

THE NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Today is designated by our society as Mother's Day. We join in this opportunity to express our appreciation for those who have literally *shaped the world* by their influence as biological or surrogate mothers.

Today's Schedule

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Wednesday

- 5:15 p.m. - Youth Bells
- 6:15 p.m. - Youth Choir
- 7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. - Session Meeting

Next Sunday (Senior Sunday)

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship
 - 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
 - 12:05 p.m. - Senior Reception
 - 2:00 p.m. - L.I.F.E. Youth meeting in North Parking lot to go to Grace Presbytery Youth Fellowship Celebration at FPC, Plano
- Next Sunday the choir will sing at 11:00 a.m. and Harry Meissner's sermon is entitled *It's Not How High You Jump*, based upon Acts 2:1-21.

The Weez B Buds Relay for Life team is selling Luminarias, in honor/memory of someone affected by cancer, in the back hall after both services today. The cost is \$5.00 and checks may be made to the American Cancer Society.

The L.I.F.E. Youth are at an adjoining table in the back hall offering opportunity to "flock" someone's home or to purchase "flocking insurance." This activity helps fund the summer youth choir mission trip.

We want to periodically remind you that each Sunday sermon is posted in audio form on the church website, fpcmesquite.org. From the home page, click on the *Worship* tab, select *Sermon Audio*, and then choose the sermon to which you want to listen.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Harry C. Meissner—Interim Pastor
Casey McCollough—Director of Music
B. J. Mauldin—Organist/Keyboard Musician
Renee Stormer—Administrative Assistant
Thomas G. Wilbanks—Pastor Emeritus



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 South Belt line
Mesquite, Texas 75149

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May 8, 2016

Ascension of the Lord

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! *We hope you find a welcome here worthy of the gracious God we serve. Conventions in this bulletin include: an asterisk (*) invites you to stand, as health allows, material printed in bold is for the congregation to sing or say, a plus sign (+) indicates 11:00 only, and material printed in italics may provide some helpful information. The Music Director will indicate the appropriate time to stand for the hymns.*

VOLUNTARY *Look, Ye Saints! The Sight is Glorious* Mansfield

STRIKING THE HOUR OF WORSHIP

INTROIT + *Come, Followers of Christ* Butler

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP Philippians 1:2; Acts 1:11

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

*HYMN 213 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*OPENING PSALM from Psalm 97

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all peoples behold his glory.

For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER *(Hymn 546)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE FIRST READING ♦ *(Pew Bible, p. 118 NT)*

Acts 1:1-11

SCRIPTURE READING ♦ *(Pew Bible, p. 91 NT)*

Luke 24:44-53

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* arr. Larson
Men's Chorus

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Beverlee Witty (8:45), Mary McBain (11:00)

When this time is concluded, children pre-school through 2nd grade are invited to join the leader to go to children's church, and the rest may return to sit with their families in the sanctuary. Worship helps are available.

*HYMN 227 *We Bear the Strain of Earthly Care*

SERMON *No, Never Alone* Harry C. Meissner

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND INVITATION TO THE OFFERING #

Please find and sign the Registration of Attendance pad and pass it to others on the same pew, so that we may have a record of your attendance at this service. If you are visiting today, we hope you will provide contact information, especially your email address, so that we may share more about the program and activities of this congregation.

MOMENT FOR MISSION David Howard

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Lead, Kindly Light* Wood

*DOXOLOGY *(Hymn 544)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, SILENT PRAYER, CONCLUDING COLLECT

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.

*HYMN *(Please see insert.)* *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

*RESPONSE + *Filled with the Strength of Jesus' Love* Butler

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

VOLUNTARY *March* Handel

OUR INVITATION

Every service of worship invites us to consider our relationship to Jesus Christ and to his church. If you are not vitally involved in some community of faith, perhaps this congregation is the place where you can worship, find fellowship, grow, and share in our mission and witness to the world. If you would like to discuss this important matter, please indicate your interest on the registration of attendance pad or speak to the minister following the service.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder - (8:45) George Venner, (11:00) Martha Shepherd-Mahaffey

** Deacon - (8:45) Amanda Aynes, (11:00) Holly Smith

♦ Youth Reader - (8:45) Brittany Anderson, (11:00) Autumn Futrell

Candle lighter - (11:00) Isaac Williams

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

During the season of Easter, many traditions omit the penitential acts and replace them with more celebrative ones. We are following that tradition here at FPC during the Easter season. For this last Sunday the opening psalm replaces the prayer of confession and assurance of pardon.