

The Lord's Day

February 5, 2012

Reflection

If we do not give away our money in remarkable proportions, we have not grasped (or we are not currently remembering) Christ's generosity in saving us. Let's put it more starkly: You will always give effortlessly to that which is your salvation, to those things which give your life meaning. If Jesus is the one who saved you, your money flows easily into his work, his people, his causes. If, however, your real religion is your appearance or your social status or personal comfort or pleasure, your money flows most easily into those items and symbols.

— Timothy J. Keller

Christians share their table with all, but not their bed with all. They love everyone, but are persecuted by all. They are poor yet make many rich; they are short of everything and yet have plenty of all things.

— The Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetus, ca. late 2nd century

When we let go of money we are letting go of part of ourselves and part of our security. But this is precisely why it is important to do it. It is one way to obey Jesus' command to deny ourselves When we give money we are releasing a little more of our egocentric selves and a little more of our false security.... Giving frees us to care. It produces an air of expectancy as we anticipate what God will lead us to give. It makes life with God an adventure in the world, and that is worth living for and giving for.

— Richard J. Foster

Call to Worship

Isaiah 55:1-3a

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live...”

Hymn of Praise #262

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Heber/Dykes

Invocation

(followed by 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.

Call to Confession of sins

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world-- the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does-- comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

Silent Prayer of Confession

We confess our Father, that we do not live up to the family name.

We are more ready to resent than to forgive,

more ready to manipulate than to serve,

more ready to fear than to love,

more ready to keep our distance than to welcome,

more ready to compete than to help.

At the root of this behavior is mistrust.

We do not love one another as we should,

because we do not believe that you love us as you do.

Forgive us our cold unbelief.

And make more vivid to us the meaning and depth of your love at the cross.

Show us what it cost you to give up your Son

that we might live as your sons and daughters.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our righteousness.

Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement

1 John 3:1

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Jesus I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Praise The Lord

*Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, I will praise the Lord as long as I live,
I will sing praises to my God, even with my dying breath.*

He is the One who made heaven and earth,
The sea and everything in it.
He is the One who keeps every promise forever.
He gives justice to the oppressed
And sets the pris'ner free.

*Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, I will praise the Lord as long as I live,
I will sing praises to my God, even with my dying breath.*

He is the One who feeds the hungry
And opens the eyes of the blind.
He lifts up the burdens of those beneath heavy loads.
The stranger He protects
And the righteous One He loves.

*Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, I will praise the Lord as long as I live,
I will sing praises to my God, even with my dying breath.*

The Lord will reign forever
Our God is King to all generations
The Lord will reign forever our God!

*We will praise the Lord, Oh my soul
We will praise the Lord as long as we live
We will sing praises to our God
Even with our dying breath
Even with our dying breath
Even with our dying breath.*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Confession of Faith

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 catholic¹ Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

The Apostle's Creed

¹ That is, the Christian Church made up of believers throughout history

Announcements

(children age 4 through 1st grades may be dismissed for children's church)

Sermon *“Crowded...Overshadowed...Choked” ~ “The Parable of the Sower” Part IV*
Pastor Rick Searle
Matthew 13:1-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop-- a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear."

¹⁰ The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" ¹¹ He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹² Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

¹⁴ In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

¹⁵ For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷ For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

¹⁸ "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. ²² The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

Meditation & Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Hymn of Response #493

“It is Well with My Soul”

Spafford/Bliss

Benediction

Notes:

Please pray for...

This week's families: Brian Totherow, Tim & Beth Vosnick, Jay & Alice Walker, Thomas Walker

Hispanic Ministries

Christian Education Ministries at church, home and school

AL Church Planting Network: Steve & Ann Mayes, Gabriel & Monica Contreras

Engagement: Sarah Walker & Gabe Anderson

Pregnancy: Andrea Callahan, Maggie McDaniel

Military: Jonathan Searle, Adam Shelley, Jon Mattox, Noah Freeman, John Rhodes, David Washington, Aaron Pugh, Rick Hendricks, Jeff Mitchell, Andrew Smith, Joey Haynes

Home for Sale: Bruce & Jennifer Bush, Grant & Camille Carroll

Missionaries: Sav-A-Life

Church Ministry: Faith Christian School

Church Leaders & Staff: Steve Knotts & Donna Callahan

College Students: Sarah Burleigh, Maryellyn Fenn, Bernie Gilliland

Timothy Mayes, recovering from a broken arm

Deborah Greene, recovering from surgery

Grace Hudson, diagnosed with juvenile arthritis

Dolores Miller, recovering from hip replacement surgery

Those struggling with their health: Leeanne Clark, Kevin Miller, Bernice Whitman, Johnnie Hicks, John Henderson, Doyle McGee, Colleen Taylor

Those who are battling cancer: Lawrence Ramsay, Stephanie Camp, Kate Crow, Christy Strickland, Sheila Hunt, Shirley Coker, Joanne Corbin

Those being cared for at home or an extended care facility: Gordon Johnson, Bernard Robinson, Vera Searle, Loretta Edwards, Emily Bowie, Dottie Brazelton, Clifford Herndon

