Everybody's Church

First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Vision Statement
As Everybody's Church we commit ourselves to serving Christ by cultivating mission, inclusion and community.

March 19, 2017, 10am
Third Sunday in Lent

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Amy Morgan

†GREET ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC "The Heavenly Aeroplane" Rutter
Youth Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP Sally Spearin

One: For rebirth and resilience,
All: blessed be God;
One: for the spiritually humble,
All: glory to God;
One for all who hunger and thirst for justice,
All praise and magnify God forever;
One: for all who are banned for speaking the truth,
All: blessed be God;
One for all who triumph over their bitter circumstance
All: glory to God;
One: for all who risk reputation, livelihood, and life itself for Christ's sake and the gospel;
All: all praise and all glory; this is God's kingdom!

†HYMN 694 "Great God of Every Blessing"
Youth, 6th-8th grade, will proceed to the Youth Room when the Younger Church is called forward.

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

CALL TO CONFESSION Dr. John Judson

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we have given more weight to our successes and our happiness than to your will. We have eaten without a thought for the hungry. We have spoken without an effort to understand others. We have kept silence instead of telling the truth. We have judged others, forgetful that you alone are the Judge. We have acted rather in accordance with our opinions than according to your commands. Within your church we have been slow to practice love of our neighbors. And in the world we have not been your faithful servants. Forgive us and help us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray…

†When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or in spirit.

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

The Call to Worship is from Matthew 5:1-12.

Turn to First Things in the back of this bulletin for more information on the life of this church.

Hymntune: AURELIA

We encourage parents to give their children some loose change to bring forward for the offering.

Confession acknowledges the reality of sin in our personal and corporate lives. This practice relieves us from the burden of sin and reminds us of the promise of God's forgiveness and grace sealed in our baptism.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†OUR RESPONSE "Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

This brief hymn of praise is an ancient text known as the Gloria Patri or "lesser doxology." We sing it to express thanksgiving for God's forgiveness.

Proclaiming the Word

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: The Lord be with you.
Many: And also with you.
All: Living God,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
give us the words of life,
that we may understand your way
and follow your truth
as we make the road by walking,
in Jesus Christ. Amen.

We are an intentionally inclusive congregation and value the richness of worshiping with all God's people. There are times in the sanctuary when shouts or other loud noises may occur. We accept these without judgment, unless they are signs of distress in need of attention.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 26:1-11

One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Please follow along with the reading on page 180 of the Old Testament in your Pew Bible.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 6:1-5, 19-21

One: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Please follow along with the reading on page 5 of the New Testament in your Pew Bible.

SERMON "Alive in a Global Uprising: Private Investment" Rev. Amy Morgan

Responding to the Word

†HYMN 708 "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Hymntune: SCHUMANN

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

One: There are different gifts,
Many: but it is the same Spirit who gives them.
One: There are different ways of serving God,
Many: but it is the same Lord who is served.
One: God works through different people in different ways,
Many: but it is the same God who achieves God's purpose through them all.
One: Each one is given a gift by the Spirit
Many: to use it for the common good.
One: Together we are the body of Christ,
Many: and individually members of him,
One: though we have different gifts…

Clerk: Do we, the members of the church, accept these men and women as Deacons and Elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We Do.

Clerk: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

Congregation: We Do.

OFFERING INFORMATION

Members and guests, please sign the Fellowship Pads to let us know of your presence with us.

Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates and will be shared during the prayers.

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

All that we have is a gift from God. In gratitude, we return a portion of those blessings to the work of God in the church.

MUSICAL OFFERING "Wondrous Love" Edmonds
Chancel Choir

†THE DOXOLOGY

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.

A doxology is a short hymn of praise. We sing this response in gratitude for God's provision for us and for the church.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

†HYMN 747 "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

Hymntune: ENVIADO

†BLESSING

POSTLUDE "Finale from Symphony No. 1" Vierne

The service of worship concludes following the postlude. Please take this time to reflect on the day's worship before you exit the sanctuary.

Andrew Herbruck, Director of Music Ministries, is playing the service.

The liturgist this morning is Sally Spearin. Sally Spearin and her husband, Rod, have been members at FPC for 34 years and have raised three adult children in the church. An ordained Elder and Deacon, Sally currently co-chairs the All Abilities Inclusion Ministry Committee, volunteers as a Sunday morning "buddy" to the AAIM youth, and plays hand bells with the FPC Ringers.

The flowers in the chancel by Nancy Balog in loving memory of her parents, Frank and Helen Balog.

The ushers are Kevin Casady, Jim King, Jason Morgan, Rick and Renee Parker, Tom Russell, Leader, Grace, Lilly and Joe Schlafhauser, Rod Spearin.

A Stephen Minister is available in the Chapel following each service for prayer and conversation.

Welcome in Christ's name to First Presbyterian Church! yourself. Please know that you are invited to join us for coffee and goodies following the service in Calvin Hall.

To check out the website: