



NOVEMBER 12, 2017
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
8:30 and 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING SENTENCES Todd Jones

†VOLUNTARY *Adagio from Modale Suite, op. 43* Flor Peeters

*CALL TO WORSHIP Stuart Gordon

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

People: those He delivered from trouble.

Leader: For He satisfies the thirsty,

People: and the hungry He fills with good things.

†*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 620 LAUDA ANIMA
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

†WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP Todd Jones

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CALL TO CONFESSION Stuart Gordon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O Lord, for our weak faith.

We confess that though You summon us

to pray without ceasing,

we grow impatient with unanswered prayer.

We become resigned to things as they are,

instead of hungering and thirsting

for the things You promise to do.

Renew our faith in Your goodness, Your faithfulness,

Your persistent love for us and all Your people.

Rekindle our passion for prayer, our thirst for righteousness,
our hope for Your kingdom.

Do a new thing in us and through us,

for the sake of Jesus Christ and His kingdom,

in whose name we pray.

(A moment for silent confession.)

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie Eleison*



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Hymn 581

THE WORD

Children are invited to come to the front for the Children's Time.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Stuart Gordon

‡ Children who are age 4, 5 or 6 (not in 1st grade) are invited to
Young Children and Worship in Room CW-110.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Todd Jones

**Guide us, O God, by Your Word and Spirit,
that in Your light we may see light,
in Your truth find freedom,
and in Your will discover Your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Caroline Bryan
Psalm 130, page 573

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Todd Jones
Luke 18:1-8, page 81

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION (seated)

ST. AGNES

Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire

Prayer is the soul's sin - cere de - sire,
Prayer is the bur - den of a sigh,
Prayer is the con - trite sin - ner's voice,
Prayer is the Chris - tian's vi - tal breath,
5 O Thou, by whom we come to God,
Un - ut - tered or ex - pressed;
The fall - ing of a tear,
Re - turn - ing from his ways,
The Chris - tian's na - tive air,
8 The Life, the Truth, the Way;
The mo - tion of a hid - den fire
The up - ward glance of an eye,
While an - gels in their songs re - joice
His watch - word at the gates of death;
12 The path of prayer Thy - self hast trod:
That trem - bles in the breast.
When none but God is near.
And cry, "Be - hold, he prays!"
He en - ters heaven with prayer.
Lord, teach us how to pray!

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30) Sandra Randleman
(11:00) Adam DeVries
The Apostles' Creed Hymnal, page 35

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
(debts) Hymnal, page 35

OFFERTORY

(8:30) *How Shall I Sing that Majesty?* J.R. Daniels

How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie; Sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around Thy throne, O God most high;
Ten thousand times ten thousand sound Thy praise;
But who am I?
Thy brightness unto them appears; Whilst I Thy footsteps trace,
A sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold Thy face.
They sing because Thou art their sun; Lord send a beam on me;
For where heaven is but once begun, There alleluias be.
How great a being, Lord, is thine, which do all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere;
Thy time is now and evermore, Thy place is everywhere.
(Text by John Mason, from Spiritual Songs, 1683)

(11:00) *O Divine Redeemer* Charles Gounod

Ah! Turn me not away; receive me though unworthy.
Hear Thou my cry; behold, Lord, my distress.
Answer me from Thy throne; haste Thee, Lord, to mine aid.
Thy pity show in my deep anguish.
Let not the sword of vengeance smite me,
though righteous Thine anger, O Lord, shield me in danger!
O regard me; on Thee, Lord, alone will I call!
O Divine Redeemer! I pray Thee, grant me pardon,
and remember not my sins.
Forgive me, O Divine Redeemer!
Night gathers round my soul; Lord, hear my cry!
Fearful I cry to Thee! Come to mine aid, O Lord!
O haste Thee, Lord, to help me; O hear me, hear my cry!
Save me, Lord, in Thy mercy;
hear my cry; come and save me, O Lord!
Save in the day of retribution;
from Death shield Thou me, O my God!
O Divine Redeemer! Have mercy; help me, my Savior!

*PRESENTATION AND RESPONSE *Doxology* OLD HUNDRETH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 175 LAFFERTY
Seek Ye First

*CHARGE AND BLESSING Todd Jones

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Go, My children, with My blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are My own.

In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing, you are My own.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Niels Gade

Tone Piece in F, op. 22

* Those who are able, please stand.

† Latecomers may be seated.

Please silence your cell phone as you enter the sanctuary.

