

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

695 E. Calvin Street, Fayetteville, AR 72703 • (479) 442-4411 • www.fupcfay.org

*Please stand as you are able.

March 22, 2020

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Phil Butin

(Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to others.)

OPENING PRAYER

Sovereign God, as we shelter in various places this morning, we are reminded that worship can happen wherever we are, whenever we lift our hearts and lives to you in joy or cry out to you in despair. Though we cannot be together, we are connected by your Spirit. Draw us together in bonds of love for one another and gather us into your infinite care. Today especially, we acknowledge that you are near—alive and at work in the world, amid all that feels uncertain. Deepen our trust. And, Lord, teach us to pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich
From Psalm 130 - "Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord"
Johann Walther

Jeannie Lee

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jacob Christiansen and Kristi Button

Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord. (Psalm 130:1)

Lord, hear our voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our supplications. (Psalm 130:2)

In your word we hope.

We are hard pressed on every side yet not crushed, perplexed but not in despair, anxious but not forsaken, feeling abandoned and lonely but not destroyed. (2 Corinthians 4:8-9)

You are in control of all things, today and always.

Cast all your cares on God because God cares for you. (2 Peter 5:7)

Come to us in our fears and sadness. Meet us in our concerns.

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone make me dwell in safety. (Psalm 4:8)

Look on us with mercy! Lend us your protection.

You keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on you, because they trust in you. (Isaiah 26:3)

Cover us with your perfect peace.

These things I have spoken unto you that in Me you might have peace. In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer—I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

*HYMN 177

I Will Come to You
Text and Music by David Haas

Glory to God

"I will come to you in the silence; I will lift you from all your fear.

You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be still and know I am here.

I am hope for all who are hopeless; I am eyes for all who long to see.

In the shadow of the night, I will be your light. Come and rest in me.

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.

Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."

"I am strength for all the despairing, healing for the ones who dwell in shame.

All the blind will see; the lame will all run free, and all will know my name.

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.

Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."

"I am the Word that leads all to freedom; I am the peace the world cannot give.

I will call your name, embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk and live!

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.

Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(seated, unison)*

Lord, we look to you today, knowing we are broken people. Out of need, we have prayed more but, in some ways, we have trusted you less. The daily news has been difficult to hear, filling us with worry, fear, and anxiety. We have scrambled to fill our shelves and pantries and to ensure, in as much as it depends on us, that we will be safe and well. We have distanced ourselves while still trying to be good neighbors. As our jobs require, we have gone out to do the important work you call us to do. We have never lived like this—completely at your mercy, wondering if you will take care of us. Then, suddenly, your peace prevails and we know that you will. Because you are always with us. Because in life and in death we belong to you. Forgive us when we forget that you are God. Let your calm rule in us. Help us open ourselves to you in prayer and see you ever present. *(silent confession)* Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE 820

*Nothing Can Trouble/Nada te turbe
(Sing three verses—English, Spanish, English.)*

Glory to God

Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting.

Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

Nada te turbe, nada te espante, Quien a Dios tiene nada le falta,

Nada te turbe, nada te espante, Solo Dios basta.

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

Brianne Christiansen

CHILDREN'S SONG 2233

Where Children Belong
Words and Music by James Ritchie

Sing the Faith

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ANTHEM

Safe Within Your Arms
Words and Music by Mark Hayes

Isaac Thomas, vocal solo

*Whether I'm right or whether I'm wrong, whether I'm weak or whether I'm strong,
whether I'm sure or maybe confused, feeling loved or feeling used.*

I know a place where I can go, somewhere that winter winds don't blow.

There I am warmed by loving arms, held with care, next to Your heart.

And I'm safe, within Your arms, Lord. I've become a child again.

I've come back to the source of love, where healing can begin.

Though the world would say I must be strong and prove my worth by what I do,

I will rest assured in Your embrace and find my strength in You.

*Whether I'm walking in the light or whether I'm stumbling through the night,
You are a God whose promise endures; though undeserved, Your love is sure.*

*When I am tempted to pursue plans that may lead me far away from You,
gently You call, "My child, come home. I will never let go of one of my own."*

And I'm safe, within Your arms, Lord. I've become a child again.

I've come back to the source of love, where healing can begin.

Though the world would say I must be strong and prove my worth by what I do,

I will rest assured in Your embrace and find my strength in You.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING James 5:13-18

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷ Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

SERMON

Prayer Amid Life's Disappointments

Rev. Jan Butin

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Psalm 23*)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil:
for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Improvisation on "Rockingham"

***RESPONSE 652**

A Grateful Heart - Psalm 111 Glory to God
Text by David Gambrell; Music by *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, 1783;
harm. Edward Miller, 1790

A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering,
Among the saints I lift my voice; in you, O God, I will rejoice.

With saving love you set us free, and still you dwell in mystery
with wisdom none can comprehend, Your praise, O God, will never end.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God in your grace, you hear our 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.

SENDING

*HYMN 661

*Why Should I Feel Discouraged
(His Eye is on the Sparrow)*

Glory to God

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” his tender word I hear,
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears,
though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

(Refrain) I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy) I sing because I'm free (I'm free)
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Healer of Our Ever Ill
Music by Marty Haugen. Arranged by Jeffrey Honoré

Glory to God

Give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

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PASTORS AND STAFF

Rev. Leslie Belden, Parish Associate

Rev. Jan Butin, Co-Pastor

Rev. Phil Butin, Co-Pastor

Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education

Noelia Cerna, Office Manager

Brianne Christiansen, Co-Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Jacob Christiansen, Co-Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Cathy Hairston, Director of First School

Jeannie Lee, Organist

Molly Murray, Childcare Coordinator

Ben Ober, Coffee Bar Coordinator

Isaac Thomas, Director of Music Ministries

Christopher Verdery, Audio-Visual Coordinator

Laura Winburn, Financial Administrator

lbelden@fupcfay.org

jbutin@fupcfay.org

pbutin@fupcfay.org

kbutton@fupcfay.org

officemanager@fupcfay.org

bchristiansen@fupcfay.org

jchristiansen@fupcfay.org

chairston@fupcfay.org

jlee@fupcfay.org

childcare@fupcfay.org

coffeebarcoordinator@fupcfay.org

ithomas@fupcfay.org

sound@fupcfay.org

lwinburn@fupcfay.org