

PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY

Welcome and Announcements**Prelude** *Adagio from Occasional Oratorio (HVW 62)*

G. F. Handel

Call to Worship**Prayer of Praise****Prayer of Confession****Silent Confession****Assurance of Pardon****Prayer for Illumination****Old Testament Reading** Psalm 78:1-7

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. ² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, ³ things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. ⁴ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. ⁵ He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; ⁶ that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, ⁷ so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

New Testament Reading II Corinthians 8:1-12a

¹ We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; ² for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³ For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, ⁴ begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints — ⁵ and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, ⁶ so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. ⁷ Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you — so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. ⁸ I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. ¹⁰ And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something — ¹¹ now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. ¹² For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has.

Sermon “Responding to Grace”

Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair

Anthem *Choral Song*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Pastoral Prayer**Benediction**

(Tithes, offerings, and pledge cards may be dropped in the offering plate by the baptismal font.)

Postlude *Chromatic Fugue*

Johann Pachelbel

As you exit, please remember to social distance.

Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Health concerns: Louis McCaleb; Donna Morrison; Bill McPhail; Jane Christopher; Imelda Carrillo and daughter Selena; Baywood Crossing residents and staff; Ron Grimes (Thelma Jean Paradysz's son-in-law); Mary Knapik; Steve Dunn (Elois Murray's son); Laura Weigler; Barry Webb's brother, Ron; Larry Parks; Margaret Bardin; Faye Chapman; Jean Kochera (Kimberly Waggett's mom); Margaret Robison; Joyce DeLoach; John Rarden, Sr.; Lyles Burke; Michael Wharry.

Upcoming Events @ FPC - more details at fpcpasadena.org

Upcoming Worship Services: 11/8-sanctuary worship with a live streaming option; 11/15-virtual worship; 11/22-sanctuary worship with a live streaming option; 11/29-virtual worship. See Reopening Protocols below.

Today on Dedication Sunday we dedicate our 2021 pledges by placing them in the offering plate located at the baptismal font. Your pledge can also be mailed or drop it in the secure mailbox by the church office. God is our refuge and our strength. Thanks be to God.

Presbyterian Women Day and Night Circles meet this Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 pm by Zoom to continue our study from Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament by P. Lynn Miller. Chère Wharry will be presenting lesson three titled Women's Lament. If you have not been a part of PW and would like to join, please contact Rhonda Haskins or Bonnie Keith.

Brown Bag and Bible Wednesdays at 12:00 pm. Make your lunch, grab your Bible, and click the link for this Zoom meeting. If you are not on Fairfax's email list and want to be a part of the Bible study, please email Fairfax at revfair@fpcpasadena.org to add your name. If needed, contact the church office for Zoom link at office@fpcpasadena.org.

Prayer Shawl Group meet every Tuesday via Zoom at 1:30 pm. To join this group contact Johnnie Haltom or Barbara Davis.

Save the Date! Wonderful Wednesday is November 18, at 6 pm with Tomas Spath from The Institute for Civility in Government. A Zoom invitation will be sent through an FPC email.

Brunch & Book Group meet next on Saturday, November 21, at 10 am via Zoom to discuss "*The Beekeeper of Aleppo*" by Christy Lefteri. Contact Ruth Askine or Rev. Fairfax Fair to join.

Day of Service is November 14, 10-Noon. Between now and Nov. 14: prepare CWS/PDA hygiene kits; Seafarer's boxes; grocery items for PCM; write letters or cards to residents of Pasadena Interfaith Manor. Detailed instructions for all items can be found in the November Newsletter or at our website fpcpasadena.org, go to *Save the Date*. On Nov. 14. drop items off at the front drive-thru between 10-noon.

FPC Ministries and Groups Zoom Videoconference Meetings. To schedule a Zoom videoconference meeting with your ministry or group, contact Barbara at office@fpcpasadena.org.

Emergency Contact for each member needed for our church records. We are updating our records and want to have an emergency contact for everyone. Please contact the church at 281-991-8700 (*leave a message*) or email at office@fpcpasadena.org with your designated Emergency Contact. All information will be kept confidential. Thanks!

