ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder - (8:45) Brenda Greer, (11:00) Meg Garver Hamilton
** Deacon - (8:45) Cindy Jenkins, (11:00) Laney Freeman
Acolyte - (11:00) Campbell Futrell

THE NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

The **September newsletter** has been produced and may be found in the baskets in the back hall and in the narthex. Make sure you take one and read about all the great things that are going on at FPC.

Today's Schedule
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday
9:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Women Morning Circle
6:30 p.m. - P.N.C. Meeting
7:00 p.m. - Presbyterian Women Evening Circle

Wednesday
7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. - Board of Deacons Meeting

Next Sunday—September 11
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship
9:30 a.m. - Alleluia Singers (Children's S.S. Class begins at 9:55.)
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
5:00 p.m. - Youth/Parent Meeting in the Youth Hall
Next Sunday's Sermon will be brought by Guest Minister Sandy McLachlan. It is entitled *The PCUSA, Scotland, and a Chihuahua, Connect the Dots,* and based upon I Peter 2:1-9 and Matthew 5:11-14.

Wednesday Night Live begins a week from Wednesday. Have you signed up for dinner and classes yet? Visit the table in the back hall.

An audio copy of both **today's sermon** and recent sermons may be found on the church website *fpcmesquite.org*. From the home page menu, select the *worship* tab, then *sermon audio*, and then choose the sermon you wish.

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

972-285-5602 www.fpcmesquite.org

September 4, 2016 *23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time* 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. Large print hymnals or music sheets are available from an usher.*

VOLUNTARY *The Feast Is Ready* Miller

STRIKING THE HOUR OF WORSHIP

CHORAL INTROIT + *Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me* Jack Noble White
Chancel Choir

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP Philippians 1:2; Psalm 119:135
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
And also with you.
Make your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

*HYMN 625 *O Lord My God*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SONG OF PRAISE *(Hymn 634, v 1)*

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory: great things he has done!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY #

OLD TESTAMENT READING # *(Pew Bible, p. 720 OT)* Jeremiah 18:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT READING # *(Pew Bible, p. 78 NT)* Luke 14:25-33

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM + *Come Share the Lord* Bryan Leech
Chancel Choir

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Mary McBain

At the 11:00 service, when this time is concluded, children pre-school through 2nd grade are invited to join the leader to go to children's church. The rest may return to sit with their families in the sanctuary.

*HYMN 213 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

SERMON *Look Before You Leap* Harry C. Meissner

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' 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 catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM *The Lord Never Closes His Eyes* David Angerman
John and Paula Kusewitt

*DOXOLOGY *(Hymn 606)*

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**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

The Words of Institution

Reception of the Sacrament

Gluten free bread is found in the small plastic envelopes in the regular trays with the rest of the bread.

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN 724 *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE + *Send Me, Jesus* South African
Chancel Choir

VOLUNTARY *Eine Festerberg* Barbara Harbach

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.