

The Lord's Day

January 29, 2012

Reflection

For peace of mind, resign as general manager of the universe.

— Anonymous

Jesus is the God whom we can approach without pride, and before whom we can humble ourselves without despair.

—Blaise Pascal

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

A psalm. For giving thanks. Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Hymn of Praise #2

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Robinson

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

Psalm 57:1-2

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed. I cry out to God Most High, to God, who fulfills his purpose for me.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your love and mercy for us is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law.

Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement

Psalm 103:11-12

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Songs of Renewal

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O, Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

O cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossom's red
Life that shall endless be, Life that shall endless be.

Thou Lovely Source of True Delight

(Violin)

Thou lovely source of true delight whom I unseen adore
Unveil Thy beauties to my sight that I might love Thee more,
Oh that I might love Thee more.

Thy glory o'er creation shines but in Thy sacred word
I read, in fairer, brighter lines my bleeding, dying Lord,
Oh my bleeding, dying Lord.

'Tis here, when e'er my comforts droop and sin and sorrow rise
Thy love with cheering beams of hope my fainting heart supplies,
My fainting heart's supplied.

(Violin)

But ah! Too soon the pleasing scene is clouded o'er with pain
My gloomy fears rise dark between and I again complain,
Oh and I again complain.

Jesus, my Lord, my life, my light, oh come with blissful ray
Break radiant through the shades of night and chase my fears away,
Won't you chase my fears away?

Then shall my soul with rapture trace the wonders of Thy love
But the full glories of Thy face are only known above,
They are only known above.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Confession of Faith

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

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

"The Parable of the Sower" Part III

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

Forever

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King; His love endures forever
He is good, He is above all things; His love endures forever
Sing praise, Sing praise

With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn; His love endures forever
Sing praise, Sing praise, Sing praise Sing praise

Chorus

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us, forever (forever)
(repeat)

From the rising to the setting sun; His love endures forever
And by the grace of God we'll carry on; His love endures forever
Sing praise, Sing praise, Sing praise, Sing praise

Chorus

Benediction

Notes:

The Daily Office

January 30 – February 5, 2012

6th Week after Advent

The spiritual discipline of **Bible reading** and study is no mere box to be checked off in a “daily Christian to do” list. We must not read God’s Word mindlessly. Rather, as we read the text we should expect the Holy Spirit to teach us things about God, to show us how we have fallen short of His glory, and at the same time reassure us of how Christ fills that need in the gospel. As we learn to converse with the Holy Spirit about the glory of Christ in His Gospel, we will worship God and be better prepared to serve The Lord in our church and culture. So, we must ask God to engage our mind, will and emotions, in order for us to see the glory of God in Christ and to motivate us to take part in God’s mission of being a blessing to the world. To do these things here are some questions to ask yourself as you listen to God speaking to you through His Word:

In the area of **doctrine**:

- What is God calling me to believe about Him?
- How should I praise God as a result of this teaching? (What should I rejoice in?)

In the area of **character**:

- How does Christ fulfill what God requires of me?
- What is God showing me about my heart in this passage?
- What sins do I need to confess? How do I need to change?

In the area of **community**:

- Who does God have to help me grow as a Christian?
- How can I help the community? Build the church?

In the area of **culture**:

- Am I part of what God is doing in His Kingdom?

Similarly, the spiritual discipline of **prayer** cannot be viewed simply as a daily entry on a “self-righteousness” ledger. Prayer is sweet communion with the Living God. The Holy Spirit applies His Word to our present circumstances and propels us to honor Christ in them. In response to God’s gracious speech to us in the gospel, we speak words of adoration and recommit our hearts to Him.

As you use this devotional format, our hope is that you will keep these things in mind and expect to encounter God as He lovingly encounters and speaks to you as His child.

OPENING PRAISE

The earth is the Lord's for he made it:
 Come let us adore him.
Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the LORD is a great God,
 and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
 the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
 and his hands formed the dry land.
Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
 let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
For he is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95:1–7

CONFESSION

Holy and Loving God, you have poured out your good gifts upon me. Today I thank you for all of them, but I also confess that often I love those gifts more than I love you. I confess that I am discontented with your gifts, and I find myself wanting more and more things. Forgive me for not being content and thankful. Forgive me for my complaining spirit. Forgive my selfishness. Help me to love you more than everything else. I pray in Jesus’ name. *Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

