

First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 18, 2018

10:45 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude *Prelude in G Major* Mendelssohn

Introit *Now Thank We All Our God* Bach

Call to Worship

We are many, but we are one as well.

We come from scattered places and diverse life experiences.

Today, in this place, we share a common vision as people who seek abundant life;

as people who seek God's guidance for ourselves and for our community.

In this we are a united community, gathered at one great table to:

celebrate our joys, share our griefs, release our anger, examine our frustrations,

affirm our strengths, and to acknowledge the hope we have in Christ.

The joy of being together leads us to praise God for life, and for our lives together.

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn 612 *We Praise You, O God* KREMSER

Call to Reconciliation

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

When we want to be a church ever-reforming, yet cling to comfortable ways:

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!

When we want to honor your "still speaking voice",

but are fearful of insights which challenge old assumptions:

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!

When we want to live into Jesus' dream of oneness, but fail to listen to voices of difference:

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!

Jesus, Son of David, enlighten our minds with your wisdom, and imprint the

image of your love once more on our hearts, so that we can focus anew on your

presence and your power whenever and wherever you call us to serve people in

your name. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

... to call us into a community of mutual love and forgiveness.

Friends, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Song of Praise *My Life Flows On* Lowry



*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Before sitting, please greet those around you with words of Christ's peace.)

Words of Welcome

Please sign the black friendship pad and pass to others in your row.
Children are welcome to participate in the Children in Worship program.

Response

When We are Living

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Job 42:1-6 (p. 488)

Psalm

(read responsively)

Psalm 34: 1-8

I will bless God at all times; God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in God; let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify God with me, and let us exalt God's name together.

I sought God, who answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to God, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and was heard by God, and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of God encamps around those who revere God, and delivers them.

O taste and see that God is good; happy are those who take refuge in God.

Second Lesson

Mark 10:46-52 (p. 47)

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Merciful Church

The Rev. J. C. Cadwallader

*Hymn 420

Lord, To You My Soul Is Lifted

GENEVAN

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

adapted from Ruth Duck and Maren Tirabassi

I believe it is a matter of faith to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves.

I believe it is a matter of faith to recognize equally and love all members of God's human family. There are no exceptions to God's love.

I believe God's creation is good, beautiful, and sacred; therefore to condemn any portion of God's creation is to condemn a portion of God. This is sin.

I believe Jesus Christ came to us to free all people from sin and to make disciples - people willing to live Christ's discipline of love and justice for all.

I believe the Holy Spirit is that power within us that gives courage and stamina to face the truth and to live it, even to die for it, as Jesus died.

I believe in the resurrection, the victory over death, and the truth that is life for all in Jesus' name.

Glory is to God, the One in Three: Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Power of love. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Thanks Be to God
from *Elijah*

Mendelssohn

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Generous God, we marvel at your lavish gifts: life and breath, food and shelter, opportunities for work and play, and, most especially, hope and peace in Christ. We now pledge ourselves to mirror and reflect the glory of your self-giving love, to continue the pattern of generosity we see perfectly revealed in Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

The Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

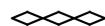
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn 409 *God is Here!* ABBOT'S LEIGH

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Festival Postlude* Wood

*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.



Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven. We are glad you are here. We seek to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people. If you are new to this congregation, please introduce yourself to others sitting around you, and to the pastor, so that we may welcome you personally. During the Words of Welcome, add your name to the Friendship Pad. Please plan to stay for the Friendship Hour following the service.

Participating in worship leadership this morning are:

Liturgist: Rona Johnston

Greeters: Paula Burkhard, Timothy McConnell, Mary Webber

Ushers: Dick Hasbany, Tala Jarjour

Yale Divinity School Intern: Graham Bridgeman

Nursery care is provided each morning from 10:30-noon in the Owens Community Building nursery. Infants and children are also welcome in the service and encouraged to participate fully in worship. A rocking chair is available next door in the Copeland Room, and bulletins for ages 3-6 and 7-12 are found at the entrance.

