



The Homecoming of the Trinity III, Daniel Bonnell, 2019-2020, used with permission of artist.

30 May 2021
Trinity Sunday

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

ourselves, and each other, through the power of Christ and the gift of your Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Summary of the Law

Matthew 22:37-39

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson

John 3:1-17

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

It's Like Being Drunk

The Rev. Lloyd Griffith

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look

for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Anthem *Come, Thou Almighty King* Whitehead

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of Peter Rowlett by Pat Kerr Rowlett.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Benediction

Choral Response *Jesus, Remember Me* Taizé/Berthier

Postlude *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty* Livingston

If you have not already done so, please place your offering in the marked basket nearest the exit you use. We look forward to seeing you again next week.

A special thank you to our ushers!

Liturgist: The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Members of the Daybreak and Sanctuary Choirs

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Questions for Reflection

Jesus invites us to be born from above to receive new and abundant life. Salvation, or abundant life, is understood as a present reality in the Gospel of John. If the gift of God's love made known to us in Christ through the Spirit is stirred up by gratitude, what daily practice could increase your sense of gratitude? How could a simple practice of thanking God at any given moment in the day enliven your experience of salvation?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nursery Open!

The nursery has reopened for the 11am service (from 10:30am-noon) for children, infants through second grade.

Virtual VBS is coming soon!

We're so excited to announce that BOLT: Totally 80s VBS is coming to your house this summer! With minimal preparation, easy-to-follow instructions, and a video that leads your family step-by-step through each day, BOLT is designed to bring the fun and faith-formation of VBS to your home!

Depending on your pace, you can expect that each day's experience will last about an hour and a half. It's great for kids 5 and up - even middle and high school kids can enjoy it!

We will have a Zoom Orientation on June 6 at 12:30. During this time, we will share some insight into what your family can expect during BOLT: Totally 80's VBS. The digital videos, materials, and activities will be available on our website starting the week of June 7. Our hope is to have as many families as possible participate in these RAD activities at-home the week of June 7-10. However, BOLT gives you and your family the flexibility to choose the dates and times you participate.

We will also have packets for you to pick up at our church office starting June 1. While it is not required for you to pick up a packet to participate in BOLT: Totally 80s VBS, it is highly encouraged! These packets will have ready to go supplies for many of the at-home activities that correspond with the online videos and will make your at-home experience much easier and much more fulfilling!

Mark your calendars for our Zoom meeting AND a fun-filled four days of at-home VBS coming soon!

Adult Sunday school Class “Read This Book”

JOIN US for Read This Book every Sunday, 9:30-10:30am on Zoom and in person (in the large central classroom on the second floor of the Ministry Center). Each week a different person will present a book that informed, challenged, or inspired them, and connected with their faith. You don't have to attend every week to participate in the class, and friends and family are welcome to attend! To be included on the email list for the class, contact Maren (maren@firstpresnb.org).

Here is the schedule of upcoming presenters:

- **May 30** Janet Benrey Swain "Why Social Justice Is Not Biblical Justice: An Urgent Appeal to Fellow Christians in a Time of Social Crisis" by Scott David Allen
- **June 6** Wendy Moeller "Surprised by Oxford", "Sex and the City of God", and "Holy Is The Day" by Carolyn Weber
- **June 13** Maren Sonstegard-Spray "The Rise and Fall of the Bible: The Unexpected History of an Accidental Book" by Timothy Beal
- **June 20** Lloyd Griffith “Soul Force: A Story about the Rebirthing of Divine Presence in a Postmodern World” by Lloyd Griffith

Adult Sunday school class “The Present Word”

George Evans is leading "The Present Word class: Call in the New Testament". The class meets online Sunday morning 9:30-10:30am using Zoom. Please contact George Evans (gkevans4@gmail.com) to receive a meeting room ID and password. The book is available in the church office.

Nursery Worker Recruitment

First Presbyterian Church is looking for two Nursery Workers and a Nursery Coordinator to care for our infant to four-year-old children on Sunday mornings and at special services. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have experience in caring for young children, complete a background check and complete CPR training for infants and children. Hours for the positions are normally 8:00 am – 12:30 pm. Interested individuals should send a resume to the Office Administrator at church@firstpresnb.org.

Reception Desk Volunteer Opportunity

Would you like to help out at the Church Office's Reception Desk? Do you have 4 hours that you could give to the church? We have returned to normal business hours, but we need your help. We are looking for those who can let their smiles show through in their voices on the phones or in their eyes when greeting visitors (we are still masking). Don't worry if you are not familiar with the ins and outs of the office equipment. We are more than happy to teach you. Hours of shifts are 9am-1pm or 1pm-5pm Monday through Thursday, and 9am-1pm on Fridays. If you are interested or have questions, please contact our Office Administrator, Marcy Latteman.

Flower Calendar

Have you thought about ordering flowers in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one? Thanks to those who signed up for the Sundays in June and July! Available dates in August are the 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd. Other dates are available throughout the year. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Montreat Women's Conference 2021 – Discount Available

Join us at the Montreat Women's Connection Conference Friday-Sunday, August 13-15! The conference was postponed for a year, but we held on to our room reservations in the Assembly Inn (with an elevator and air-conditioning), and we have a couple of rooms available for those who had not previously registered. Registration cost includes program, room, and meals. Transportation is on your own or on the church bus. We are offering a discount on the cost of the registration from the McClary Scholarship fund to make it easier to attend the conference! Please contact Maren to learn more about the discount and/or to register. Childcare is available at Montreat for children aged six months through preschool.

Care Commission

The Care Commission Call Team is making annual congregational calls. This is an opportunity to share joys & concerns, request prayers, update Directory listings and get church news. So when your phone rings, please take a few minutes to participate in this Care ministry, strengthening our ties through connecting with one another.

Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation.