

*RESPONSE (Hymn 447)

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

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 FOR ILLUMINATION #

OLD TESTAMENT READING # (Pew Bible, p. 290 OT)

I Samuel 16:1-13

PSALM 23 (all uniting)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

NEW TESTAMENT READING # (Pew Bible, p. 102 NT)

John 9:1-12

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Come, Ye Sinners
Men's Ensemble

arr. Schram

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

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 family in the sanctuary.

*HYMN 465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

SERMON

How Do We Share Our Faith?

Rev. James R. Sheppard

*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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, SILENT PRAYER, CONCLUDING PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*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**

*HYMN 546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace
Men's Ensemble

American folk melody

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder - (8:45) Dave Edling, (11:00) Robert Mayfield
** Deacon - (8:45) Jerry McBain, (11:00) Holly Smith
Acolyte - Zoe Futrell (11:00)

THE NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

A large group (about 42) of FPC women are away at the Women's Retreat this weekend. Several of our youth and sponsors are also away at Youthquake this weekend.

The Interim Pastor is away this *weekend* through Tuesday. He will return to the office on Wednesday, March 29.

In the absence of the Interim Pastor this morning, we welcome our own Rev James R. Sheppard to preach and lead worship. Jim is well known and well loved here at FPC.

Today's Schedule - March 26

7:30 a.m. Men's Council Breakfast
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
9:45 a.m. - Alleluia Singers
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Monday

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers

Wednesday - Wednesday Night Live

4:45 p.m. - Alleluia Chimes
5:45 p.m. - Dinner in Wilbanks Hall
6:30 p.m. - Classes and Activities
7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday - April 1

9:00 a.m. - All Church Work Day - Come help spruce up for spring

Next Sunday - April 2

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. - Alleluia Singers
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
12:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
12:15 p.m. - Faith Builder's Spring Fling
6:00 p.m. - Church Night Supper

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

March 26, 2017

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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, and material printed in italics may provide some helpful information. Large print hymnals or music sheets are available from an usher. Let us worship God!*

STRIKING THE HOUR OF WORSHIP

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

CHORAL INTROIT *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* Southern Harmony, 1835

This is a "call and response" song. When the ensemble has sung the verse (call), the congregation is invited (to remain seated) to join in with the refrain (response).

**I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.**

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2, Ezekiel 36:26*

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

And also with you.

The Lord God said: I will give you a new heart and a new mind. I will take away your stubborn heart of stone and give you an obedient heart.

*HYMN 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON