



FIRST PRESS

THE NEWSLETTER
OF
First Presbyterian Church

APRIL 24, 2023

Old First Church At a Glance

Sunday, April 30, 2023

following worship

Reception to honor the service and retirement of our Financial Administrator, Jim Davis

Friday, May 5, 2023

9:45 a.m. - Noon

Second Harvest Bread Boxing

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Food Offering

Friday, May 12, 2023

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Welcome reception for Lillian Cleveland and Jacob Beychok

Saturday, May 13, 2023

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Home Front Open House

Sunday, May 14, 2023

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Serving Meals at Grace Mission

Sunday, May 21, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Spiritual Formation Volunteer Appreciation Program and Continental Breakfast



First Presbyterian Church

110 North Adams Street

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www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15 a.m.

Adult Church School Meet and Greet on Zoom & In Person in the Westminster Room Program starts at 9:30 a.m.

9:15 a.m.

Nursery open for infants - two-year-olds.

9:30 a.m.

Younger Children's Class
Room 306

Older Children's Class
Room 301

11:00 a.m.

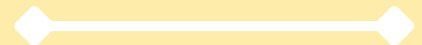
Worship in the Sanctuary.
Childcare is available for children younger than kindergarten.



In Person and

Live-Stream Worship

Visit www.oldfirstchurch.org to download Sunday's bulletin and view the service. Services are recorded and available for later viewing on YouTube @FPCTallahassee.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Monday-Friday



Pastor's Message

Rev. Anne H.K. Apple

The 16th Century mystic, John of the Cross said, "Silence is God's first language." And, I carry gratitude for knowing this as a truth after a week at Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, Alabama. Reflecting on healing, a common thread that runs throughout Jesus' healings is an outcome of transformation. Jesus heals. People change. Taking the time to sit in silence and listen for God is a helpful practice. The world is a noisy place. Out of silence and reflection, scripture teaches that healed people dance with joy and announce their faith. A conversion happens and people find themselves in a new space - no longer bound, and set free.

Romans 8:1-2, reads: "Therefore there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death."

This freedom from those things of sin and death that turn us away from God frees us for abundant life. One way I see the abundance of life in Christ at First Presbyterian is through the work of the Session.

On Sunday, the Session met for an abbreviated meeting and then went into an afternoon retreat to be trained in the skill of Compassionate Witnessing led by the Envisioning Reconciliation Committee. I believe that the Holy Spirit was present and is leading towards abundance in life.

Two small groups of elders led an opening worship and a closing worship to the retreat portion. Sue Safford led a period of silence, and an intentional breath practice, to lead the group into the hard work of Compassionate Witnessing.

Thank you for praying for the Session as they retreated into this training. The practice of Compassionate Witnessing is based in scientific research which includes brain chemistry. If you'd like to read about the process, this article describes several instances of Compassionate Witnessing: [Compassionate Witnessing](#). Following an evaluation of this process with the Session, this process will begin to roll out into the congregation. Please speak to an active elder if you would like to know more information about the process.



SESSION UPDATE

The Session:

Had a presentation from the First Presbyterian Preschool Director, Ms. Tosha Haynes, and Director of the Board of the Preschool, Dr. Cassandra Brown. You will find their Power Point presentation attached to the email you received as notification of this edition of First Press.

And took the following actions:

1. Approved the Omnibus motion which consisted of the March Session minutes.
2. Received the financials brought by Financial Administrator, Jim Davis, at his last Session meeting. Jim was recognized and a blessing was offered over his ministry at First Presbyterian Tallahassee.
3. Received a motion brought by Budget and Finance Ministry Team to continue the stub budget as the committee comes to create a budget.
4. Received a motion that the Preschool will schedule a minute for mission in the fall on a Sunday, and to have a table display in the courtyard that same day.



Join the Celebration



The Care & Outreach Team invites you to a reception following worship on April 30 to honor the service and retirement of our Financial Administrator, Jim Davis.

Join us in the Westminster Room and courtyard for some celebratory cake and lemonade. We'll have a basket to collect your expressions of appreciation and congratulations at the reception for any cards that have not been given directly to our new retiree! Please plan to join us.

You're Invited

The families of
Lillian Cleveland and Jacob Beychok
invite you, the First Presbyterian Church family,
to greet and congratulate the couple at a
Welcome Event on
Friday, May 12th, 7pm-9pm
at the church. There will be cake and lemonade
and outdoor games.

