

February 15, 2009

Eleven O'clock

## Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### WELCOME

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we are honored that you have chosen to worship today at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel welcome here and inspired. May you be strengthened by the power of God to meet the challenges of your daily life.

### THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

*We begin worship with the musical prelude and lighting of the candles, reminding us of Christ's presence with us. Please use this time to make the transition from getting here to being here.*

PRELUDE "Chorale Prelude on *Rhosymedre*" Ralph Vaughan Williams

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP Lou Ann Webster

One: I shall exalt you, O Lord; you have lifted me up.  
I cried to you and you healed me.

**All: You brought me up, O Lord, from Sheol,  
And saved my life as I was sinking.**

One: Sing a song to the Lord, all you loyal servants.  
Give thanks to God's holy name.

**All: Tears may linger at nightfall but joy comes in the morning.**

One: Lord, you have turned our laments into dancing,  
Stripped off our sackcloth and clothed us with joy

**All: We will sing our praises to you forever.**

adapted from Psalm 30

### PRAYER OF ADORATION

\* HYMN 181 *Come Sing to God* ELLACOMBE

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, lover of our souls, you came to bring health and we sorely need it. We are broken by our sin, misshapen by life's turnings, and alienated from each other and from our God. Forgive us, where we have lost the thread, where we failed to love, and where we have not been true. Remake us in the image of God, and restore us to wholeness, for your names' sake.

### \* KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*[A time of silence for personal confession]*

### \* ASSURANCE OF PARDON and GLORIA

Glo - ry be to God Al- might-y, Glo-ry be to\_ Christ the Son, Glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir- it,  
ev - er Three and\_ ev - er One. For - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

MOMENTS WITH THE CHILDREN Michelle Freeman Owens

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 5:1-14 Old Testament

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Dixit Dominus* Mozart

Solo Quartet: Diane McNaron, Margaret Sandy, Jeff Hairrell, David Bryson  
The LORD says to my lord, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool." The LORD sends out from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your foes. Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day you lead your forces on the holy mountains. From the womb of the morning, like dew, your youth will come to you. The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath. He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter heads over the wide earth. He will drink from the stream by the path; therefore he will lift up his head. Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

SECOND LESSON Mark 1:40-45 New Testament

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Soul Sickness* J. Shannon Webster

## DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

\* HYMN 380 *O Christ the Healer* ERHALT UNS, HERR

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Confession of 1967, 9.31

**To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares his labor of healing the enmities which separate us from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintain continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

**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.**

### CHORAL RESPONSE

## WORSHIP OF GOD WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Part of your offering today is the gift of your presence.  
Please acknowledge your presence by signing the maroon welcome book on your pew.*

OFFERTORY "Adagio" from *Trio in c minor* J.S. Bach

\* THE DOXOLOGY Hymn 592

*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.*

### \* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

\* HYMN 394 *There Is a Balm in Gilead* BALM IN GILEAD

### \* THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: May the Spirit of the Living God,  
present with us now, be upon you,

**All: our bodies, our spirits, our minds,**

One: And protect you and heal you of all that harms you.

**All: In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### \* CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Processional" William Matthias

\* All who wish to do so may stand.

---

**LET THE BELLS PLAY!** Our 37-bell Rushton Memorial Carillon was the first such instrument in Birmingham and the third in the United States, when installed in 1924. Every Sunday it is played following the worship service. Please stay and enjoy!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEASE SIGN THE WELCOME BOOK** You will find a maroon book containing an attendance registration sheet. Please provide all of the information requested there each week. Pass the book to others seated on the pew with you, then send it back toward the center aisle and take a moment to notice the names of those on the pew worshipping with you today.

**WE WELCOME GUESTS** Thank you for worshipping with us today. Your presence enriches our community. We hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. If you are returning to a distant home, we wish you the Lord's grace and a safe journey. However, if you live in the area, and are not an involved member of a faith community and might be seeking one, we invite you to return here any Sunday so that we may continue to worship with you and get to know you better. Take one of our *red door* welcome brochures and a newsletter to learn more about opportunities for spiritual growth and service. Visit us on the web at [www.firstpresbyterianbirmingham.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianbirmingham.org). May all God's peace and blessings be with you today and always.

**IF YOU ARE SEEKING A CHURCH HOME** The Session of First Presbyterian Church gathers on the *first Sunday of the month* in the chapel following morning worship to welcome new members. If you are seeking a faith community, we hope you have found a church home with us.

**FOR CHILDREN** Children's Bulletins are available at the side entrance, near the playground (ushers can locate them for you). Please return the clipboards after worship. While all children are welcome in worship, the following alternatives also are available: *Nursery* is provided for infants (at least six weeks old) and toddlers. *Extended Session* is for children three-years-old (and potty-trained) through first grade. These children should begin worship in the sanctuary with their families, then after the *Moments with the Children*, they may go to Extended Session. Children may be picked up on the second floor of the education wing following the service. We invite those in second grade and above to remain in the sanctuary and participate in the entire worship service.

**OPPORTUNITY INSERT** Please use the Opportunity Insert to relay information to the church office, including reservations for church events. Print your name and any other information you may need to relay to the office, fold the insert and put it in the offering plate.

**SERMONS** are available in the Narthex on the center table or you can get them from our website at [www.firstpresbyterianbirmingham.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianbirmingham.org).

**WIRELESS HEADSETS** for the hearing impaired are available.

**TUESDAY PRAYER** begins at 11:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Please relay your prayer request on the Opportunity insert. You are invited to come and pray with us.

**OUR LITURGIST** for February is Lou Ann Webster.

**FLOWERS** in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John L. Duncan by his wife, Frances Duncan.

## MISSION CENTERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION** has been established to provide ongoing supplemental support to First Presbyterian Church for the maintenance and upkeep of this historic sacred space built in 1889. In addition, at least 10% of the annual annuity payment from the Foundation will be used for mission projects selected each year by the session. For more information call Bill Phillips at 322-5469 ext 222.

**FIRST LIGHT, INC.** is a mission center of FPC, providing shelter and support services for homeless women and children. If you would like to help, speak to our pastors or call Ruth Crosby, Executive Director (323-4277). First Light's website: [www.firstlightshelter.org](http://www.firstlightshelter.org)

**The mission of RUTH AND NAOMI SENIOR OUTREACH (RNSO)** is to bring joy to older adults living in isolation through companionship, unconditional acceptance and the beauty of music. Opportunities are available for volunteers to work along side Chaplains Lynn Bledsoe and Mary Porter. For information, call Lynn or Mary at 322-5469 ext. 209 or visit the website at [www.ruthandnaomi.org](http://www.ruthandnaomi.org).

**REDEEMER COUNSELING AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT CENTER, INC.** of Nairobi Kenya is a ministry supported by many members of First Church. The Rev. Dr. Alphonse Kanga is administrator of the center. They provide counseling to families in Nairobi dealing with the ravages of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Contact Harold Gregg or [redemercmc@yahoo.com](mailto:redemercmc@yahoo.com).

**THE RUSHTON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER** provides quality childcare in a loving, nurturing environment for children. They are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and licensed by the Department of Human Resources. Call Randy East, CDD Director (322-8310). The Center's website is [www.eprcdc.com](http://www.eprcdc.com)

THE REV. J. SHANNON WEBSTER, Pastor

THE REV. DREW M. HENRY, Associate Pastor

THE REV. MICHELLE FREEMAN OWENS, Associate Pastor

MRS. DEBBIE G. HAMRICK, Administrator

DR. TIMOTHY THOMAS, Director of Music

DR. GORMAN JONES, Organist

MRS. MURIEL H. TEAGUE, Carillonneur

THE REV. DR. ROBERT S. CRUTCHFIELD, Pastor Emeritus

*Have you remembered the church in your will?*