

Sunday Worship

February 10, 2019

We welcome you to worship.

Meditation in Preparation for Worship

*“There is a plan and a purpose, a value to every life,
no matter what its location, age, gender or disability.”*

(Sharron Angle)

Prelude “Sheep May Safely Graze” (from the *Birthday Cantata*) J.S. Bach

Introit Piano Improvisation and Hymn

Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Call to Worship (Psalm 111:1a, 2a, 3) Responsively

Leader: “Praise the Lord! I thank the Lord with all my heart

Congregation: The works of the Lord are magnificent;

Leader: God’s deeds are majestic and glorious.

Congregation: God’s righteousness stands forever.”

***Hymn of Praise No. 469** “Morning Has Broken” Buinessan

***Opening Prayer**

First Scripture Reading (p. 766) Psalm 121

Time with the Children (11 a.m.)

Gathering Song: “This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made”

“This is the day, this is the day,
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
I will rejoice, I will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made,
I will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day, that the Lord has made.”

Going Song: “Jesus Loves Me”

“Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong; they are weak but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.”

Children 3-years-old through Kindergarten are excused for Bible Bunch (Bible Bunch Rm)

Children in grades 1 through 5 are excused for Sunday School (Sunday School Rm)

Minute for Hometown Sunday Pat Breman

Commissioning of New Members

Presentation

9 a.m.: Harriet Petruccio, Carlene Sclafani, Doug Wiles, and Tenna Wiles

Covenant Questions and Promises

To the new members: Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you, as a believer in Jesus Christ and as a member of this church, act out your faith in the world, in your work and in your family?

I will.

Do you covenant to be an active member of this church through your life in the world and support of this church?

I do.

To the congregation: As a congregation, will you support these new members with your encouragement and your prayers, as together we seek to call upon and praise God?

We will, God being our help. May God give us all grace to share ministry together that Christ may be glorified in this place.

Charge by the Pastor

Welcoming Prayer

Hymn of Welcome

“Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.”

Prayers of the People

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; 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 Ministry of The Church

(Please sign and pass the red friendship book.)

Offering . . . *“Freely we have received, freely let us give.”*

Offertory Anthem

“God Go Before You”

Roy Hopp

“God go before you to lead you.
God go behind you to protect you.
God go beneath you to befriend you.
Do not be afraid.
And let the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son,
And the Holy Spirit come upon you and settle in around you.
Do not be afraid.
Go in peace in love and serve the Lord.
Amen.”

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

“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.”

***Affirmation of Faith**

Philippians 4:4-7

Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don’t be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

Robyn Lamp and Alejandro Viera

“I pray you’ll be our eyes and watch us where we go
And help us to be wise in times when we don’t know
Let this be our prayer as we go our way
Lead us to a place guide us with your grace
To a place where we’ll be safe

La luce che to dai
I pray we'll find your light
Nel cuore restero
And hold it in our hearts
A ricordarchi che
When stars go out each night
L’eterna stella sei
Nella mia preghiera
Let this be our prayer
Quanta fede see’e
When shadows fill our day

Lead us to a place guide us with your grace
Give us faith so we’ll be safe.

Sognamo un mondo senza piu violenza
Un mondo di giustizia e di speranza
Ognuno dia la mano al suo vicino
Simbolo di pace e di fraternita

La forza che ci dai
We ask that life be kind
E’il desiderio che
And watch us from above
Ognuno trovi amore
We hope each soul will find
Intorno e dentro a se
Another soul to love

Let this be our prayer, let this be our prayer
Just like every child, just like every child
Needs to find a place, guide us with your grace
Give us faith so we’ll be safe

E la fede che, Hai acceso in noi, Sento che ci salver”

Second Scripture Reading (p. 1415)

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Message

“How to Handle Our Handicaps”

Dr. Hood

***Hymn of Dedication No. 282**

Wer nur den lieben Gott

“If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee”

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“Trumpet Tune”

David Johnson

*The congregation is invited to stand, if you are able.