Sunday School ~ Winter Quarter

<u><i>Specific Course</i></u>	<u><i>Teacher</i></u>	<u><i>Room</i></u>
<i>The Meaning of Marriage</i>	Peck Mallory	Music Rm
SRHi Boys & Girls	Dameon Goode & Tim Smith	L11
JRHi Boys & Girls	Susan Goode	L12
Children grades 3 rd -5 th	Dr. Roy & Sharon Flannagan	L2
Children grades 1 st & 2 nd	Eliska Mattox & Debbie Buchanan	L3
Children ages 4yr - 5K	Kris Herndon & Lisa Robertson	L4
Children ages 2 - 3	Michelle Miller	Toddler Rm
Infants	Bonnie Schroeder & Suzan Freeman	Nursery

Announcements

Meals of Mercy... Paula Smith is coordinating meals for Jim Gray to help him during this transition time. We would like to provide meals, beginning Monday, February 6, every other day for a few weeks. If you would like to help with a meal, please contact Paula Smith at parmerb4@gmail.com or 256-831-8651.

The Ladies Bible Study... will not meet during the month of February. We will resume on March 7th.

Pre-Super Bowl Bowl... Attention able-bodied football folks, feel free to join us this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in the gym for a touch/flag football game to get us ready for the big event. I know the Youth Group boys will be there, and eagerly await all challengers! It should be fun and gives you the excuse to eat more Gameday grub having burned the calories in advance. Come on out and join the fun! (please wear non-marking athletic shoes)

Super Bowl Fun... The Youth Group Super Bowl party will be at the Goode's this year and will feature Super Bowl Commercial Bingo (variation on previous SB Bingo) and International Food Tasting. Each family should bring a shareable dish from a different country (i.e. Pizza from Italy, 7-Layer dip from Mexico etc.) Let Dameon know what you will be bringing. Drinks will be provided! Game time is **5:15 CST**. See you there!

Men's Retreat at Shocco Springs... February 10th and 11th (Friday evening and Saturday morning). The cost will be \$75; this includes overnight lodging, supper on Friday night and breakfast Saturday morning. Glenn Waddell, president of Birmingham Theological Seminary, will be teaching about conflict resolution. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Join us for a Baby Showering honoring Libby Mallory Fenn & baby Sam
on Saturday, February 18 at 2:00 pm in Faith's Sanctuary.



Registered at myregistry.com
Sam needs clothes sized 3-6 months and up,
Kawaii cloth diapers (Ultra Soft Crossover
Square Tab or Goodnight Heavy Wetter;
found at theluvyourbaby.com,
ebay.com or amazon.com)

Hosted by The Ladies Bible Study & WIC

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ellis Whitt (10th)

This Week's Schedule

Sunday:	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:55 am	Sunday School for all ages
	3:00 pm	Pre-Super Bowl Bowl
	5:15 pm	Youth Group Super Bowl Bash
	6:00 pm	Ping Small Group
Monday:	6:15 pm	Searle Small Group
	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting
Wednesday:	12:45 pm	FPC/FCS Staff Meeting
	5:30 pm	McDaniel Small Group
Friday:	4:00 pm	Men's Retreat
Saturday:		Men's Retreat

Children's Ministry

This Week:	Infant Worship: Patrick & Laura Harrison
	2-3 Year Worship: Dameon & Susan Goode
	4 Yrs-1 st grade: Hellon & Kelsey McWilliams
Next Week:	Infant Worship: Shannon & Lisa Robertson
	2-3 Year Worship: Richard & Kathy Pope
	4 Yrs-1 st grade: Jay & Alice Walker

Deacon:	This Week: Shannon Robertson	Next Week: John Davis
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Small Groups

Group	Location	Contact	Phone Number	Meeting Time
<i>Ping's</i>	<i>Various Homes</i>	<i>Charlie/Rosie Ping</i>	<i>256-835-1011</i>	<i>Sunday 6:00 pm</i>
<i>Women's Bible Study</i>	<i>Buchanan Home</i>	<i>Eliska Mattox</i>	<i>256-488-9176</i>	<i>Resumes March 7</i>
<i>McDaniel's</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Erik/Maggie McDaniel</i>	<i>256-403-3969</i>	<i>Wednesday 5:30 pm</i>
<i>Searle's</i>	<i>Searle Home</i>	<i>Rick Searle</i>	<i>256-238-8721</i>	<i>Monday 6:15 pm</i>

Ruling Elders

Jimmy Miller Boyce Callahan Alan Robinson Phil Stumbo
Roy Flannagan Roger Sawyer Peck Mallory Jack Totherow Vince Mattox

Teaching Elders

Rick Searle (Pastor) Erik McDaniel (Assistant Pastor)
Steve Mayes (Assistant Pastor of Church Planting)

Deacons

Trey Hudson John Davis David Miller
Shannon Robertson Tim Smith Steve Knotts

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God's truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice
- We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God's displeasure, except by His mercy.
- We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people, not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God's people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.
- We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Mission of Faith Presbyterian Church is...

To promote a passion for the Glory of God,
And the joy that comes from knowing Him through the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Our Vision is to become...

A fellowship of believers who are experiencing the transforming power of the Gospel
And are Instruments of Change in the lives of others