First Presbyterian Church of Pasadena Phase One Reopening Protocols

For at least the next year, we anticipate our lives will be shaped by the timeline set by COVID-19. We face difficult choices between conflicting needs, wants, and imperatives. We anticipate that we will be continuously evaluating what worship and all other church functions look like.

Despite our best efforts to provide a safe worship experience, conditions may again require the closing of the building. The pastor, in consultation with church leaders, will use CDC, Harris County, and PCUSA guidelines and good judgment to determine how to promote safety in reopening FPCP while actively monitoring local transmission rates of COVID-19. To preserve the health of our members, if circumstances change and worshipping together is not wise, services will again be virtual only.

We recognize that some of our members have underlying health issues or risk factors. Their health and safety must be at the forefront of our considerations. Persons with a high morbidity risk from COVID-19 are urged to stay home and continue to worship virtually. We will nonetheless strive to promote safe, in-person worship experiences for all that do not discriminate against persons with disabilities or high-risk conditions.

Church Physical Set Up:

- Doors will be left open so no one has to touch a door handle. This includes the designated entry door [the front door under the porte-cochere] and the doors into the sanctuary.
- No-Touch Hand Sanitizer dispensers will be installed in the Narthex.
- Offering plates will be placed by the baptismal font.
- Pews will be marked so people space themselves safely and avoid contact.
- Hymnals, Bibles, friendship folders, offering envelopes, Kleenex, etc. will be removed from pews.
- Signs will be posted that only one person at a time is to be in the restroom and additional signs will be posted to wipe handles touched with sanitizing wipes.
- The Church kitchen will remain closed.
- Signs encouraging hand washing and mandating face mask use (covering nose and mouth) will be posted in the Narthex.
- Signs encouraging social distancing will be posted in the narthex as well as the sanctuary.
- Sanitizing wipes will be available as needed.
- Gloves will be available in the Narthex and at the back of the church.
- One microphone per speaker will be set up.
- Camera will be set up to provide option of live streaming the service

Worship Procedures

- Everyone in the building and on the church grounds must wear a cloth or medical mask. Members are strongly encouraged to bring their own. We may have some available, while supplies last. Individuals uncomfortable wearing a face mask or with a medical condition that makes wearing a mask problematic may continue to participate in our on-line services.
- Social distancing of a minimum of six feet must be observed at all times, with the exception of members who live in the same household.
- Non-contact infrared thermometers will be used to take temperatures upon entry. Anyone with a temperature of 100.2 and higher will not be allowed into the building.
- Names of worshipers will be recorded as they enter to keep track of who has been part of the worship experience in the event that they need to be contacted.
- Greeters will be asked to stand back a minimum of six feet and welcome folks verbally.
- Bulletins and announcements will continue to be available online for the live streamed service.
- Bulletins will not be distributed to participate in the service in the sanctuary. Information will be projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.
- We will present shortened services to minimize risk.

Worship Procedures continued...

- Live streaming on YouTube or recorded services will continue for those who are not comfortable returning to 'in-person' worship
- Soloist may sing from behind a three-sided plexiglass shield.
- There will be no congregational or choral singing. It has been determined that singing is among the riskier behaviors for spreading droplets/aerosols which can carry the virus a significant distance and remain suspended in the air.
- Worshipers will leave by row, as directed.

Other Changes to Normal Practices

- Online (ZOOM) continues for Brown Bag, Session and ministry meetings, PW, Book Group, Wonderful Wednesday, etc.
- Office open by appointment. As on Sundays, masks required for staff and visitors.
- Forego November celebration of communion.
- Use of building by outside groups remains suspended.
- Congregants who are sick or who have had close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 are to stay home.
- Local health officials will be contacted if a person diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the church and this information also will be communicated with members so they are aware of potential exposure. The Clerk of Session, with the assistance of the church office, will be responsible to make the communications.

DISCONTINUE:

- Children's Sermon
- Passing the Peace, hugs, handshakes, elbow bumps, etc.
- Physical use of Bibles and Hymnals
- Nursery
- Coffee
- Use of water fountains