The Church Bell is rung in loving memory of Cecil (1903-1979) and Margaret (1898-1990) Cross. Prior to Sunday morning worship, the bell from our original Sanctuary is rung in memory of those in our Memorial Garden. Let us pause to give thanks for all who have gone before us, who rest in the peace of God, thanking God for the Christian witness of their lives.

The **flowers** that beautify the Chancel this morning are given in loving memory of Bart and Betty Bartholomew, by Buzz Bartholomew and family and all the caregivers who knew and loved them.

Our Condolences

are extended to the family of Clem Henderson, upon his death on January 27, 2019. A private Memorial Service will be held in Chicago.

are also extended to the family of Irene Gorman, upon her death on February 4, 2019. A private Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have recently lost loved ones.

Gift to

Food for the Needy from Lianne Somerville, in loving memory of Marty Baker.

Music Notes

We do all types of music here. Today Robyn Lamp and Alejandro Viera will do "The Prayer," a popular song made famous by Andrea Bocelli, Josh Grobin, and Celine Dion. The song has a memorable melody, and a simple, multilingual message. We hope that you will enjoy this rather unusual music selection.

Take Note

Stewardship 2019: Our thanks to members and friends of our congregation who have made their stewardship pledge for 2019. Thus far, we have received 226 pledges, totaling \$827,623. If you have not yet made your pledge for 2019 we encourage you to make it as soon as possible. Estimate of giving cards are available in the pews. You may place these in the offering plate, mail them to the church office or call Christine Davis in the financial office (561-276-6338, ext. 16), and make a verbal pledge by phone. Please note that if you are currently using automated payments through your bank or credit card to make your pledge, we still need a completed pledge card from you. Let us all be faithful to our calling as Disciples of Christ and support the work of Christ's Church.

Capital Campaign pledges reach the goal of \$3.5 million! Exciting news that we achieved this in early July 2018 and we are less than \$200,000 away from collecting all of it, as many made a pledge on the three year plan which ends later this year. Our debt on this project is very low, and assuming the pledges come in as planned, we expect to be debt-free again as a church as soon as possible. If you have made a pledge and are able to finish off your fulfillment of such pledge, it will put us at our goal of full collection.

Today, Sunday, February 10th, is **Blanket Sunday**, sponsored by the women of the church and Church World Services. Financial gifts can provide blankets and other emergency shelter items in the wake of a disaster. Look for the Blanket Sunday Offering Envelope in the pew and consider a donation.

Dinner and a Movie (and Babysitting on Valentine's Day). **This Thursday, February 14th, Valentine's Day**, from **6 p.m. to 9 p.m.**, as parents go about their dates, we are hosting a children-only event with pizza, games, and a popular children's movie. The cost is \$20 per child, by reservation only. 100% of the profits will go directly toward the Deacons' Scholarship Fund. **Reservations** may be made in the Narthex, on our website under *Upcoming Events*, or by calling the church office (561-276-6338), no later than February 12th.

Home Town Sunday, February 17th, sponsored by the Fellowship Committee, is a day to celebrate our origins. Join us **between the services next Sunday**, in **Fellowship Hall and the Courtyard** for this fellowship opportunity to connect with each other. If you have not already completed your hometown form, they are available on the Welcome Center.

February is one of two months during the year when we **collect food staples** for the Community Food Pantry. Any canned products or boxes of non-perishable, unopened, unexpired products are needed. Food may be left in the Narthex during the week or on Sunday mornings.

Stop by the **Narthex** and purchase **Doug Hood's new book Nurture Faith: Five Minutes to Strengthen Your Walk with Christ for \$15**. This expanded edition of Heart & Soul: Volume 2 contains 24% new material in a more compact design.