The Reverend J.C. Cadwallader may be reached at her email: PastorJC@fpcnh.org or the church phone (203) 562-5664. Mondays are her day off.

New Option to Give to First Pres.: Don't carry cash anymore but still feel called to give? Just text (203) 689-7515 and type in the amount you'd like to give. Then follow the instructions that are sent to you. Christ calls us to give with a joyful heart - let us rejoice that we might give freely for the ministry of Christ in the world.

Our Thanksgiving Special Offering will be received today. The funds raised with this offering are divided between Christian Community Action, The Connecticut Food Bank and FISH (Food In Service to the Homebound). CCA expects to provide over 1,200 "baskets" which will include a turkey, fresh vegetables and the fixins'. The Food Bank serves six CT counties and is a major source of the supplies needed by organizations like CCA. FISH serves those most at risk of being forgotten, our homebound neighbors. As they have for many years, each of these organizations is working to make sure that all our neighbors have a Happy Thanksgiving. Your generosity matters!

The Stewardship Campaign formally ended with last Sunday's celebratory lunch. But if you have not yet submitted your pledge, please do it today. Email your pledge information securely to stewardship@fpcnh.org, or pick up a paper pledge card from the Copeland Room and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. The Stewardship Committee offers their thanks to all who have submitted their pledges for 2019. Your generosity has given us a good start toward matching and hopefully exceeding last year's total support.

Youth Group: Cooperating progressive churches, including FPCNH, lead and host youth (grades 7-12) throughout the year. Today, 11/18, is our trip to the Urban Air Adventure Park! Cost is \$25; scholarships are available. Meet here at FPCNH at 4 p.m. Pickup from FPCNH is 6:45 p.m. RSVP to youth@fpcnh.org.

Sunday School Classes For Children and Youth: Advent Rehearsals & Children's Sunday School; children of all ages will lead the congregation in worship from start to finish on December 9th for their annual advent service. We will rehearse our music and major group components from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Traditional Sunday school classes will resume in January.

Adult Sunday School will not meet next Sunday, November 25th.

Save the Date – Committee Night – Tuesday, November 27th: All who are interested in helping to shape the life of this church for the upcoming Epiphany season, come to Committee Night! Whether you're a long-time member of the CLOC, Stewardship, Worship, Mission, Christian Education or Property Committees or just have some fresh ideas for the season ahead - come and plan with us! Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Committees will meet at 6:15 p.m. Childcare will be provided for the youngest among us - though young people are encouraged to help plan too!

Cozy Potluck on December 1st: Miss the first cozy potluck? Still time to sign up for the second one on Saturday, Dec. 1. What is a cozy? It's an evening with interesting food and six or seven interesting friends. Sign up online in the weekly Connecting Community email or at the welcome table where there will be someone to help. If you have any questions, please call Dick Hasbany. There's a place for you at the table.

IRIS craft fair on December 1st in the Miller Gathering Hall from 1 to 4 p.m. The women in the sewing class are sewing, crafting, jewelry making, and, if we're lucky, cooking up some wonderful surprises for our holiday gift giving. Please come out and support these brave refugees. And as always, remember that purchases are cash only.

Goody Bags/Boxes on December 2nd: It's that time again! Our college students will soon be heading into their final exams. It is our tradition to support those students both near and far by providing goody bags and boxes. We will be collecting treats for the students who are here worshipping with us, and also for our own church family students who are away at school. Jean McCloskey and her crew will be assembling 15 bags and 5 boxes, for a total of 20 students. Please bring your donation to her in the Copeland Room on the morning of December 2nd. Homemade goodies are always appreciated, but offerings of any kind are welcome!

Save the Date-Early Music Concert on December 1st: The Elm City Consort is a New Haven early music chamber group that performs both vocal and instrumental works from the medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque eras, using period instruments. They will play a concert at First Presbyterian New Haven in the early evening of Saturday, December 1--at 5:00 in the sanctuary. The concert will feature French Baroque music played by three young early music virtuosi—two players of the viola da gamba and a harpsichordist. There is a suggested \$20 donation, but church members will be admitted free of charge.