We look forward to being able to share in the joy!

Transportation to Worship



The Care and Outreach Committee would like to identify those who would like to attend church but may have transportation challenges.

If you or someone you know fit this category, please email Ann DelRossi at adelrossi@fsu.edu with your name, address and phone number.

Also, please email Ann if you could be a (potential) transportation provider!

The Care and Outreach Committee is not guaranteeing that we can fill the transportation needs – we are at the initial phase of identifying those who may need help.

Children's Church School

APRIL 30, 2023

Younger Children's Class

9:30am Room 306

Pre-K - 3rd grade

This week, the Younger Children will follow

the lectionary, in a lesson titled:

Susanna Has a Good Idea

Older Children's Class

9:30am Room 301

4th-8th grade

This week, the Older Children will continue their journey

through the New Testament:

Mary Magdalene

Adult Church School

Sunday, April 30, 2023

9:30 a.m. start time

(9:15 a.m. meet and greet)

Join us in the

Westminster Room

or on Zoom.

We continue our "Fear Not" curriculum, taking us on a deep dive into our societal understanding of violence in our communities, particularly gun violence. It is designed to facilitate reflection and conversation around ideas of safety in the face of violence and how that relates to faithfulness as followers of Jesus Christ.

Be on the lookout for a Thursday afternoon e-mail from Emily with more details.



Nursery and Preschool Childcare

9:15 a.m. – the end of worship

Infants and children up to three years old – main floor nursery

Three – Pre-K children – third floor preschool classroom

The Twinkle Toes Agency staffs both rooms. All our sitters are CPR/First Aid trained and have had a full background screening. There are two sitters in each room. Please don't hesitate to contact Eleanor Cleveland at eleanor@oldfirstchurch.org about childcare.

HOME FRONT ICE CREAM SOCIAL



On Saturday afternoon May 13, First Pres will have an ice cream social at Home Front, a residential unit for formerly homeless veterans. Families are encouraged to come to enjoy home-made ice cream, music, games and an opportunity to talk with the residents. Members can also see the new rec room at Home Front refurbished and furnished by First Pres members. The time is 2-4 pm; the place, 1602 Stuckey Ave. If you have an ice cream maker and/or would like to help set-up and serve, please contact Carol Weissert, Debbie Gibson or Gary Niblack.





Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty

The State of Florida plans to execute Darryl Barwick on Wednesday, May 3, at 6 pm. We have one week to do everything we can to stop this execution. Urge Governor DeSantis and the Florida Board of Executive Clemency to stay the execution – sign and share the petition. Help us reach 10,000 signatures for Darryl.

The non-unanimity bill, SB 450, is now headed to Governor DeSantis to be signed into law. There is still time to stop the most extreme death penalty bill in the country from becoming law. Take action now. Contact Governor DeSantis and urge him to VETO SB 450.

We encourage everyone, not just Florida residents, to take this action for Darryl and for SB 450. The Governor is paying attention to what the nation thinks about his ability to lead. Help us show him the death penalty is bad policy and only creates more harm.

SAVE THE DATE

UKIRK

TALLAHASSEE

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND UKIRK'S
ANNUAL MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE

23 | May | 2023

6:00 - 7:30 pm

548 W. Park Ave. Tallahassee, FL 32301



If you need reserved parking,
please call Lori at 222-4504,
or email
office@oldfirstchurch.org.



The Choir meets at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and we are open to all singers.

Contact Ethan Murphy or the church office for more information.

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of
First
Presbyterian
Church

The newsletter is prepared on Mondays, including those Mondays that fall on holidays.

Please submit items for publication to:
newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org
no later than noon on production Mondays; or, if possible, earlier the previous week.

Presbytery of Florida
produces a monthly electronic news-
letter that you may access using this link:
[Panhandle Presbyterian](#)



SECOND HARVEST BREAD BOXING

Friday May 5 from 9:45 - Noon

If you are interested in joining your First Pres family in helping provide food for the hungry in May, you can sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849AAA72DAB9-second>

or

contact Debbie Gibson at gibsond1207@mail.com or 850-656-3659.

We hope you can join us some time soon.



