

1st Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2015

John B. Nisbet, III

Organist: Dr. Susie F. Dempsey

Lay Reader
Laura Underhill

Elder Greeter
Cosper Bell

Ushers
Hannah and Steve Underhill

Gathering

First Ringing of the Bell ∞ Music for Meditation

Second Ringing of the Bell ∞ Opening of the Bible

Welcome, Joys, Concerns, and Announcements

Prelude *Elegiac Prelude on "Jerusalem"* Charles Callahan

Call to Worship

One: Dear Friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God.

All: Help us to love and therefore know God.

Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer

†Hymn *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* Hymnal #457

†Affirmation of Faith *excerpted from the Confession of Belhar*

We believe . . .

That Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;

That unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;

That this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted;

That this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities

for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God;

That true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we know that you love us and that you call us to fullness of life, but around us and within us we see the brokenness of the world and of our ways. Our successes leave us empty; our progress does not satisfy. Our prosperous land is not the promised land of our longing. We acknowledge the truth in President Carter's statement "If you don't want your tax dollars to help the poor, then stop saying you want a country based on Christian values, because you don't." Forgive our willful neglect of your world and word, our insensitivity to the needs of others, and our failure to feed the spirit that is within all of us: through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. *Amen.*

Moment for Personal, Silent Confession

The Kyrie Eleison *-All are invited to sing-* Hymnal # 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

†The Gloria Patri

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.

The Word

Responsive Prayer for Illumination

One: Holy God, speak to us not what you have wanted to tell us from the very beginning.

All: Your word is the foundation of the world. Our hearts are ready to hear you now.

Old Testament Reading Genesis 9:8-17 OT Page 7

Noah and the Flood

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading Mark 1: 9-15 NT Page 34

The Baptism of Jesus

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

†Please stand if you are able.

Sermon **What's This All About?** **John B. Nisbet, III**

First you tell me I'm great and then you throw me to the wolves.

†Hymn *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* Hymnal #384

Prayers of the People

Offertory *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* Sam Batt Owens

†Doxology **Note change in words** Hymnal #591

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

†Hymn *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* Hymnal #81

†Charge and Benediction

†Hymn *Song of Hope* Hymnal # 432

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working, for a world that's new; faithful, when we hear Christ's call.

Postlude *Nun danket alle Gott* Travis
Hymnal Ref. #555 Now Thank We All Our God

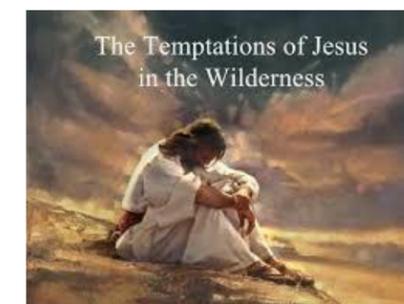
†

Jesus Christ saves sinners. How does Christ redeem us sinners? Christ not

only comes to us but stands with us, beside us, linked in solidarity with those

he comes to save. Lent is a time to be reminded that we are able to confess

our sin and to be honest about our finitude because Jesus stands with us.



Welcome to Our Visitors

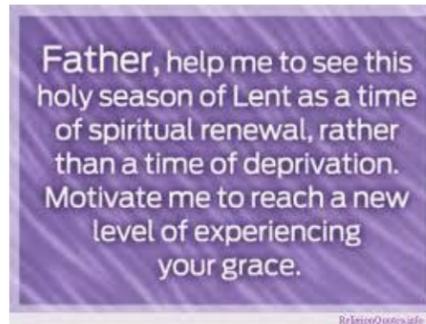
We are happy to have you worship with us and we hope you will return to worship with us again in the near future. Please indicate your attendance by filling out a visitor's card and placing it in the offering plate. If you are interested in learning more about membership in First Presbyterian Church, please speak to our Pastor after the service.

Prayer requests - Yellow folders in the pew racks may be used to request prayer. The Pastor will receive requests before the Prayers of the People.

Announcements

Special Offering - Next Sunday we will receive our monthly JCOC offering.

Worship Service - The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated next Sunday.



Please keep the following people in your prayers.