 **ULA Meetings** - Being a sanctuary church means we are called to work as hard as we can to ensure no one needs to take sanctuary with us. Families need our support ensuring they remain together and in their own homes. Another way that we can build relationships with families in need is by attending the ULA (Unidad Latina en Accion) meetings held at First & Summerfield United Methodist Church in downtown New Haven on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Each meeting, we need 2 representatives from First Press to attend. Sign up at www.signupgenius.com; search for signups originating from office@fpcnh.org

Volunteer Signup Sheets are now digital! An iPad is available in the Copeland Room to sign up for Ushers, Friendship Hour Hosts, First Sunday Flowers, Columbus House Monthly Dinner Prep, Potlucks and attending Monday ULA meetings. A member of the Welcome Team will assist you if you've never used signup genius. Note that you can also sign up from your smart phone or computer at www.signupgenius.com; search for signups originating from office@fpcnh.org. We especially need ushers and friendship hour hosts.

Food Donations for Food Insecure Neighbors: Pick up an extra item at the grocery store to help fill the green wheelbarrow in the Copeland Room. At the end of each month the food is delivered to Christian Community Action's emergency food pantry. These are the items most in demand at CCA's food pantry: Top: white (not brown) rice, cereal, canned fruit, peanut butter and jams/jellies. Secondary: macaroni & cheese, pasta (not whole wheat), tomato sauces, canned/dry beans, ground/instant coffee, sugar, oils for cooking, cake mixes. Note that they do NOT need canned *green* vegetables.

This Week

| | | |
|------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Sunday, November 18 | 9:30 a.m. | Christian Ed for all ages |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:45 a.m. | Worship |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Friendship Hour |
| | 12:30 p.m. | Session |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Youth Group |
| Monday, November 19 | 7:00 p.m. | AA meeting |
| | 7:00 p.m. | ULA@1st & Summerfield Church |
| Wednesday, November 21 | 7:00 p.m. | Survivors of Homicide |
| Saturday, November 24 | 9:30 a.m. | Women's AA |
| Sunday, November 25 | 9:30 a.m. | Advent Play Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:45 a.m. | Worship |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Friendship Hour |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Youth Group @ First Pres |

In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God's healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

Susan and Brian, Diane Goudreau's friends, who lost their home, cats, and town in the Paradise, California fires last week.

Charlie Gutridge and his family, for strength and love.

Jeff Miller, David Miller's brother, who is continuing rehab after surgery.

Louisa Cunningham, a friend of Caty Poole, who is ill.

Jean Struble, Joan Wells' sister-in-law, who is ill.

James Smit, who is serving in the armed forces.

Those suffering losses from gun violence.

Those who are hungry and food insecure.

For our immigrant friends in local sanctuary churches, and for their families.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

For other people and situations in need of our supplications.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Class of 2018 | John Dinkler | Phillip Phiri |
| | Robert Williams | James Duncan |
| Class of 2019 | Lucy Ambach | Rona Johnston |
| | Fiona Scott Morton | Mary Porterfield |
| Class of 2020 | Sue Balakrishnan | Jennifer Ballew |
| | Jennifer Herbst | Timothy McConnell |
| Clerk | Tim McCloskey | |
| Treasurer | Mike Spicer | |

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven is a More Light Congregation and part of Presbyterian Promise. Both organizations are dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning individuals.

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pastor: | The Reverend J. C. Cadwallader |
| Music Director: | Patrick McCreless |
| Church Administrator: | Martha Smith |
| Christian Educator: | Kimberley Fais |
| Nursery Care Provider: | Emily Landino |

The church office welcomes your announcements and prayer requests for the bulletin. Please send the copy to office@fpcnh.org by Wednesday before noon to be included in the Sunday Bulletin.

Please remember that parking is available at the Hooker School on Sunday mornings when lawn or street parking is unavailable.

Music reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-7110. All rights reserved.

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven
704 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

phone: (203) 562-5664
www.fpcnh.org

office@fpcnh.org