

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST RESUMES ON 1/9, 7:00 A.M. (PAD)

PRAYER LUNCHEON/HEALTH EDUCATION LUNCHEON

Plan to come Wednesday, January 9 for the latest in our series of Health Education Luncheons. Parish Nurse Lisa Marisiddiah will walk us through health topics. The program is free beginning at 12:30 p.m.; lunch is available for \$6.00 at noon. Come a few minutes late or leave a few minutes early as needed to make this work with your schedule. RSVP to the Reception Desk by Monday, 1/7/19.

SAVE THE DATE FOR "CELEBRATE JOHN FRYE DAY"

Sunday, January 13 will be "John Frye Day" as we worship together on his final Sunday at FPC with one service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and a reception 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. (Children's Sunday school will not meet; some adult classes will meet at 9:00 a.m.)

LOVE OFFERING FOR DR. FRYE

The church is collecting a love offering to show appreciation to Dr. Frye upon his retirement. Gifts can be made any time between now and January 6. Please make out checks to "First Presbyterian Church" with "love offering: John Frye" in the memo line.

HELP HOST FAMILY PROMISE

There is a spot for you to join in the fellowship and service! We host January 13-20. Your help would be greatly appreciated! Sign up at www.fpcgastonia.org.

FOOD DRIVE FOR CAM

In January, we will collect non-perishable food items for Crisis Assistance Ministry (CAM). Look for baskets near the entrances where you can bring these items to help our neighbors.

FAITH AND FICTION

Faith and Fiction will meet on Sunday, January 6, at 4:00 p.m. at Covenant Village. We will meet in the Living Room on the 3rd Floor of the B-Building. We will discuss *Adnan's Story* by Rabia Chaudry. Our hostesses will be Esther Nelson and Vicky Wilson.

FPC TO HOST JANUARY 26 PRESBYTERY MEETING

Join us as we welcome ministers and elders from across the presbytery for worship, the work of the church, and lunch. Roger Rizk is recruiting greeters. Rissie Bryant and Mary Sumner could use your help providing hospitality through decorating and food. We will also need Communion stewards (see Nancy Harrill). Plan to pitch in as we make this a presbytery meeting to remember!

WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church - where faith is alive! Your presence here is our honor and joy. We pray that your heart is encouraged, that the Word is clear, and that you go from this place renewed and refreshed - in search of an ever deeper connection with our awesome God! If you would like more information about First Presbyterian Church, please sign the welcome forms in your pew or stop by the welcome table.

PROFESSIONAL NURSERY CARE is offered for infants and children up to five years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Worship activity boards and age-appropriate books related to the scripture lesson are available in the Narthex near the entrance to the Sanctuary. We also have Children's Church every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of each month. Children's Church is a worship experience designed especially for children (kindergarten through grade 3). It begins after A Time for Young Disciples in the worship service and meets in the Chapel.

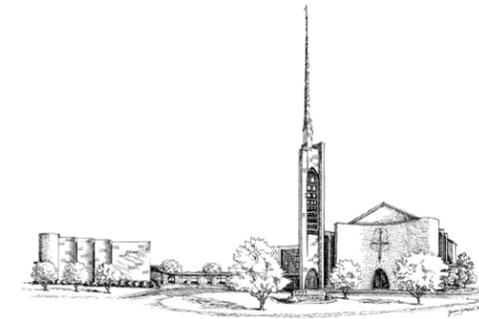
Leading worship today are:

*Pastor John H. Stanley, Minister of Visitation;
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore, Associate Pastor;
Bethany Jennings, Director of Music Ministries;
David Jennings, Organist*



All FPC worship services are streamed live on our website.

www.fpcgastonia.org/watchlive



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 6, 2019
Epiphany of the Lord
11:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

CARILLON PEAL

Please enter to worship in a spirit of reverence.

WORDS OF WELCOME AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore

ORGAN PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION

I Saw Three Ships

DALE WOOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

There is good news of great joy for all!
Our Savior is born: The Messiah, the Lord.
Tell the good news throughout the earth:
the saving grace of Jesus Christ is for all.
Let us worship God.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN #151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

WE APPROACH GOD

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light. You have searched for us, and yet we hide from you. You have lavished us with blessing, and yet we treasure earthly things. Forgive us, God of grace. Let the mystery of your saving love be revealed, even in our lives, according to your eternal purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord...(silent confession)...Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI #581

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6 pew Bible, New Testament pg. 690

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12 pew Bible, New Testament pg. 2

This is the Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor John H. Stanley
"Consistency is Key, Part 2"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, *The 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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ORGAN OFFERTORY

†DOXOLOGY

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE SURSUM CORDA

The LORD be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the LORD.
Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Let us pray,

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

We praise you Almighty God for your creating power and providential care in making the world; establishing the covenant; giving the law, speaking truth through the prophets; showing mercy in spite of our sin; and above all, we praise you and thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ. In joyful praise, in union with all creation and with the people of God in every time and place we proclaim:
Holy, holy, holy are you, God of mystery and hope. All creation honors your name. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who calls us to faithful living. Hosanna in the highest!

With thanksgiving, we remember: Christ's birth, life, and ministry; his death and resurrection; his ascension to reign; and the promise of his return.

With thanksgiving, we remember the gift of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Recalling the institution of the Lord's Supper. With gratitude, we offer our lives to God in service and praise, as we celebrate this holy meal.

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

We call upon the Holy Spirit: to draw us into communion with Christ; to nourish us in Christ's body; to make us one with Christ and with the universal church; to keep us faithful in ministry; and to hasten the coming of the reign of God.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

We rejoice in the divine majesty of Christ; whose glory shines forth. For us and for our salvation, we give you thanks eternal God as we share this meal today and offer the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples to pray, saying....

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

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

†CHARGE AND BENECTION

†ORGAN POSTLUDE

Noel Nouvelet

DALE WOOD

†If you are able, please stand.