*The following chart is a daily lectionary covering the whole Bible in one year. Each day contains readings from **Psalms and Wisdom Literature, Pentateuch and History of Israel, Chronicles and Prophets, and Gospels and Epistles.***

Monday, January 30	Psalm 29; Genesis 27:1-40; 2 Chronicles 3; Luke 19:47-20:44
Tuesday, January 31	Psalm 30; Genesis 27:41-28:9; 2 Chronicles 4; Luke 20:45-21:38
Wednesday, February 1	Psalm 31; Genesis 28:10-22; 2 Chronicles 5; Luke 22:1-46
Thursday, February 2	Psalm 32; Genesis 29:1-30; 2 Chronicles 6; Luke 22:47-23:25
Friday, February 3	Psalm 33; Genesis 29:31-30:43; 2 Chronicles 7; Luke 23:26-56
Saturday, February 4	Psalm 34; Genesis 31; 2 Chronicles 8; Luke 24
Sunday, February 5	Psalm 35; Genesis 32; 2 Chronicles 9; Acts 1

INTERCESSIONS

(1) Opening Prayer

O God, Eternal King and Father of all mercies,
whose light divides the day from the night
and turns the shadow of death into the morning:
As you cause the sun to rise,
shine the light of Christ in my heart
to dispel the darkness
and to transform me from glory to glory
into the image of your Son.

Let his love show in my deeds,
his wisdom shine in my words,
and his healing in my touch;
through Jesus Christ, my risen and reigning Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

(2) Specific Prayers

Pray for specific needs:

- *Personal: your personal life*
- *Local: your family, friends, enemies, neighbors; your local church and other local churches; your neighborhood, town/city, state, and nation*
- *Global: the worldwide church, other nations/cultures*

Consider using particular themes and words from the psalms, scripture readings, and other prayers, as well as the rest of the bulletin to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

(3) Closing Prayer

Father,
you have knit together your chosen people
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son, Christ the Lord.
Give us grace to follow your blessed saints
in Christ-like living
that we may come to the unspeakable and eternal joy
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Please pray for...

We rejoice with Barbara Gray on her homecoming as we lift her family up in our prayers.
This week's families: Tim & Cristie Smith, Phil & Nell Stumbo, Ryan & Cindy Todt,
Jack & Sheila Totherow
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: Anees Zaka serving with Church Without Walls
Church Ministry: FCS School Board
Church Leaders & Staff: Shannon Robertson & Tim Smith
College Students: Meghan McDonald, Jacob Searle, Thomas Walker
Sonny Foster, recovering from heart bypass 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

Church-Wide Supper... This Wednesday, February 1, we will be having our monthly covered dish supper in the gym at 6:00 p.m. We will be saying farewell to the Shelleys who are moving to Mississippi February 22. Everyone is asked to bring a main dish and a side dish or dessert. Drinks will be furnished. Set-up and clean-up for this meal will be handled by the McDaniel 1 Group.

Searle Small Group... Will not meet this week. Join us Wednesday at the church-wide supper.

Pre-Super Bowl Bowl... Attention able-bodied football folks, feel free to join us on Super Bowl Sunday 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 **February 5th at 5:15 CST**, so plan accordingly and see you there!

Men's Retreat at Shocco Springs... February 10th and 11th (Friday evening and Saturday morning). Please put these dates on your calendar for a great time of fellowship. 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 & Genelle Whitt (A-29th) Andrea Callahan (29th) Bruce & Jennifer Bush (A-29th)
James & Nancy Greene (A-30th) Anderson Jenkins (30th) John Davis (31st)
Boyce Callahan, Sr. (2nd) Jacob Searle (4th)

This Week's Schedule

Sunday:	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:55 am	Sunday School for all ages
	6:00 pm	Ping Small Group
	6:30 pm	Youth Bible Study
Wednesday:	9:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	12:45 pm	FPC/FCS Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Church-wide Supper

Children's Ministry

This Week: Infant Worship: Deby Buchanan & Bonnie Schroeder
 2-3 Year Worship: Kathryn & Sara Kathryn Searle
 4 Yrs-1st grade: Amy & Vic Minish

Next Week: Infant Worship: Patrick & Laura Harrison
 2-3 Year Worship: Dameon & Susan Goode
 4 Yrs-1st grade: Hellon & Kelsey McWilliams

Deacon:	This Week: Tim Smith	Next Week: Shannon Robertson
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Small Groups

<i>Group</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Meeting Time</i>
<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>Wednesday 9:00 am</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