Our **Sunday School and Bible Bunch** have been growing steadily. We are **looking for an assistant to help the teachers**. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone who would like to share their love of God with the children of our church. If you are interested, please contact Grace Hood (561-276-6338, ext. 17 or gracehood@firstdelray.com).

For Our Younger Worshippers

Children's Worship Activities and Bibles are at the **Children's Table** in the **Covered Patio** for use during worship. Please return the clipboards and Bibles to the table after the service.

Connect with First Presbyterian Church

Please join us in the **Narthex** at **10 a.m.** for a **Coffee Break** and at **noon** for **Fellowship Hour**, our times of fellowship.

Read **Doug Hood's weekly meditation** through our church website (www.firstdelray.com) under *Resources*. Don't forget to subscribe to his meditation so that you do not miss any of the postings.

For those interested in taking notes during the worship service, a **Sermon Notes Page** is available by the west door.

If you are a member of the church and need a **blue** First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach **parking sticker**, stop by the church office during the week.

Members who would like to receive **email notification of members' deaths and memorial services** should contact Nancy Fine (nancyfine@firstdelray.com).

If you would like to receive your **Spire Newsletter electronically**, please email Nancy Fine (nancyfine@firstdelray.com), text FPCDELRAYBEACH to 22828 (message and data rates may apply), or complete the online form on our website (www.firstdelray.com) under *Resources*.

Sunday Mornings

Please turn off your **cell phones and electronic devices** during the worship service.

Closed Circuit TV is available for viewing the worship service in the **Quiet Room**.

Children's Worship Activities and Bibles are at the **Children's Tables** in the **Covered Patio** for use during worship.

Large Print Bulletins and Hearing Devices are available from the Deacons.

Nursery Care for children from birth through Kindergarten is available from **8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the **Nursery**.

Sunday Children's Programs

Bible Bunch Sunday School meets after the Children's Time during the **11 a.m. worship service**. Children 3 years old through Kindergarten should follow the class leaders to the **Bible Bunch Room**. The class is led by Alice Barrett and Iva Branscombe.

Sunday School for Children in 1st through 5th grade, meets after the Children's Time during the **11 a.m. worship service**. They are using the *Growing in Grace and Gratitude* curriculum. The class is led by Grace Hood and Liz Landes in the **Sunday School Room**.

Youth Group

There is **no Refuge Youth Group** this **Friday, February 15th**. Confirmation students should attend a **Confirmation Class** from **noon to 2 p.m., today, Sunday, February 10th** in the **Youth Room**. Lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Greg Rapier (561-276-6338, ext. 13 or gregrapier@firstdelray.com).

Young Adults

Join us for **Show and Tell next Sunday, February 17th** at **noon** in the **Youth Room**. Bring something meaningful to your faith (a photo, tattoo, bible, person, anything!) Children are welcome to share too. For more information, contact Greg Rapier (gregrapier@firstdelray.com or 561-276-6338, ext. 13).

Weekly Education Programs

The **Monday Morning Women's Bible Study** meets **Mondays** at **10 a.m.** in the **Youth Room**. They are using the video study, "Reading Biblical Literature: Genesis to Revelation", by Professor Craig Koester. All women are welcome. For more information, contact Linda Prior (561-276-6338).

Men's Fellowship meets on **Thursday** at **8:30 a.m.** in the **Meeting Room**. They are discussing the Nurture Faith from Sunday's bulletin. For more information, contact Bruce Gimmy (561-276-6338).

The **Women's Discipleship Group** meets on **Thursdays** at **10 a.m.** in the **Meeting Room**. All women are invited to attend the study on Growing to be like Christ, Doing Life Together by Zondervan and Rick Warren.

Monthly Educational Program

The **Monday Women's Book Group** meets on **Monday, March 4th**, at **12:30 p.m.** in the **Meeting Room**. All women are invited to attend the discussion on Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. Contact Martha Smith (561-276-6338) for more information.

