First Presbyterian Church Third Sunday after Epiphany

Service of Worship

Sunday, January 24, 2016

at 11 a.m.

THE CHURCH GATHERS...



PRELUDE

With the first notes of the organ, please silently prepare yourself for worship.

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND SHARING OF COMMUNITY LIFE

HYMN OF PREPARATION #322 CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

Living God

"Spirit of the Living God"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Destruction and violence are everywhere; strife and contention are all around.

People: The needs of the world are so great; O Lord, increase our faith.

Leader: The law is slack, and justice does not prevail.

People: The needs of the world are so great; O Lord, increase our faith.

Leader: How many threats surround us: warfare, homelessness, loneliness, loss.

People: The needs of the world are so great; O Lord, increase our faith.

Leader: The needs of the world are so great, but you, O God, are greater still.

People: The One in whom all things are possible, increase our faith in you!

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

* UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have called us to live in sincere faith and to suffer for the gospel. We confess that we do not come before you with a clear conscience. Our faith is clouded by sin and uncertainty. We shrink from your call to sacrifice on behalf of others. Too quickly, we seek our own ease and comfort first. We confess that in our own lives, and in the church, we rely on our power rather than yours. Take away from us a spirit of impatience and fear, and restore to us the spirit of love unconditionally offered, and lives gracefully lived. Forgive us and increase our faith, that we may be your faithful servants. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION IN SILENCE

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE AND GRATITUDE #579 Gloria Patri

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.

TO HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD...

A TIME FOR OUR CHILDREN

Children ages 5 and under are excused to go downstairs following our Children's time.

FIRST OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 137

Pew Bible Page #502

The Response: Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM:

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Text: Psalm 50: 10-13 Music: Carl Mueller

Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation And uphold me, uphold me with Thy free Spirit, Thy free Spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways, And sinners will be converted unto Thee.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

SECOND OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Lamentations 1:1- 6 Lamentations 3:19 - 26

Pew Bible Page #666 Pew Bible Page #669

The Response: Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON Rev. Ben Powell

"Shown the Light in the Strangest Places"

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION #426

Canonbury

"Lord Speak to Me, That I may Speak"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE #592

Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

TO GO OUT AND SERVE

* HYMN OF PROCLAMATION #343

Beecher

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE RESPONSE FOR CHOIR AND CONGREGATION #540 vs. 1 & 4 Randolph

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

*POSTLUDE

Note: An '*'invites all who can do so comfortably, will stand.

To Our Guests – Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of Marianna. We are happy to have you worship with us today. We invite you to join us each Sunday, as we worship and study God's word. If you would like more information concerning our church, you may fill out one of the *Welcome* cards in the pews and place it on the offering plate, talk to the ushers or call the church office.

THE SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO BE HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP TODAY, JANUARY 24, 2016.

The **flowers** gracing our sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God by Bill and Susie Stevens in honor of family and friends.

Nursery care is available for children Kindergarten and below during our Worship Service each Sunday morning.

Our Prayer Calendar: Rev. Don Harris (requested by John Milton, V), Allison Hand Travis(requested by family), Ned Grove(requested by family), Joanne Wynn(requested by family), J R Gortemoller (requested by family), Elizabeth Littleton Walker (requested by Stanley Littleton), Dr. Steve Stafford (requested by Barry Stafford), Jeff Allen (requested by Hazel Nelson), Destry Burch and Fletcher Dunaway (requested by Mary Bevis Schmidt), George McMullin (requested by Nancy McMullin), Bob Ward and Michael Ward (requested by Mary Wierman), Kena Nelson (requested by Hazel Nelson), Marie Lanier (requested by Joy Lewis), Gina Stuart, Joy Gilbert, Daun Crews, Stanley Littleton, JoAnn Rountree.

Every Sunday morning there are **Education Classes** for all age groups between 9:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. There are two classes for Adults. Next Sunday, January 31st, the Adults in the parlor will be studying: 'The Death of a Friend', John 11:38-44.

Upstairs the Adult Class in Room 4 will be studying the Lectionary scriptures.

Men's Project – Foster Children

Christmas has come and gone. Your generous giving has made a great Christmas for four foster children. All the gifts suggested on each of the children were given. Thank you for opening your wallet and heart to give in excess of \$900.00. I appreciate the help of my wife, Mary Ann and Justin Lyons in the purchase and delivery of these gifts. May God bless you and your family in 2016. Jim Gibbs

Food Pantry News:

Tuesday Baggers will meet at 3:30 on January 26th.

Volunteers: Amy Norville and Marsha Rodgers

Wednesday, January 27th,

Volunteers: Betty Pettis, Kathy Milton, Lauren Lyons, Kitty Myers,

Don Morris, and Lee Shook

During the month of December our food pantry served 477 families.

If you would like to volunteer as a worker with the Food Pantry, please contact Susie Barber at Ph 850-209-1403 or e-mail barber.susie@gmail.com.

This week in the life of the church ...

Monday Ladies Exercise Class at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday Bagging for the Food Pantry at 3:30 p.m.

Session Meeting at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Food Pantry open from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Wild Wonderful Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to

5:15p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Choir Rehearsal at 4:00 p.m.

Friday Ladies Exercise Class at 9 a.m.

Sunday (31st) Coffee, Juice and Fellowship at 9:30 a.m.

Education Hour at 9:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal at 10:00 a.m.

Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Elder of the Month: Susie Barber

Ph 850-209-1403 E-mail: barber.susie@gmail.com

Church Administrator: Kathleen Evans

Organist: Stanley Littleton

Custodian: Becky Strickland

Pantry Coordinator: Melissa Krebeck Nursery Assistants: Tina Bigale and Carlee Wilson

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