

First Presbyterian Church

5401 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70125

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023



HOPE

For in this hope we were
saved. Now hope that is
seen is not hope. For who
hopes for what he sees?
But if we hope for what
we do not see, we wait for
it with patience.

ROMANS 8:24-25

First Presbyterian Church

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

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: Oh, 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: Where can I go from your spirit?

Leader: Where can I flee from your presence?

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

Leader: Even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

**People: The darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day.**

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 409 “God Is Here”

CALL TO RECONCILIATION (from Romans 8:39)

There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from God’s love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Trusting in that great love, let’s come to God in prayer.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

How can we believe in things we haven’t seen? Yet that’s what we as Christians are called to do. We are even called to believe in things that will happen in the future, things that may happen tomorrow or hundreds or even thousands of years from now. Some people say we Christians are crazy.

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We talk about faith and hope, and some people just shake their heads. Maybe in private we do too, sometimes, when the going gets tough. Help us, Lord, to remember that you are always there, in the darkness and in the light. Thank you, Lord, for loving us.

Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (from Ephesians 5:8)

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**All: The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you! Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (GtG 658 vs. 1) "God Is So Good "

**God is so good; God is so good; God is so good;
God's so good to me."**

ANTHEM "I Stand Amazed in the Presence" Charles Gabriel

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Old Testament Reading Genesis 28:10-19a (pg. 22)
Liturgist: The word of the Lord
Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON SCRIPTURE READING

New Testament Reading Romans 8:24-25 (pg. 915)
Speaker: The word of the Lord
Congregation: Thanks be to God

SERMON "Things We Have Yet to See" Rev. Kathleen Crighton

*HYMN (*see insert*) "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder"

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

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

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In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

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 726 (verses 1,4&5) "Will You Come and Follow Me"**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

SPEAKING: Rev. Kathleen Crighton

LITURGIST: deacon, David Capasso

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: elder, Tim Ruppel

PIANIST: Amanda Wadsworth

OFFERING: elders Henry and Diane Kleinfeldt

BELL RINGER: deacon, David Rabinowitz

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PUMPKIN PATCH MEETING SUNDAY, JULY 30 @ 1PM



Everyone we are gearing up for First Presbyterian Church 22nd Annual Pumpkin Patch.

The pumpkins are arriving Saturday, September 30, 2023 @ 10am.

We invite all to the meeting who would love to give their creativity and suggestions to make this pumpkin patch better than ever.

Come and join us at our 1st meeting of the year.
(Refreshments will be available)

Hope to see you there

The Pumpkin Patch Committee



FPCNO THIS WEEK

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|------------------|---|--|--|
| Monday | 7pm-9pm | "Carrollton" AA Group | Fellowship Hall |
| Tuesday | 7pm-9pm | "Big Easy" AA Group | Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday | 9am-10am
6pm-9pm | Program of Hope
Dancing Amigos | Sanctuary
Fellowship Hall |
| Thursday | 7pm-8pm
6pm-8pm | MCC
Session meeting | Fellowship Hall
Conference room |
| Sunday | 10:am -10:45am
10am-11am
11am-12pm
 1pm-3pm | FPC Adult Bible Study
MCC Sunday Service
FPC Sunday Service
Pumpkin Patch meeting | Conference room
Fellowship Hall
Sanctuary
Conference room |



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.
- 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--

EQUALITY



FOR ALL



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 news and updates on our Facebook page and website.



Please pray for these individuals
and their families.

Anton Constance, is in Morocco on an intern French trip.

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

Marshall Fisher; Rev. Jim Miller; George Cheatle, Linda Robertson;
Henry Kleinfeldt; Tom Tatum; Debbi Rand; Christie Ruppel;
Nancy Wadsworth; Bob Sarradet; Sandra Sarr.

ILLNESS

Tom Tatum, brother of Richard Tatum, had a fall while having other medical issues.

Betty Michel, wife of Ray Michel and co-worker of Peter Cho. Betty has been diagnosed with terminal leukemia.

Mahmoud Aslanbaigi, father of Marjan, had a stroke. He is in Iran.

Andy Cuccia, health issues.

Jennings Hutton, Sherri Hutton's dad.

Sandra Boling, sister of Randy Boling.

OUR HOMEBOUND FAMILY

Robert Pollard, nursing home, brother of Lydia Pollard and uncle of Canna.

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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MAY BALL

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WEDDING COORDINATOR:

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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR

BRUCE MATHER

WEBSITE TECHS:

TERRY RUPPEL; CARRIE FISHER

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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