

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

to be disciples . . . to make disciples

Good morning!
Thank you for joining us today.

Announcements

*The beautiful flowers that adorn our Sanctuary today
are given by John Burnett,
in loving memory of Ed Barnes, on his birthday.*

- We are live streaming on [Facebook \(fpccor\)](#) & [ZOOM \(6622866638\)](#). Many of our Sunday School classes meet via ZOOM prior to the Worship Service. A complete listing is available on our website.
- We will share the Sacrament of Communion today during the Worship Service. Individually wrapped communion elements will be provided for your safety.
 - The Assisting Elder this morning is Randy Long.
- To complete the GriefShare session started in June, we will begin again this afternoon, and run each Sunday through September 27. We will meet at the KIDS' House at 2 p.m. GriefShare meets throughout the year. If you are interested in joining, please call the church office. Please note a mask is required to attend until further notice.
 - The September Session Meeting is this evening at 5:00 p.m.
- *"Thus the Lord was moved by prayer for the land..."* 2 Sam. 24:25
FPC will have a Prayer March to mirror the Franklin Graham Prayer March in Washington D.C, this Saturday, September 25, at 11 a.m.
Please join us as we "march" and pray for our great nation.
Prayer stations will be set up around the FPC campus.
- Joy Riders! We have a special day planned for you! Join us Thursday, October 8, as we travel to Florence, AL, for lunch at Rosie's Mexican Cantina, and then to Joe Wheeler State Park for a fall foliage river cruise. The cost is \$10 per person, plus the cost of your lunch. We will be leaving at 10:30 a.m. Contact the church office to sign-up, 662-286-6638.
- FPC will be doing Christmas boxes for Samaritan's Purse again this year. We are asking each family to fix a box to donate. We have some items left over from the last time that can be used. More details will be coming.

Greetings!

As you know, the Lake Charles, Louisiana area has been heavily impacted by Hurricane Laura. A great many homes and businesses were destroyed as was the way of life for so many. I have a friend, Joshua Keith, who is a Lake Charles resident...and a Presbyterian deacon. Josh's church, Bethel Presbyterian, has mounted an effort to give assistance to those in the Lake Charles area most affected by the hurricane, even though many members of that congregation have been impacted as well.

If you are looking for a way to help those in need, this is a great opportunity. We as a church family can help in several ways:

- Mount a drive to put together much needed supplies, then find a way to get those supplies to Lake Charles.
- Josh encouraged me to invite members of our community to go to Lake Charles and spend some time working to get hard hit folks better situated. Their church has set up facilities trailers to accommodate any labor force.
- By sending money to buy needed supplies. You may send any monetary assistance to:
Bethel Presbyterian Church
2040 E. McNeese Road
Lake Charles, LA 70607
Attn: Deacon's Fund for Hurricane Laura relief

We know the amount of devastation caused by Hurricane Laura in our own community 400 miles north of Lake Charles. Imagine the need of so many in that city who have lost so much.

Please contact me with any questions.

Thanks,
Dave Shanklin

A LITURGY OF HOPE
September 13, 2020

Prelude

Jill Taylor

Welcome & Greeting: John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Song of Preparation

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Nancy Hebert

Arr: William J. Reynolds

***Call to Worship:** Psalm 105:1-5

Leader: Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

All: *Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.*

Leader: But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

All: *and with his wounds we are healed.*

Leader: Let us worship the Lord.

***Profession of Faith:** The Belgic Confession (Article 20)

We believe that God, who is perfectly merciful and also very just, sent the Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death. So God made known his justice toward his Son, who was charged with our sin, and he poured out his goodness and mercy on us, who are guilty and worthy of damnation, giving to us his Son to die, by a most perfect love, and raising him to life for our justification, in order that by him we might have immortality and eternal life.

***Prayer of Invocation & 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went, both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went, both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.”

And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

Prayers of Intercession and Petition

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 2:13-22

Leader: But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

All: *For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.*

Leader: And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

All: *For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.*

Leader: So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Church Family Time

Song of Preparation

"Jesus, Something About that Name"
By Bill & Gloria Gaither

Nancy Hebert

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-5

"Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve."

Homily:

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL? The Death of Christ

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Song of Reflection:

"In the Garden"

By C. Austin Miles

Sung by: Steve Blair, Paige Frame, Randy Long, Jan Pike

*I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.*

*He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.*

Refrain:

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

*I'd stay in the garden with Him
Though the night around me be falling,
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling.*

Repeat Refrain:

*None other has ever,
Yes, Jesus loves me! And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own.*

- arr. by Lloyd Larson

Invitation to the Table

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

Great God, our Father: As we remember Christ's suffering on the cross, our hearts are filled with shame that we often forsake the gospel and make little to no progress in our growth as disciples from day to day. We lament that war and lust flourish and grow more rampant every day. Forgive us for our cruel indifference to the cross. Teach us the good news of the gospel through the forgiveness achieved at the cross. Allow us, sinful and broken as we may be, to live in light of the cross, and look forward to the day when the whole world shall be born again.

Individual Prayers of Confession (silently)

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 4:14-16

“And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”

The Words of Institution: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

“For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.”

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Benediction**

Postlude

**PLEASE STAND*

“One Bread-One Body”

By John B. Foley

Nancy Hebert

www.fpccorinth.org

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1 Corinthians 15:1-5

What does the gospel you believe lead to? There are many gospels being taught in the church today and each has their own DNA that create a product. The gospel we preach or the gospel we believe will dictate the result. The content of what we believe and communicate will lead to the kind of person created.

When we look at the scriptures and the Gospel Jesus preached, there are seven essential elements to it: The Kingdom of God has come; Jesus is the Christ; he died for our sins; he conquered death and was resurrected; those are four declarative statements. Then we have three imperative responses: repent, believe, and follow. We are going to spend a couple of weeks on each one.

Today, we are looking at the death of Jesus in the context of the Gospel...that Christ actually died, and what that means for us. In other words, when we say in the Apostles Creed that Jesus “was crucified, died and was buried,” and in the Belgic Confession, when it says that God “gave to us His Son to die,” we need to really understand what those statements mean. We need to look at the cross.

To the first century Jew, the cross meant one thing, Roman crucifixion. It was one of the worst, agonizing, and most public ways to die. We are going to examine three different aspects of the cross as it relates to the death of Christ:

I. THE POWER OF THE CROSS

1 Corinthians 1:17-18, 23 *“For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God...but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,”*

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE CROSS

2 Corinthians 5:21 *“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

III. THE PROVISION OF THE CROSS

John 1:29 *“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”*

“ He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.”
1 John 2:2

Resources: *Calvin’s Commentaries: The Gospels*, John Calvin; *1 & 2 Corinthians*, Simon Kistemaker,, *Matthew Henry’s Commentary* (Vol. 6); *Conversion & Discipleship*, Bill Hull; *The Discipleship Gospel*, Bill Hull & Ben Sobels; *The Death of Death In the Death of Christ*, John Owen