

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 7, 2021

10:45 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, Texas

Link to worship videos available at: www.fpcbryan.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Rev. Ted Foote*)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (*Kaitlyn Hendler; Madeline Hendler*)

I'll Fly Away

Albert E. Brumley (1932)

WELCOME (*Avery Cravatt*)

By faith, we trust that we were created in the image of God.

By faith, we hope and dream and make plans.

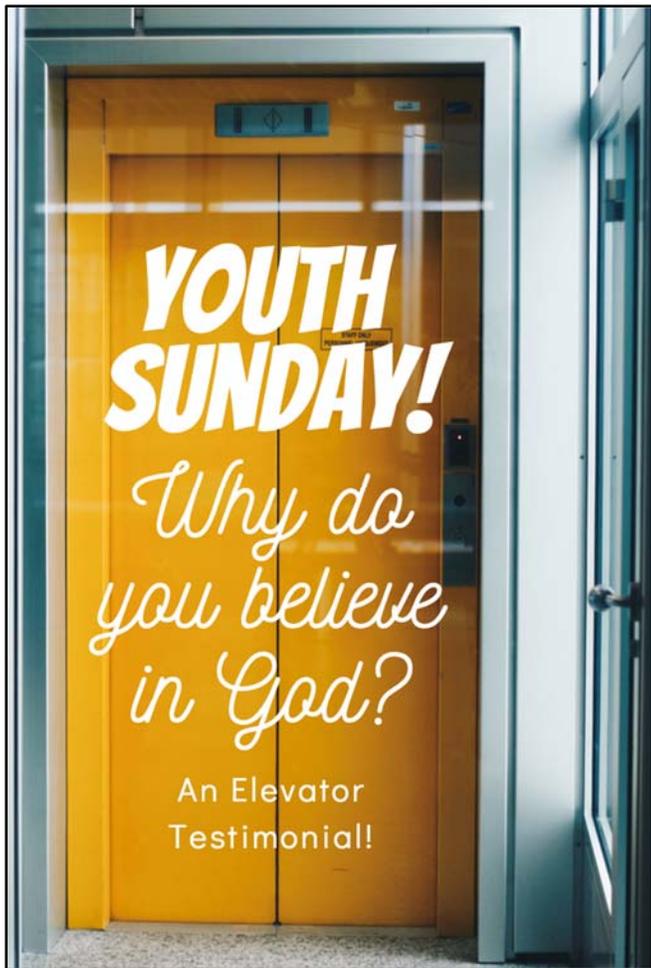
By faith, we face our fears and insecurities.

By faith, we till the soil of our lives and plant seeds of love.

By faith, we follow where God leads.

By faith, we trust that God is present in our midst.

By faith, we gather in this place to worship God together.



HYMN NO. 616 (*Cadence Berg; Jessica Petersen; Jasen Petersen*) Our God Is an Awesome God AWESOME GOD

**Our God is an awesome God who reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, power, and love; our God is an awesome God!**

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION (*Bailey Cravatt*)

Let us pray . . . **Almighty God, we are not always people who live by faith. We know that we were created in your image, but we treat ourselves and each other in ways that do not honor your presence within us. We know your laws and your commandments, but we choose to disobey you and to act in ways that harm our neighbors. We hear your call to reach out to those most in need, but instead we turn our backs on them and on you. Forgive us, O God, and help us day by day to become more faithful followers and the people you created us to be. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

(pausing in silence for prayer)

What we have hoped for is true. What we cannot see has been made known. God's forgiveness is certain and sure. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 606 (*David Kipp*)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDRETH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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Text in **bold face type** is to be read by all.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Ronen Renold*)

God of Infinite Wisdom, you have been faithful to your people throughout time. Calm our minds. Open our ears and our hearts this day that we might still hear of your faithfulness. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING (*Ronen Renold*)

Hebrews 11:1-3

*Common English Bible*

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see. The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith. By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible.

SCRIPTURE READING (*Ari Renold*)

2 Corinthians 4:12-14

*Common English Bible*

So death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. We have the same faithful spirit as what is written in scripture: I had faith, and so I spoke. We also have faith, and so we also speak. We do this because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and he will bring us into his presence along with you.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ELEVATOR SPEECH 1 (*Adam Espinoza*)

ELEVATOR SPEECH 2 (*Lois Basenfelder*)

INSTRUMENTAL DUET (*Chuck Morse; Emily Béghin*)

As the Deer

Martin Nystrom

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION (*Alexis Cravatt*)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, CONSECRATION, INTERCESSION, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Alexis Cravatt*)

Thank you for helping us to make it through this difficult year. Thank you that you've carried us through the uncertainty of deep waters, through the flames of trials, and through the pain of hard losses. We are constantly aware of how much we need you, your grace, your strength, your power working through even the toughest days.

Help us to keep our focus first on you this season. Please forgive us for giving too much time and attention to other things, for looking to other people before coming to you first. Help us to reflect again, on you. Thank you that you came to give new life, peace, hope, and joy. Thank you that your power is made perfect in our weakness.

Help us to remember that the gift of Christ, Immanuel, is our greatest treasure. Fill us with your joy and the peace of your Spirit. Direct our hearts and minds towards you. Thank you for your reminder that both in seasons of celebration and in seasons of brokenness, you're still with us. For you never leave us. Thank you for your daily powerful Presence in our lives, that we can be assured your heart is towards us, your eyes are over us, and your ears are open to our prayers. Thank you that you surround us with favor as with a shield, and we are safe in your care.