Music

The **Chancel Choir** rehearses on **Sunday** mornings at **10:15 a.m.** to prepare for the worship service and on **Thursday** evenings at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Choir Room**. Don Cannarozzi is available for those who may be a little shy about becoming part of this ministry. You can speak with him after service, or contact him (dcannaro@hotmail.com) for more information.

Westminster Ringers (for adults and high school youth) is on **Thursdays** in the **Bell Room** from **6:30 p.m. to 7:20 p.m.** Contact Jim Poch (561-276-6338, ext. 24 or jimpoch@firstdelray.com) for more information.

Financial Considerations

There is a very convenient way to **donate online** to First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach through the Presbyterian Mission Exchange which is part of the 200+ year old Presbyterian Foundation and transfers your donation promptly. Visit the church website (www.firstdelray.com) under *Give* for more information.

On December 18, 2015, the President signed legislation indefinitely extending the **charitable IRA rollover provision** enabling IRA owners ages 70½ or older to make a direct, tax-free transfer to First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach or the charity of their choice. Certain limitations apply so please consult your tax adviser.

Remember the Church When Estate Planning. Our Endowment and Remembrance Funds are two excellent opportunities for your giving consideration, be it your will, stocks, or as a named beneficiary to an insurance policy. This financially wise method of stewardship helps ensure the long-term financial stability of the church and provides a planned means for the church to continue its role in the lives of our members and those to whom we reach out, in our community and beyond. For more information on long-term giving, call the church office (561-276-6338).

Membership

Are you interested in **joining our church**? If so, we would love to see you on **Sunday, March 3rd** in the **Covered Patio immediately following the 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. worship service**. In order to join, no reservations or classes are required for those who have been previously baptized.

Invite a family member, friend, neighbor, co-worker, or business associate to worship with us. Share your faith and love for Christ's Church with others.

Mission Opportunity

We are making **Hygiene Kits** for The Caring Kitchen. If you have unopened travel size items that you would like to donate, please put them in the collection basket in the Narthex.

Employment Connections Ministry – Career Shepherds

The **Employment Connections Ministry** assists individuals to get career guidance. We invite all church members to join this ministry by lending their expertise and availability to mentor or help for whatever time they may have available. Contact Richard Story (561-276-6338) or Nancy Fine (561-276-6338, ext. 10 or nancyfine@firstdelray.com) for more information.

Church Membership Directory

The **Pictorial Church Membership Directory** is available online for members of the church. Visit our website (www.firstdelray.com) under *Connect* for more information.

Prayer Ministry Team

The **Prayer Ministry Team** meets on **Wednesdays** at **3 p.m.** in the **Youth Room** to pray together for all those who request prayers. Each request is treated with respect, confidentiality, and caring. You are **invited to join** this team by calling Sharon Koch (561-276-6338).

Prayer Concern Cards are in the pews. If you have a specific prayer concern, please complete a card and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Concerns are forwarded to members of the Prayer Ministry Team and pastoral staff.

Pennies from Heaven

Help us support the battle against hunger and poverty at home and away through our **Pennies from Heaven** Offering. Collect 5 cents per family member per meal each day. All monies collected are donated on a quarterly basis to local, regional, and national food programs. We collected \$652.39 from the **January Offering**. Since September 2012, we have collected \$37,214.06. Our next collection is on **Sunday, February 24th**.

Hospitalization

If you or a family member are **hospitalized**, please notify the church office (561-276-6338). Even if you give the name of the church upon admission, the hospital will not notify us.

Special Prayer List as of February 5th

Please keep our members and friends in your thoughts and prayers this week.

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God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us

Hymn Written for Blanket Sunday

“God, you wrap your love around us, Like a blanket, soft and warm.
You give rest when we are weary, you protect us from the storm.
May each person who finds shelter, in these blankets that we share,
Also feel the joy and comfort, of your love’s protecting care.

Jesus, you were once a baby, sought by those who would destroy.
Into Egypt you were carried - - Far from home, a little boy.
Were you wrapped up warm to travel, safe from terror, free from harm?
Did you feel God’s strong protection, snuggled there in Mary’s arm?