Food Offering for Elder Care Services and Second Harvest of the Big Bend



OUR FOOD GIFTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of our First Sunday Food Collection efforts! Your food donations are brought alternately to Second Harvest and to Elder Care Services (ECS), and have provided hundreds of meals for our hungry and food insecure neighbors. So please mark your calendars now for our next food collection date on

Sunday, May 7, 2023.

Please consider including in your grocery list some items for those food-insecure neighbors around us. For questions, please contact Jan Bush. A list of the most-needed items is provided here for your convenience.

Cereal - Peanut Butter - Canned: Fruits, Vegetables, Meats, and Hearty Soup/Stew



SERVING MEALS AT GRACE MISSION

First Pres has volunteered to help serve Sunday dinner at Grace Mission on the second Sunday of every month. The next date is **Sunday, May 14**; we meet at 4 pm and are finished by 6 pm.

If you are interested in helping in this worthwhile effort, please contact Carol Weissert at cweissert@fsu.edu or go to the Sign Up Genius page directly at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-grace1>

Hope you can join us.



Sunday Festival Readings

**APRIL 30, 2023
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

ACT 2:42-47
&
PSALM 23
OR
EZEKIAL 34:7-15
&
PSALM 100
1 PETER 2:19-25
JOHN 10:1-10

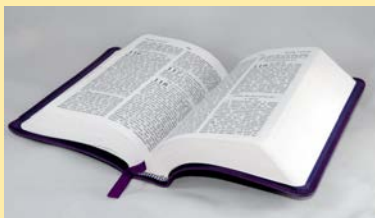


Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

We acknowledge the long history of systemic racism that, through violence, laws, policies, and their implementation, was intended to exclude persons who are not Caucasian from benefits and opportunities - from the first European settlers who considered themselves entitled to land and violently displaced indigenous people from their homes, to the equally long history of slavery which built the wealth of this country, to Jim Crow laws to current instances of police brutality and the overwhelming mass incarceration of people of color.

We declare ourselves utterly opposed to all forms of systemic racism. We are committed to standing with those who find themselves on the receiving end of any form of racism. We will seek out opportunities to oppose all forms of systematic racism and to ensure that black lives matter, as do those of indigenous, Asian, and Latinx people and persons of all colors or countries of origin. Our faith tells us that we can do no less, if we truly affirm that all human beings are made in god's image.

We dream of a day in which all persons are treated as bearers of that image.



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR APRIL 15-30, 2023

Saturday, April 15

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Isa. 25:1-9
Acts 4:13-21 (22-31)
John 16:16-33

Sunday, April 16

Second Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Isa. 43:8-13
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-7

Monday, April 17

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Dan. 1:1-21
John 1:1-10
John 17:1-11

Tuesday, April 18

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Dan. 2:1-16
1 John 2:1-11
John 17:12-19

Wednesday, April 19

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Dan. 2:17-30
1 John 2:12-17
John 17:20-26

Thursday, April 20

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Dan. 2:31-49
1 John 2:18-29
Luke 3:1-1

Friday, April 21

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Dan. 3:1-18
1 John 3:1-10
Luke 3:15-22

Saturday, April 22

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Dan. 3:19-30
1 John 3:11-18
Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, April 23

Third Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Dan. 4:1-18
1 Peter 4:7-11
John 21:15-25

Monday, April 24

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Dan. 4:19-27
1 John 3:19-4:6
Luke 4:14-30

Tuesday, April 25

Morning: Pss. 98; 14
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Dan. 4:28-37
1 John 4:7-21
Luke 4:31-37

Wednesday, April 26

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Dan. 5:1-12
1 John 5:1-12
Luke 4:38-44

Thursday, April 27

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Dan. 5:13-30
1 John 5:13-20 (21
Luke 5:1-11

Friday, April 28

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Dan. 6:1-15
2 John 1-13
Luke 5:12-26

Saturday, April 29

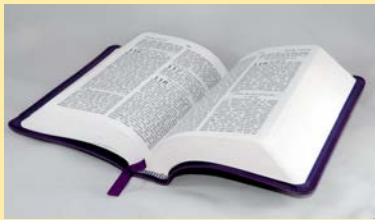
Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Dan. 6:16-28
3 John 1-15
Luke 5:27-39

Sunday, April 30

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Gen. 18:22-33
1 Peter 5:1-11
Matt. 7:15-29

If you wish to read these
on your computer you
will find them on the
PCUSA website [here](#).