Scott Ballard
Sid Burgess
Daniel Davis (friend of Hannah Underhill)
Dorothy DiBartolo
Susie Duncan (friend of David and Cecelia Talley)
Gene Fair
Larry Fair
Elaine Gauldin (friend of Glen and Barbara Franklin)
Lynsey Gillam
Bobby Haynes
Pat Kochan
Lee Manners
Family of Margo Miller (3 year old with Leukemia who passed away last week – prayers requested by Laura Underhill)
Ken Mount
Diane Mount Nisbet
Peggy Parrish (friend of David and Cecelia Talley)
Darlene Shults
Ellen Simpson
Rodney Sprayberry
Thompson Nash Wagoner
Marge Walters
Gary Wilborn (friend of the Boozers)



Next Sunday – March 1

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Shelaine Bird

Scripture

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31

Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Elder Greeter

Carolyn Padgett

Lay Reader

Barbara Franklin

Ushers

Trish and Nathan Ballard

Servers

Cosper Bell, Carolyn Padgett,
Steve Underhill, and Sharon Ward

Worship Opportunities and Events for this Week

Day	Time	Event
Today	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Between the hours fellowship
	11:00am	Worship Service
Wednesday	5:00pm	Bible Study
	10:00am	Bible Study
Next Sunday	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Between the hours fellowship
	11:00am	Worship Service
	5:00pm	Bible Study



**Dr. Susie F. Dempsey, Church Organist; Carlton Ward, Treasurer
Mary Furlow, Secretary**

The Session

Class of 2015	Class of 2016	Class of 2017
Aleta Bell	Ethelyn Brown	Cosper Bell
Carolyn Padgett	Margaret Pope	Bonnie Seymour
Sharon Ward	Donald Seymour	Steve Underhill

Trustees

Carlton Ward	Cosper Bell	Wayne Claeren
--------------	-------------	---------------



PO Box 355
Jacksonville, AL 36265
256-435-6340
256-435-1039 (Fax)
fpcsecy@bellsouth.net

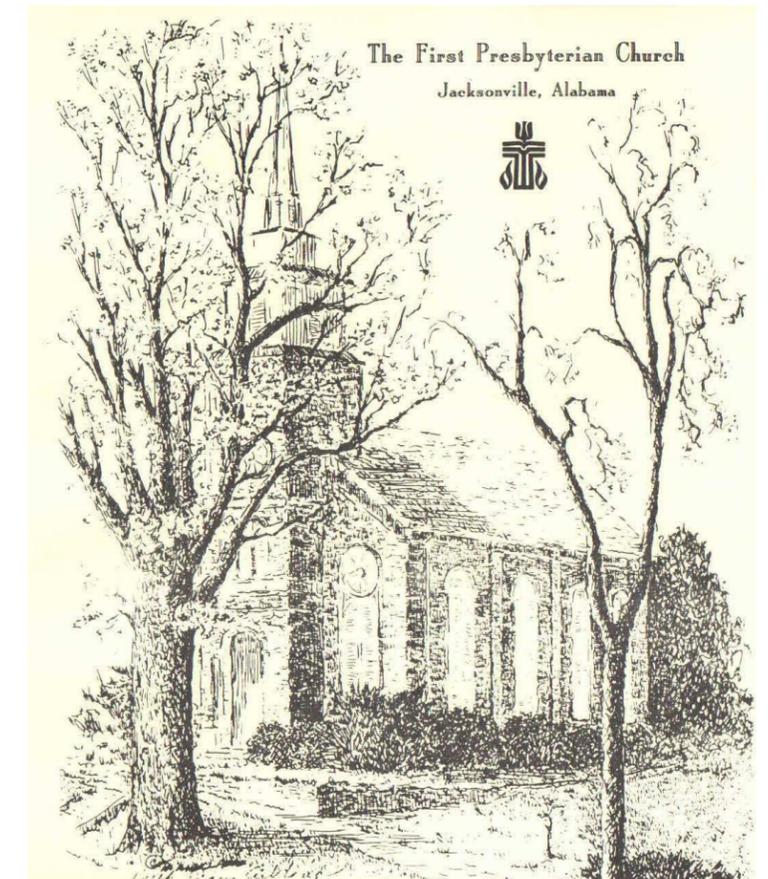
Church Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

www.firstpresbyterianjacksonville.org

Look for us on Facebook and Twitter

First Presbyterian Church Jacksonville, Alabama



We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
Members are received into our fellowship by baptism and profession of faith, by letter of transfer from another Christian congregation, and by reaffirmation of faith. We invite you to become a member of this congregation of God's people.