pm | Baby music class
“Carrollton” AA Group | Room 208
Fellowship Hall |
| Tuesday | 9am-12pm
10am-11:30am
7pm-9pm | POH sorting day
Baby music class
“Big Easy” AA Group | Sanctuary
Room 208
Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday | 9am-10:30am
10am-11:30am | Program of Hope
Baby music class | Sanctuary
Room 208 |
| Thursday | 10am-11:30am
7pm-9pm
7pm-8pm | Baby music class
Shades of Praise
MCC | Room 208
Sanctuary
Fellowship Hall |
| Friday | 10am-11:30am
8pm-11pm | Baby music class
Tango dancing | Room 208
Fellowship Hall |
| Saturday | 9am-11am | Baby music class | Room 208 |
| Sunday | 10am -10:45am
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**.

Blaise Bennett, son of Amanda Williamson. Blaise is serving in The Army National Guard and has been deployed to Kuwait.

Emily Ruppel, FPCNO member attending Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

RECOVERING

George Cheatle; Linda Robertson; Tom Tatum; Sandra Sarr.

Ethan Horn, son of Mike and Angela Horn and brother of Jack. Ethan is still at Children's Hospital. No immediate plans for him to go home because he's getting therapy at the hospital. Mike says he's doing great with physical and speech therapy but still is unable to speak. He says Ethan is the star of the hospital! He has now been there four months.

Mike Wadsworth, Amanda's dad, he is home.

ILLNESS

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

Marie, friend of Pastor Kathy, going through chemo.

Emily Cho, Peter's 8-year-old niece, has been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes.

Marshal Fisher and his roommate Perry, have health issues.

Laverne Manning, Peter's mom's friend. She is in the hospital with Parkinson's.

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.

Jennings Hutton, Sherri Hutton's dad.

Sandra Boling, sister of Randy Boling.

OUR HOMEBOUND FAMILY

Nancy Wadsworth, in a Nursing facility.

Adrian (Tudy) Manson, at her home.

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

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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CHOIR DIRECTOR

MAY BALL

MUSICIANS:

AYA MAGAVINA-ALVAREZ; AMANDA WADSWORTH

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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR

BRUCE MATHER

WEBSITE TECHS:

TERRY RUPPEL; CARRIE FISHER

TECH SUPPORT:

RICHARD TATUM

SEXTONS:

VERONICA AND WALNICA GIPSON

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

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