

**The First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin
The First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2009
10:30 a.m.**

Enter the church in silence. Through silence speak to God and let God speak to you.

PREPARATION: *The following are the scripture texts for this morning: Psalm 25:1-10 (Pew Bible page 436); Jeremiah 33:14-16 (page 645) After Jeremiah's difficult prophesies of desolation and God's anger with Israel, these verses offer restoration and reconciliation. 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (page 960) Paul encourages the community which has supported him. Luke 21:25-36 (page 857) These verses offer signs and parables of the return of Jesus Christ to earth.*

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: *Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our judge and savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

THE GATHERING

BELL PEAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

PRELUDE "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" **Manz**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

LEADER: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (Isaiah 2:4)

In whom is our Hope?

PEOPLE: **Our Hope is in the name of the Lord.**

***(Hymn #2)** **Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear desire of every nation joy of every longing heart.**

***OPENING SENTENCES**

LEADER: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

PEOPLE: **In you, we put our trust.**

LEADER: For you guide the humble in what is right.

ALL: **and teach the lowly your ways of love.**

***HYMN #8**

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Truro

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: God sent Christ into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved;

PEOPLE: **that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.**

LEADER: Trusting in that promise, let us together confess our sins to God.

ALL: **Coming Lord, as we wait and watch and yearn and ache, we look around for signs of your presence. But what we see mostly are indications of our sinfulness. The needy are overlooked. Selfishness has the upper hand. Hatred and violence triumph over peace and reconciliation. Our commitments waver; our resolve weakens; and we find ourselves further away from the path which you have marked in Christ. We long for a word of forgiveness and direction, and for a sense of purpose and meaning. Come quickly, Lord. With mercy and grace, come quickly Lord. Amen**

RESPONSE (Hymn #3)

"Comfort, Comfort You My People"

Psalm 42

CHOIR: Comfort, comfort you my people, tell of peace, thus says our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppressions load.
Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.

ALL: **Make you straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

PEOPLE: **The peace of forgiveness and of hope is ours in Christ Jesus.**

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

***GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal #579) "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."**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Eric Houghton

(At this time the children may leave for Sonshine Mountain.)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“Hark, a Thrilling Voice”

Higginson

GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:25-36

The Gospel of the Lord!
Praise to You, O Christ!

SERMON

“Signs of Hope”

Luke Phillips

THE RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Iona Community

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth of male and female. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman’s womb, servant of the poor. He was tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“Come Now, Redeemer”

Buxtehude

*DOXOLOGY (Hymnal #591) “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 SENDING

*HYMN #15

“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”

Llangloffan

*BENEDICTION

(from 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13)

*RESPONSE (New Century Hymnal) “O How Shall I Receive You”

St. Theodulph

CHOIR: O how shall I receive you, how meet you on your way,
blessed hope of every people, my soul’s delight and stay?
O Jesus, Jesus, give me now by your own pure light,
to know whate’er is pleasing and welcome in your sight.

**ALL: Love caused your incarnation; love brought you unto me;
your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace
in love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.**

*CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

arr. Hann

(The congregation is invited to leave the sanctuary in silence as the Postlude is played.)
**The congregation stands. If standing is difficult for you, please feel free to remain seated.*

NEXT SUNDAY, December 6, 2009 will be the Second Sunday in Advent and the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. *The scripture readings will be: Malachi 3:1-4 (Pew Bible page 778) An Angel of the Covenant will come preparing the way for the coming of the Lord. Philippians 1:3-11 (page 953) Paul praises the faithfulness of the Philippians. Luke 3:1-6 (page 834) John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.*

PRAYER FOR PEACE - GIVING THANKS

Life is hard for many of us. It is hard for some members of our congregation, and hard for some people in our community. Some people are stepping up and volunteering, many of us are bringing food, preparing meals, contributing clothes, giving time to missions or church and community events. All of these things help other church members and help the community hold together and thrive. Even without a cent in the bank, without a friend in the corner, without a guess as to how next month’s telephone bill can be paid, we still have much for which we can give thanks. Compared to others in the world, we in Dunedin are so lucky to live in a world that allows freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, and freedom of worship. We are lucky to be able to choose the volunteering that we will do, and we should be grateful for all these things. *Dear God, help us remember our blessings, the blessings of your peace and the blessings of living in a free country. Keep us ever vigilant and active in protecting our freedoms and the freedoms of others. Give us sensitivity to remember our faith, and courage to remember our duties as citizens. Amen.*

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME and are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin, please indicate your desire to Pastor ByRoade so we can arrange a gathering of our Session.

WE WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE TODAY – Coffee is available in Hager Hall following both services. Coloring pages for children to use during the worship hour are available from the ushers. Before “THE WORD”, girls and boys PK4 through 5th grade are invited to attend Sunday school on “Sonshine Mountain”. Our nursery, for infants through age 3, is in the Christian Education Building, downstairs in Room 103. Large print bulletins and large print hymnals are available from the ushers. Hearing devices are also available. Please ask for one at the sound booth.

