

SOUNDING THE GATHERING

WELCOME TO WORSHIP, LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE & PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"My Jesus I Love Thee"

With Chopin's *E-Major Etude Op.10, No.3 (Tristesse)*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Let our praises for what God has done resound within and beyond these walls.

ALL: When all people turn to God, the poor shall eat and be satisfied.

One: Justice and peace will surely embrace present and future generations.

ALL: We give thanks for all that God has done.

One: Let our lives and our love proclaim the message of God's grace and redemption. Let us together praise and worship our God.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

INTROIT - # 49

"As the Deer"

* HYMN OF PRAISE - # 392

"Open Our Eyes"

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 4:7-21

LAYING DOWN OUR BURDENS BEFORE GOD

ALL: Merciful One, You know when we are afraid to love; You know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with Your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Permeate us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love. Amen.

(MOMENT OF SILENCE)

The Mission Statement of the First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

is

"To Know Christ and to make Him Known"

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

One: Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. If we abide in Christ, Christ's words will abide in us. Ask for whatever you wish in Christ's name and it will be granted. In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

ALL: In the name of Christ, we who seek forgiveness are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - # 383

"Near to the Heart of God" (v. 3)

ALL SING:

*"There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
A place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
Hold us, who wait before Thee near to the heart of God."*

TIME WITH OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

Offertory

"10 Preludes, Op.23, No.6"
Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

* **Doxology** *"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen."*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

* HYMN - # 71

"Be Thou My Vision"

CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Hear My Prayer"

By: Moses Hogan

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:26-29

MESSAGE

"God Told Me!"

*** AFFIRMING OUR FAITH**

From The Brief Statement of Faith (10.4)

ALL: *"In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace."*

"In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, 'Come, Lord Jesus!'"

"With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Amen.

*** HYMN - # 361**

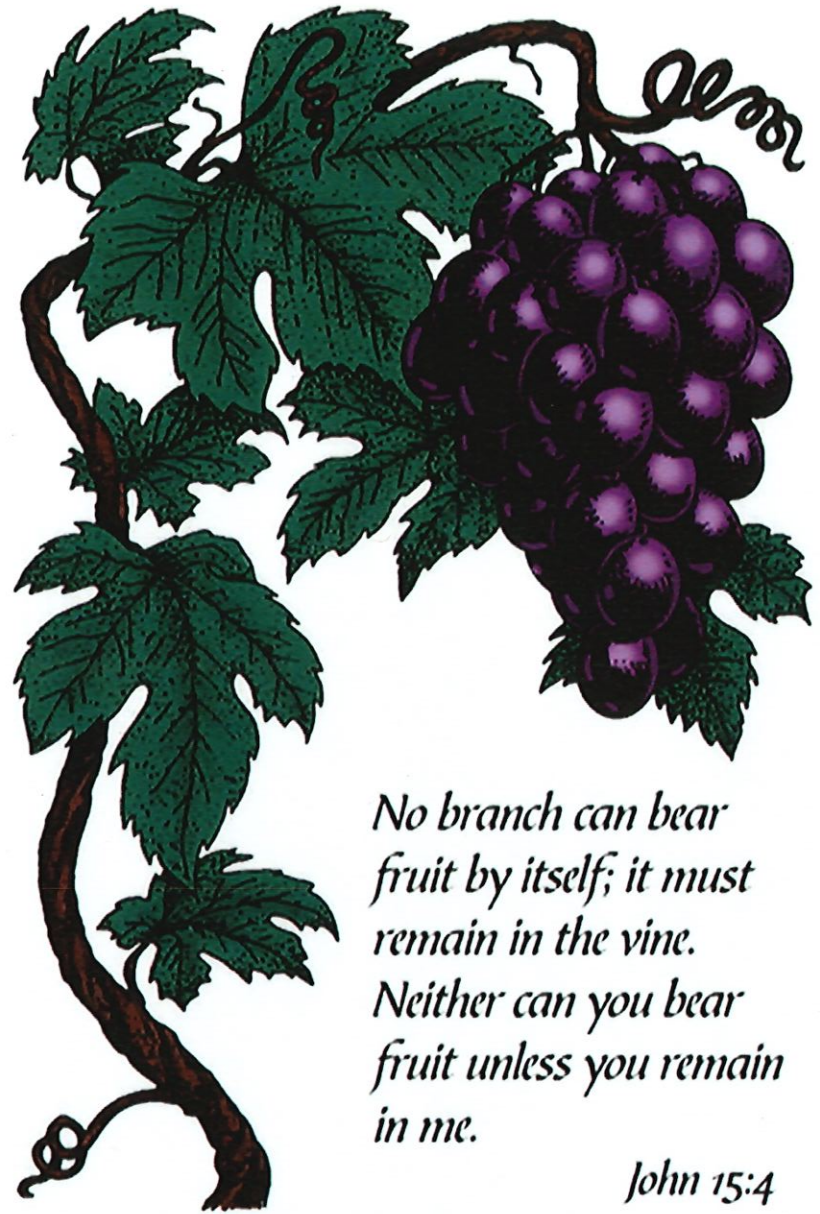
"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

*** BLESSING & CHARGE**

*** POSTLUDE**

*March from the "Occasional Oratorio"
G.F. Handel (1685-1759)*

*** You are invited to stand in body or spirit.**



No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

John 15:4

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) of Huntsville, Texas

April 28, 2024

For your convenience, there is an offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. If you prefer, you may give to the church through the portal on the church's website or scan the QR code with your cell phone. →→→ →→→→ →→→→



Today, April 28

This Week

9:15 a.m. Youth in the Youth Room
 Sunday School in the Chapel
 Sunday School in the Parlor
 Young Adults-Conf. Room

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:45 a.m. Food & Fellowship

12:15 P.M. Handbell Choir Rehearsal

8:30 a.m. Book Club

11:00 a.m. Lectio

5:30 P.M. Food & Fellowship

6:00 P.M. Choir

6:00 P.M. Youth

Wednesday, May 1

Upcoming

Sunday, May 5

9:15 a.m. Youth in the Youth Room
 Sunday School in the Chapel
 Sunday School in the Parlor
 Young Adults-Conf. Room

10:30 a.m. Worship w/ Communion

11:45 a.m. Food & Fellowship

12:15 P.M. Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 6

10:30 a.m. Nurture Team Meeting

5:15 P.M. C.E. Team Meeting

Tuesday, May 7

5:15 P.M. Worship Team Meeting

Wednesday, May 8

9:30 a.m. Outreach Team Meeting

11:00 a.m. Lectio

5:30 P.M. Food & Fellowship

6:00 P.M. Jazz Concert



Welcome

We gladly welcome you to the First Presbyterian Church (USA) of Huntsville, Texas, trusting that if you are seeking Christ, you will find Him here; if sorrowing, receive comfort; if troubled in spirit, you will rejoice in hope; if friendless, find companionship. First Presbyterian has an active Sunday School Program and several thriving ministries that serve our community and world. If you do not have a church home, we hope you will join us. Please speak to our pastor or any member if you need more information about us. May God's blessing be upon you and yours during the coming week.

Our Lay Leader today is Liz Speer



The flowers are given by Dorothea Tarver in celebration of her daughter Rachel's birthday, which was April 21.

FOOD PANTRY/ BLESSING BOX NEEDS

Canned Chili, Ramen Noodle Soup,
 & Canned Tuna

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Brenda Brock (Spiritual Formation) peace4utoo@hotmail.com
 Meredith Clifton (Director of PDO & Family Ministry) meredith.fpch@gmail.com
 Dr. David Fleming (Organist/Pianist) david_fleming_88@yahoo.com
 Cathy King (Church Secretary) info.fpch@gmail.com
 Michael McDougal (Music Director) michaelmcdougalmusic@gmail.com
 Castyn Srader (Youth Director) casbohan@gmail.com
 Emily Tuttle (Nursery Attendant)
 Rev. Dr. Craig King (Minister) revdrccraig6591@sbcglobal.net