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR MAY 1-15, 2023

Monday, May 1

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Jer. 30:1-9
Col. 1:1-14
Luke 6:1-11

Tuesday, May 2

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Jer. 30:10-17
Col. 1:15-23
Luke 6:12-26

Wednesday, May 3

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Jer. 30:18-22
Col. 1:24-2:7
Luke 6:27-38

Thursday, May 4

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Jer. 31:1-1
Col. 2:8-23
Luke 6:39-49

Friday, May 5

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Jer. 31:15-22
Col. 3:1-1
Luke 7:1-17

Saturday, May 6

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Jer. 31:23-2
Col. 3:12-1
Luke 7:18-28 (29-30) 31-35

Sunday, May 7

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 15
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Isa. 32:1-8
2 Thess. 2:13-17
Matt. 7:7-14

Monday, May 8

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Jer. 32:1-1
Col. 3:18-4:1
Luke 7:36-5

Tuesday, May 9

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Jer. 32:16-25
Rom. 12:1-21
Luke 8:1-1

Wednesday, May 10

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Jer. 32:36-44
Rom. 13:1-14
Luke 8:16-25

Thursday, May 11

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Jer. 33:1-13
Rom. 14:1-12
Luke 8:26-3

Friday, May 12

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 13
Deut. 31:30-32:14
Rom. 14:13-23
Luke 8:40-56

Saturday, May 13

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Deut. 32:34-41 (42) 43
Rom. 15:1-13
Luke 9:1-17

Sunday, May 14

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Deut. 15:1-1
1 Tim. 3:14-4:
Matt. 13:24-34a

Monday, May 15

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Deut. 8:1-10 or
Deut. 18:9-14
James 1:1-15
Luke 9:18-27

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PCUSA website [here](#).



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR MAY 16-31, 2023

Tuesday, May 16

Morning: Pss. 98; 146

Evening: Pss. 66; 116

Deut. 8:11-20 or

Deut. 18:15-2

James 1:16-27

Luke 11:1-13

Wednesday, May 17

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 9; 118

Deut. 19:1-7

James 5:13-18

Luke 12:22-31

Thursday, May 18

Ascension of the Lord

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 68; 113

Ezek. 1:1-14, 24-28b

Heb. 2:5-18

Matt. 28:16-20

Friday, May 19

Morning: Pss. 96; 148

Evening: Pss. 49; 138

Ezek. 1:28-3:3

Heb. 4:14-5:6

Luke 9:28-36

Saturday, May 20

Morning: Pss. 92; 149

Evening: Pss. 23; 114

Ezek. 3:4-17

Heb. 5:7-14

Luke 9:37-50

Saturday, May 21

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150

Evening: Pss. 136; 117

Ezek. 3:16-27

Eph. 2:1-10

Matt. 10:24-33, 40-42

Monday, May 22

Morning: Pss. 97; 145

Evening: Pss. 124; 115

Ezek. 4:1-17

Heb. 6:1-12

Luke 9:51-62

Tuesday, May 2

Morning: Pss. 98; 146

Evening: Pss. 66; 116

Ezek. 7:10-15, 23b-27

Heb. 6:13-20

Luke 10:1-17

Wednesday, May 24

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 9; 118

Ezek. 11:14-25

Heb. 7:1-17

Luke 10:17-24

Thursday, May 25

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 68; 11

Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32

Heb. 7:18-28

Luke 10:25-37

Friday, May 26

Morning: Pss. 96; 148

Evening: Pss. 49; 138

Ezek. 34:17-31

Heb. 8:1-13

Luke 10:38-42

Saturday, May 27

Morning: Pss. 92; 149

Evening: Pss. 23; 114

Ezek. 43:1-12

Heb. 9:1-14

Luke 11:14-23

Sunday, May 28

Day of Pentecost

Morning: Pss. 104; 150

Evening: Pss. 29; 33

Isa. 11:1-9

1 Cor. 2:1-13

John 14:21-29

Monday, May 29

Morning: Pss. 135; 145

Evening: Pss. 97; 112

Deut. 4:9-1

2 Cor. 1:1-11

Luke 14:25-35

Tuesday, May 30

Morning: Pss. 123; 146

Evening: Pss. 30; 86

Deut. 4:15-24

2 Cor. 1:12-22

Luke 15:1-10

Wednesday, May 31

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 48; 4

Deut. 4:25-31

2 Cor. 1:23-2:1

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

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