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

USHERS: Doug Davis, Chuck Jones, Margie Skinner, Ann Sabo
LITURGIST: Mary Walthall
ACOLYTE: Jonathan Gibbs

SANCTUARY FLOWERS THIS WEEK ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY

Marge and Richard Simon in memory of their aunt Ruth Rogers
Jennette Marsden in memory of her mother Jeannette Marsden

TODAY'S OPPORTUNITIES

8:45 a.m. – Worship Café
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School/Fellowship
10:30 a.m. – Traditional Worship

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Monday (30 th) | 10:00 a.m. | Strong for Life |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Financial Peace University |
| Tuesday (1 st) | 6:30 p.m. | Youth Committee |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Christian Education Committee |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Mission Outreach Committee |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Transit (Young Adult Group) |
| Wednesday (2 nd) | 10:00 a.m. | Strong for Life |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Pot-luck Dinner |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Bible Study (Doyle) |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Handbell Rehearsal |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Video Club |
| | 7:00 p.m. | “Preparing for Advent” – Rev. ByRoade |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Worship Café Rehearsal |
| Thursday (3 rd) | 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal |
| Friday (4 th) | 10:00 a.m. | Finance Committee |
| | 11:45 a.m. | First Friday Conversation |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT FESTIVAL Calling all chili lovers! The 2009 Advent Festival will be held on Sunday, December 6 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. For all you crafters, we need your expertise and ideas for hands-on Advent craft-making that evening. Food, crafts, music, and fun for the whole family! Please call Linda Thies at 736-3058 or email at linthies@earthlink.net and let her know if you can bring a craft or help with preparations.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNER This week will be a pot-luck. Bring a large dish to share!

PREPARING FOR ADVENT Wednesday, December 2, from 7 – 8 p.m. in Hager Hall. As we begin our spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ, join this program about the Season of Advent led by Rev. Victoria ByRoade.

CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE Do you have your Christmas plans in place yet? Do you have space for an international visitor or two? You many want to consider Christmas International House, a Christian ministry designed to offer hospitality to students during the Christmas holidays. International students are given the opportunity to visit an American home and become acquainted with different areas of the country. Students from different colleges and universities around the country select the Tampa Bay area and are housed for a portion of the time at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center in Lithia and the rest of the time in local homes. You would need to house the students from December 23 until December 27. Call Kathy Schultz at 796-2751 from more information.

FIRST FRIDAY CONVERSATIONS GROUP TOUR OF HEP (Homeless Emergency Project) December 4. Dating back 40 years, HEP is the oldest and largest provider of emergency and transitional housing and support services to the homeless in Pinellas County. HEP has a 244 bed facility in Clearwater (dorms and apartments) and is affiliated with Everybody’s Tabernacle Church, Morton Plant Hospital, and Pinellas County Human Services. Join this First Friday Conversation group tour. Newcomers always welcome. Carpool from the church parking lot at 10:15 a.m. Lunch at HEP (\$5.00 donation). Shop at the HEP Thrift Store after lunch. Return by 1 p.m. **PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED** by December 3rd – call the church office at 733-2318. Program Coordinator: Bev Weese

FIRST SAMARITANS Be among the **FIRST** to come to the **FIRST** meeting of the **FIRST** Samaritans. This **FIRST** meeting will be on the **FIRST** Monday, Dec. 7 at 7 PM In the **FIRST** Church Library. This **FIRST** meeting will focus on **FIRST** training and **FIRST** opportunity to call on a **FIRST** member as a **FIRST** Samaritan. For more information call Welch Agnew, 738-1319; Peggy George, 447-9880; or Mary Walthall, 733-4609 for **FIRST** hand information. Be **FIRST**!

IT’S TEA TIME! High Tea at High Noon on Saturday, December 12 in Hager Hall hosted by Sarah Circle. We are excited to have Emily Harris, Teaching Artist/Storyteller as our guest. Tickets for the tea are \$6.00. Reservations can be made through your circle leader or by calling Lynn Steuernagle at 736-3850. The deadline for reservations is Monday, December 7. We hope you will join us for a delightful and special afternoon.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS Sign up in Hager Hall on the bulletin board to sponsor a poinsettia for the December 20th and 24th worship services. Cost is \$8.00 per plant. They may be taken home following the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS “MOURNING” SERVICE next Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for those who find the holidays overwhelming, sad, or lonely. This service is designed to help bring holiday memories and grief together in a supportive spiritual environment. See Pastor ByRode for details.

DECEMBER FLOWER DEDICATIONS If you requested flowers in December, please notify the church office of your dedications. The original Flower Chart has been mis-placed. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUESTS the names of people who have requested prayer are listed in italics the first week of their request and any time there are changes in their condition or place of recuperation. A complete listing of the people for whom we need to lift our prayers will also be provided for you in each edition of THE VOICE. (Please call the church office if you have a prayer concern.)