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

Todd Jones, Pastor

Stuart Gordon, Executive Pastor

Adam DeVries, Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families

Sandra Randleman,

Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Missions

Raphael Bundage, Director of Music

Rhonda Swanson, Assistant Organist

Cross Bearer: Lydia Hilt

Bible Bearer: Evelyn Watlington

(8:30) Sanctuary Chorale: Keith Moore, Conductor

(11:00) Sanctuary Choir: Raphael Bundage, Conductor

Welcome! — First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. We are delighted you have chosen to join us. Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please note your attendance today in the fellowship pad found in your pew.

Guests — Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card so that we may more personally welcome you into community. We also invite you to visit the Welcome Center in the church narthex for additional information or if you are interested in becoming a member. There, you may visit with one of our elders, staff or pastors. You may also contact the church office at 615-383-1815, and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

TODAY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

■ **FLOWERS** on the chancel table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Windle Hogg by his wife Pat.

■ **FELLOWSHIP, COFFEE & DONUTS** — Please join us between services downstairs in Courtenay Hall for coffee and donuts.

■ **ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES** — Hearing devices, large-print hymnals, large-print bulletins and large-print Bibles are located in the narthex across from the Welcome Center. If anyone has a need or disability requiring assistance or accommodation for any church activity, please contact the church office at 615-383-1815.

■ **LIVE STREAM IN COURTENAY HALL** — Each of the Sunday morning worship services is streamed live in Courtenay Hall.

■ **HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?** — Prayer request cards can be found in the pews and deposited in the offering plate or the prayer request boxes, located in the narthex on the southeast wall and at the Hospitality Center. Church officers meet weekly to lift up prayer requests to God.

■ **SERMONS** can be found on our website at fpcnashville.org.

*Smile! "This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24*

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ **THE FIVE THIRTY** — Adam DeVries is preaching "The Prodigal Son" in The Gathering Place. Nursery care: six weeks to age three.

■ **MEMORIAL FLOWERS FOR ADVENT** — A memorial fund has been established for chancel and sanctuary flowers during Advent. Please send your contribution and the name(s) of those to be memorialized to the church office by December 8. You may also contribute online by clicking register/payments on the bottom of our front page. Contact us in order for your loved ones' names to be included this Advent.

■ **STEWARDSHIP BREAKFAST** — On Sunday, November 19, between services, come enjoy fellowship with other members, to understand how Stewardship gifts are used for the outreach of our ministries and to hear inspiring words from Todd Jones about "Costly Grace, Costly Gratitude."

■ **RISE AGAINST HUNGER!** On Monday, November 20, we will pack 30,000 meals to be distributed to those in need. Join us for this annual pre-Thanksgiving event from 3:30 to 5:30 P.M. in the Enrichment Center. This is an inter-generational, church-wide event. It is an immensely fun, hands-on and rewarding experience for people of any age.

■ **THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE** — On Wednesday, November 22, join your church family for a time of worship at 5:30 P.M. in the Stanford Chapel. Todd Jones will be preaching, and we will give thanks and praise to God for our many blessings.

■ **THANKSGIVING LUNCH** — On Thursday, November 23, at 12:30 P.M., join us for a potluck lunch. Make reservations to hospitality@fpcnashville.org.

■ **DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR ADVENT** — Move toward the manger of Christ this Advent with Frederick Buechner, one of the best-known Christian theologians of our time. Let this depth of wisdom prepare your hearts to cradle Christ. Copies of this booklet will be available in the literature areas of the church beginning on Christ the King Sunday, November 26.

■ **WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER MENU** — Turkey & dressing, carrots, cream corn, salad bar, rolls and pumpkin pie. Make your reservations online. Buffet begins at 5:00 P.M. Cost: \$8 for adults, \$4 for children (free for children age 2 and under). Family max is \$22.

■ **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING** — On Wednesday, December 6, join us for a pancake supper at 5:00 P.M. in Courtenay Hall (register online), followed by caroling, our children's choir and candle lighting. Enjoy hot chocolate outside while we light the Christmas Tree at 6:30 P.M. in front of the Sanctuary!

■ **ANNUAL ADVENT BREAKFASTS** — Wednesday, December 6, 13 and 20, at 7:00 A.M. in Courtenay Hall. Speakers for the breakfasts are: Todd Jones on December 6, Stuart Gordon on December 13, and Bill Caruso on December 20. Cost for breakfast is \$5 per person.

■ **DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN WAFFLE SHOP** — Wednesday, December 7, from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Tickets are \$8 when bought in advance, \$10 at the door. Free parking available for the event. Tickets can be purchased at our Hospitality Desk during office hours.

■ **A PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS** — Please join us Tuesday, December 12, for a morning of hope and joy. There will be a program at 10:30 in the Sanctuary with lunch following in Courtenay Hall at 11:30. Cost is \$20. Visit the Events section of the website for more information.

