

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHIMES

(The congregation is asked to pray for the blessing of God upon this service.)

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, and the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength. Amen.

PRELUDE *Christ Our Lord to the Jordan Came* Marcel Dupré

INTROIT *What Does the Lord Require* Erik Routley
The Sanctuary Choir

What does the Lord require for praise and offering?
What sacrifice desire, or tribute bid you bring?
Do justly; love mercy; walk humbly with your God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

For what does the Lord require of us? But to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)

†OPENING HYMN, No. 457

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art TOULON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,
separated from sisters and brothers in Christ.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,
and show reluctance to welcome one another;
we allow the past to hold us hostage.**

**In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin.
Remind us of the promises you make in baptism
so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.**

KYRIE ELEISON, No. 572 Congregation and Choir

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* MEINEKE

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.

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

Stand, as you are able, and greet one another saying: ***“The peace of Christ be with you.”*** Respond by saying: ***“And also with you.”***
(Children are invited to come forward now for A Time with Children.)

THE WORD

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children, ages 2-3 yrs. who will be going to Extended Session and children, ages 4–first grade who will be in the the Worship Center, may exit at this time through the right front door, where they will be escorted to the CE Building.

Leader: As you depart from us now, the children of God say:

Children: God be with you as you stay.

Congregation: God be with you as you go.

**We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 3:13-17

Pew Bible, page 3; large print, page 3

(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

ANTHEM *When Jesus Came to Jordan* arr. Hollice Watson
William Walker/KING'S LYNN

The Sanctuary Choir

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
He did not come for pardon but as the sinless one.
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
To speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.
He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,
For us and our salvation to die upon the cross.
So when the dove descended on him, the Son of Man,
The hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.
Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;
This very day invade us, and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most:
To share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 42:1-9

Pew Bible, page 630; large print, page 820

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The Delight of God* Rev. Pendleton Peery

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once and for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which all people stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won victory over sin and death for all.

(adapted from *The Confession of 1967*)

†HYMN, No. 300 *Down to Earth as a Dove* PERSONENT HODIE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

Offertory *Christ Our Lord to the Jordan Came* Dietrich Buxtehude

†Doxology, No. 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

†Prayer of Dedication

†HYMN, No. 332 *Live Into Hope* TRURO

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE *Down to Earth, as a Dove* PERSONENT HODIE

The Sanctuary Choir

Let us sing, dance and spring,
Christ is here, ever near!
Gloria in excelsis!

†POSTLUDE *Finale from Concerto in F Major*
George F. Handel

† Worshipers standing if able.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of John J. Doles, Jr. and Jay Jack Stone
by George and Minou Fritze and family.

Elder Reader: Lisa Schrott

Ushers: Denise Hiller, Sammy Guy, Terrel Sugar, Eric Gnann, Rebecca Martin,
Scott Martin

Extended Session: Sabra Bushnell

Worship Center Leaders: Kelly Hodgson, Lynda Griffey

Acolytes: Claire Folsom, Grace Folsom

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Session Ministry Moderators:

John Frierson	Administration	friersonjb@aol.com
John Guth	Church Facilities	johnguth@bellsouth.net
Rick LaBorde	Outreach	claborde@wpspump.com
David Oliver	Stewardship	dmo@rcco.com
Lynn Chance	Congregational Life	LWChance@att.net
Robert Folsom	Adult	robertfolsom@lendersoption.net
David Butterfield	Youth	david@msrlaw.com
Anna Gnann	Children	annagnann@yahoo.com
George Fritze	Evangelism	kinggpf@yahoo.com
Bruce Henderson	Worship	bhenderson@highlandclinic.com
Lisa Schrott	Communications	lschro@lsuhsc.edu
Julie Blewer	Staff Committee	jblewer@djslawfirm.com

Church Staff:

Pendleton B. Peery	Pastor
Bryan L. McDowell	Associate Pastor
Sarah Cooper Searight	Associate Pastor
Hollice S. Watson	Organist/Choir Director
Lindsey Wells Peery	Director of Children's Ministries
Cindy K. Natale	Director, First Presbyterian Day School
Rebecca L. Mayfield	PCHAS Director, Child and Family Program
Ginger Collier	Communications Director
Peggy E. Sartin	Administrative Coordinator
Susan B. Whaley	Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard	Staff Secretary
George L. Beaner III	Maintenance Coordinator
Jeff A. McKenzie	Sexton
Sherry L. Odom	Housekeeper
Lillie M. Sutton	Housekeeper

WORSHIP NOTES

WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS. This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance pad. There is an information center with material about our church and Presbyterianism in the foyer of the Jordan Street entrance to the sanctuary.

CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN by Sitters' Registry and church volunteers. Nursery: Room CE-106; Extended Session during 11:00 a.m. worship for ages 2 yrs.—3 yrs.: Room CE-105 and The Worship Center for ages 4 yrs.— first grade: Room CE-113.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP! Bibles are available for use during worship; they are found at the end of every pew. We also provide **Worship Bags** designed for children elementary age and younger. The worship bags can be found in the narthex and at the front entrances to the sanctuary. Please return them after the service.

WE EXPRESS SINCERE SYMPATHY Babs Roggero and family in the death of her father, Dr. Frederick C. Boykin, of Pensacola, Florida, December 29, 2010, and we rejoice with them in the assurance of resurrection.



A Service for the Worship of God
Eleven O'Clock
January 9, 2011
Baptism of the Lord Sunday

If Jesus had not been baptized, now that would have been a sin for him—if he had chosen to separate himself from us as he had every right to do. But he did not...and so it was that the one who was without sin was baptized in the river Jordan to avoid the sin of standing apart from us. He is our servant and our Lord, and he never asks us to go anywhere he has not been first.

-Barbara Brown Taylor

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

- Elizabeth Gray McCaa—January 3, 2011
- Mary Evelyn McGuire—January 4, 2011
- Robert L. Wallace—January 4, 2011
- Bette Tanner—January 4, 2011

We express sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed and we rejoice with them in the assurance of resurrection.

Our Mission

Responding to God's grace and building upon the strength of our Reformed tradition, we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, seek to: Proclaim joyfully the Good News, revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; live as a welcoming and nurturing community of faith through worship, prayer, study and fellowship; and serve others - at home and beyond our community with love, compassion, respect, justice and mercy, in the name of Jesus Christ and after His example. May God empower us by the Holy Spirit to fulfill our call to be God's people.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God.