May the women, men and children, fleeing danger every day,
Know, through us, your living presence; you walk with them on their way.
Spirit, as you give them comfort, teach us here to freely give;
May we blanket this world over, with your love, so all may live.”

(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

NURTURE FAITH

with
Dr. W. Douglas Hood, Jr.

Living Positively with Our Handicaps

READ: 2 Corinthians 12:9b (Common English Bible)

“So I’ll gladly spend my time bragging about my weaknesses so that Christ’s power can rest on me.”

REFLECT:

Bragging about our weaknesses is uncommon. What is customary – even encouraged – is that we “hide” our weaknesses and present the illusion of a life that is lived in a tranquil manner that is deep and even and unhindered by frailties. One unfortunate result is the deep disillusionment that is experienced when we find our heroes far too human, with frailties and weaknesses like our own. We look for people who seem to have no limitations, no handicaps, no imperfections and we aspire to be like them. In no small manner, people with weaknesses are not considered worthy of our admiration and praise.

Naturally, the danger of finding such a person, a person who is unencumbered by difficulties and imperfections, is to know someone who also possesses considerable conceit. They need no one; they require nothing for their journey through life, not even God. Worse, when understood correctly, their perfection fails to inspire those of us who struggle with handicaps. Another’s perfection can only result in our despair. This is why Paul “brags” about his weaknesses – Paul’s interest is that we praise only God and that we find in his broken, imperfect life reason for encouragement as we struggle with our own handicaps.

Paul did pray multiple times that his handicap might be removed. That is a demonstration of his humanity. It is an honest prayer that we have no doubt prayed ourselves. Yet, our spiritual condition is developed, positively or negatively, from the place of our weaknesses. For many, the first and instinctive reaction toward our limitations is a negative attitude – a rebellion or self-pity. We revolt against our limitations. Such a negative struggle often advances to cursing God. What we fail to see is that disappointment with our imperfection arises from conceit – we expect to be perfect. That is a poor spiritual condition indeed!

Paul’s positive and hopeful response to his weaknesses demonstrates that anyone, regardless of his limitations, can make a spiritual contribution to the world. History is replete with stories of people who rise up and make great contributions in spite of handicaps. These are the stories that inspire each of us to push through whatever difficulties hinder us and advance our lives and the lives of others. Anyone fortunate enough to have the charm and looks of a prince, excellent physical and mental health and is untroubled by limitations, fails to inspire those who struggle daily under limitations. It is not easy to estimate the spiritual stimulus that comes into human life from handicapped people who have found that Christ’s power is sufficient for them.

This Week: February 10th through February 14th

Sunday, February 10th

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Nursery Care – Nursery
9 a.m.	Worship Service – Sanctuary
10 a.m.	Coffee Hour – Narthex
10 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Step-Above-Rummage Sale
10:15 a.m.	Chancel Choir – Choir Room
11 a.m.	Worship Service – Sanctuary
11 a.m.	Bible Bunch Sunday School – Bible Bunch Room
11 a.m.	Sunday School (1 st – 5 th grades) – Sunday School Room
12 p.m.	Fellowship Hour – Narthex
12 p.m.	Confirmation Class – Youth Room
12 p.m.	Fellowship Team Meeting – Conference Room
12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	Step-Above-Rummage Sale

Monday, February 11th

10 a.m.	Monday Morning Women’s Bible Study – Youth Room
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Tuesday, February 12th

10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting – Dr. Hood’s Study
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Wednesday, February 13th

3 p.m.	Prayer Ministry Team – Youth Room
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Thursday, February 14th

8:30 a.m.	Men’s Fellowship – Meeting Room
10 a.m.	Women’s Discipleship Group – Meeting Room
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.	Dinner and a Movie Night for Kids – Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m.	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal – Bell Room
7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