■ **HOME PARTNERS MINISTRY** — Home Partners are volunteers who are paired with a church member living in a retirement home or at home and who is unable to regularly attend church services because of health concerns. The Home Partner visits once a month to extend the care and concern of the church and also delivers a lovely plant at Easter and Christmas on behalf of the church. Call Sandra Randleman at 615-298-9502 if you would like to serve or if you know someone in need of a Home Partner.

■ **HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS** — The church offices will be closed Wednesday–Friday, November 22, 23 & 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

■ **SYMPATHY** — The First Presbyterian Church family extends sympathy to the friends and family of the following during their time of loss:

- Megan & Kody Whitaker, on the death of Kody's grandmother, Pauline Annie Poole, who died on October 27. Sympathy also to Lennon Whitaker.
- Beth Sargent, on the death of her cousin, Robert W. Hawkins, who died on October 30.
- Melanie & Lee Blank, on the death of Melanie's mother, Barbara Jackson Patterson, who died on November 1. Sympathy also to Rebecca Blank.
- Lisa Short, on the death of her mother, Donna Parrish Roberts, who died on November 2. Sympathy also to Suzanne Short.
- Sandy Welborn, on the death of her aunt, Mary Faye Sprinkle Hobson, who died on November 3.

MISSION MINISTRY

■ **SERVE WHILE YOU SLEEP** — Room In The Inn needs two overnight hosts on Wednesday nights from 5:30 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. (with a leader's assistance). We also need van drivers, laundry help, breakfasts and sandwiches (dropped off the night before). Sign up in Courtenay Hall or online.

For more Mission Ministry info, contact Mike Crout at 615-298-9593 or missions@fpcnashville.org.

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

- **THURSDAY PROGRAM AND LUNCHEON** — On Thursday, November 16, at 12:00 P.M., we will celebrate NFL Hall of Famer Raymond Berry. Cost is \$6. Location: Courtenay Hall. RSVP by November 13.
- **DAY TRIP TO FRIST CENTER** — On Monday, November 20, from 9:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., we will visit the Frist Center for the Visual Arts to see the World War I and American Art exhibit on Senior Monday. Admission is half off, and purchases are discounted 15% for seniors. We will eat lunch in the Museum Café. RSVP by November 17.
- **BOOK DISCUSSION** — On Thursday, November 30, at 2:00 P.M., Todd Jones will lead a book discussion on *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger in the Memorial Library. Reservations are not necessary.

For more Older Adult Ministry info, contact Brenda Geise at 615-298-9515 or bgeise@fpcnashville.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND NURSERY

- **FAMILY ADVENT FUN: WHAT'S IN A TRADITION?** — On December 3, from 3:30 to 5:15 P.M., you are invited to join other families as we fellowship together around the Advent themes of love, hope, joy and peace. We will create items like an Advent calendar and wreath to help your family prepare for the arrival of Jesus on Christmas Day. We will enjoy grilled cheese sandwiches and soup together. Please register your family on our website.
- **MOTHER AND INFANT QUIET ROOM** — Mothers of infants who need a quiet place for nursing or calming babies are welcome to use the Quiet Room located by Courtenay Hall and our Bookstore.
- **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN DURING OUR WORSHIP SERVICES**
 - **Children's Bulletin, Sermon Sheet & Worship Bag:** All children are encouraged to use these to stay engaged during the service. These are located both in the Narthex and at the Pulpit Entrance.
 - **Young Children & Worship:** Children who are age 4, 5 or 6 (not in 1st grade) are invited. After the children come up during worship services for Children's Time or a Baptism, they will exit the Sanctuary and go to Room CW-110. Parents are welcome to join their child or stay for the remainder of the service.
 - **Nursery Care** for children six weeks to three years is available during 8:30 & 11:00 services and Sunday School from 9:45 to 10:45. Ask an Elder/Deacon to help you locate the Children's Hospitality Center.

For more Children's Ministry info, contact Deb O'Brien at 615-298-9582 or dobrien@fpcnashville.org.

The Mission of First Presbyterian Church

To know Christ, to make Him known, and to exhibit His love through worship, education, and service.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

CENTER

■ WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. in Room L-201.
- Women's Monday Bible Study from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.
- Tuesday Bible Study from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
- Men's Thursday Bible Study from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.

COVENANT

■ WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

- Family Fellowship Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. in the Jones Session Room.
- Moms' Tuesday Bible Study from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.
- Moms' Thursday Bible Study from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M.
- ME Mornings on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M.

For Young Adult Ministry info, contact Josh Rodriguez at 615-298-9598 or jrodriguez@fpcnashville.org.