- *Family and friends of Josephine Canaan Steph, grandmother of Edie Marmelstein, who died in upstate New York*
- Mary Greenlee-Krull, mother of Joanne Maddox, following cancer surgery
- John Eichenberger, nephew of David and Bobbie Eichenberger, preparing to be fitted for his first prosthesis
- Anne Trahan, mother of Betsi Lewis-Knapp, under Hospice care
- Scott Miller, friend of Debbie and Keith Watson, diagnosed with lung cancer
- Hazel Aughenbaugh at Manor Care following a fall
- Ron McDermott at Consolate of St. Petersburg rehab center
- Blanche Kirchoffer recovering at Baytree Rehab
- Mae Harrington, daughter of Leona Baker Everitt, following surgery on November 2
- Jean Joiner at home recovering from surgery
- Marge Vilsoet, Don Hart, and Monica Adams undergoing cancer treatments
- Sandi Geller, family friend of Dave and Bobbie Eichenberger, following surgery
- Thelma Powell recuperating at home following knee surgery
- Paul Kuehner recovering from cancer surgery
- Fran Iosa, mother of Jeff Iosa, being treated for cancer
- For improved health: Barbara Frett, Marion Guthrie, Martha Brinklow, Betsy Perkins, Bill Vilsoet, Sharyn Ramirez, Lois Krebs, Dotsie Dauble, Peg Harvie, Dee Faust, Walter Brashear, Dave Dauble, Eva Marcantel
- All our members who reside in skilled nursing homes
- The Transfiguration Faith Community of St. Petersburg, a new church development in the Presbytery of Tampa Bay
- Luke Phillips, our contemporary worship leader, as he begins the process toward ordination
- First Presbyterian Church in our desire to be responsible stewards of our talents and finances

COOKIE DOUGH WILL ARRIVE DECEMBER 2! The cookie dough from the Sanctuary Choir fundraiser will be delivered Wednesday afternoon, December 2. If you purchased cookie dough, please make plans to pick it up that evening or as soon as possible afterwards. Thanks again to all who helped raise funds for the choir.

ADOPT A FAMILY CHRISTMAS (2009 Homeless Emergency Project – HEP) is back! We have multiple families who need our help with Christmas gifts this year. Please stop by Hager Hall after the service and sign up to purchase a gift or two. You purchase and wrap and we will deliver! You will then be a part of lots of smiles on Christmas morn.

RCS FOOD BANK TOTALS FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Dave Wolters has received these figures from the Food Bank Advisory Committee reports:

FPC total from 1 October to 1 October – 1,651 lbs. (enough for about 127 individual servings @ 13 lbs each or about 44% of one single day food distributed by RCS to feed a daily average of 285 individuals)

FPC total from 1 January to 1 October – 1,297 lbs. (enough for about 100 individual servings @ 13 lbs. each or about 35% of one single day food distributed by RCS to feed a daily average of 285 individuals)

- Thanks to all who support this worthy organization! Elizabeth Saunders, Liaison for RCS

First Church Financial Status on: November 25, 2009

| <i>Operating Funds</i> | <i>Revenue</i> | <i>Expenses</i> | <i>Surplus (Deficit)</i> |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Church | \$ 340,309 | \$ 420,572 | \$ (80,263) |
| Pre-School | \$ 205,730 | \$ 194,202 | \$ 11,528 |
| Totals: | \$ 546,039 | \$ 614,774 | \$ (68,735) |

Tithes and other contributions to First Church are almost 10 percent below expectations for this point in the year.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DUNEDIN

**455 SCOTLAND STREET
DUNEDIN, FLORIDA 34698
TELEPHONE: 727-733-2318**

WEB SITE: fpcdunedin.org EMAIL: officeadminfpc@tampabay.rr.com

MINISTERS

PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

PARISH ASSOCIATE

PASTOR EMERITUS

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST

YOUNG LIFE CHURCH PARTNER

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER/MINISTRY INTERN

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

ASSISTANT TO ADMINISTRATOR

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

CUSTODIAN

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

All the Members
The Rev. Victoria M. Gardner ByRode
The Rev. Willard N. Doyle
The Rev. W. Martin Hager
Stephen L. Allen
Jeff Iosa
Luke Phillips
Donna Dayock
Stephen L. Allen
Betsi Knapp
David Rodman
Cori LoCicero

THE SESSION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DUNEDIN

MODERATOR: Rev. Victoria ByRode

CLERK OF SESSION: John Brockman

Class of 2010

Jim Gibbs
Marion Guthrie
Jim Szatkowski
Mary Walthall

Class of 2011

Welch Agnew
Bob Blocher
John Brockman
Marge Brown
Greg Long
Clare McGrane

Class of 2012

Rosalie Bergman
Tami Ehmig
David Eichenberger
Beverly Fisher
Peggy George
Ann Sabo

The Mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin is to worship God joyfully, love all people genuinely, help those in need selflessly and share the gospel of salvation freely.

Historic

First Presbyterian

Church of Dunedin



Historic First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin, Florida

“Continuing God's Work Since 1871”

455 Scotland Street - Dunedin, Florida 34698

Victoria ByRode - Pastor

Telephone: 727-733-2318

www.fpcdunedin.org

email: officeadminfpc@tampabay.rr.com