We choose to press in close to you today, and keep you first in our hearts and lives. Without you we would surely fail, but with you, there is great hope. Thank you for your healing power, thank you for bringing us into this new season up ahead. We look forward to all that You still have in store.

We pray for all of our church family, especially those whose faith is tested now by illness, hardship, or sadness. Bring your strength and comfort to our loved ones and peace to those who hold weight in their

hearts. Be with us in joy as we hold hope in new beginnings and future endeavors. We thank you for the gift of faith that in you we know love and grace that is bigger than our comprehension. We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Christ who taught us to pray together, saying,

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: THE BREAKING, THE POURING, THE SHARING IN PARTAKING

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING



HYMN NO. 69 (*Emily Béghin, Chuck Morse, Jessica Petersen; Jasen Petersen*)

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE I AM

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

CHORUS **Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

**I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? CHORUS**

CHARGE AND BLESSING (*Jessica Petersen; Jasen Petersen*)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

POSTLUDE (*Madeline & Kaitlyn Hendler*)

Amazing Grace

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**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available in the narthex. Please help yourself or ask an usher for assistance.

**NEW MEMBERS** may be received any Sunday by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership. If you feel led to inquire about becoming a church member or deepening your commitment as a disciple of Jesus Christ, please indicate your desire on the fellowship folder. You may also call the church (979.823.8073) or email Pastor Ted Foote ([tfoote@fpcbryan.org](mailto:tfoote@fpcbryan.org)) or Associate Pastor Emily Béghin ([ebeghin@fpcbryan.org](mailto:ebeghin@fpcbryan.org)). They will be glad to arrange a mutually convenient Sunday when you can be received by the Elders and introduced to the congregation.

By vote of Session on December 30, 2020, First Presbyterian moved to **an altered Sunday morning format for an indefinite time (hopefully not long), that began January 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Due to the COVID-19 infection, active case and hospitalization rates, FPC – to assist the efforts of health providers and public officials – is suspending Sunday morning “full worship” in the sanctuary. **The sanctuary will be open in this calendar period each Sunday, from 10:40 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (regular time)** for “come-and-go” contemplation, prayer, and receiving the Lord’s Supper. **All who choose to participate in this opportunity are encouraged to wear a mask and observe physical distancing.**



## A WARM WELCOME!

*We are delighted that you chose  
to worship with us today.*

### WORSHIP NOTES

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Ted Foote

Rev. Emily K. Béghin

Youth of First Presbyterian Church

### AUDIO-VISUAL | SOUND

Nicole McKinley

Jerry Norris

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING SOURCE

Debbie McDaniel, 2017

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/a-prayer-for-hope-after-a-hard-year.html>

### MUSICIANS

Rev. Emily K. Béghin

Jasen Petersen

Jessica Petersen

Michelle Lassiter, *piano*

David Kipp,

*Director of Music Ministries*

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Hymns from *Glory to God:*

*The Presbyterian Hymnal*

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### THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

#### "STOCK THE PANTRY" SUNDAY

9:00am Loose Leaf Church School Class-via Zoom

9:20am Seekers Church School Class-via Zoom

**10:40am Sanctuary** \* open for prayer, meditation, and Lord's Supper;

WORSHIP pre-recorded, viewable via [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org), with click on homepage "sentence about worship" or small red YouTube box in far top right of homepage screen

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021

9:30am Congregational Care Committee-L

5:30pm Cub Scout Pack 350-FH

7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 976-FH

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

11:00am Staff Meeting-L

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

6:00pm Property Committee-L

6:00pm Cub Scout Pack 350-304

7:00pm Circle VII-via Zoom

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021

#### TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

9:00am Loose Leaf Church School Class-via Zoom

9:20am Seekers Church School Class-via Zoom

**10:40am Sanctuary** \* open for prayer, meditation, and Lord's Supper;

WORSHIP pre-recorded, viewable via [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org), with click on homepage "sentence about worship" or small red YouTube box in far top right of homepage screen

\* *During COVID-19, Room 108 is available for your nursery needs*

The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes, is NOON, TODAY. It will be distributed on Wednesday, February 10, 2021. This newsletter will cover news from February 18 thru March 3.

## REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS



Today, the first Sunday of the month, is traditionally known as FPC's "Stock the Pantry" Sunday (the Brazos Church Pantry, that is). While, at this time, we are not meeting for full worship in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, the sanctuary is open for prayer, meditation, and the Lord's supper. **You are invited to bring your donated goods on Sunday morning or to the Patio on weekdays.** The Pantry's needs are **toilet paper, personal hygiene products, and non-perishable foods. Monetary donations are also very much appreciated.** When you are out shopping this week, pick up extra items to share. Thank you for your generosity!

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The **Souper Bowl of Caring Offering** for local, regional, and national hunger relief (normally received on "NFL Super Bowl Sunday") will be received today through next Sunday, February 14. Checks may be made to First Presbyterian-Bryan, with "Souper Bowl of Caring" – or SBC – written on the memo line. Coins and currency can also be contributed, bringing these by the church office during the week. If your name is on an offering envelope containing the gift, you certainly can receive church giving credit.



## PUZZLE SWAP



**Tired of working on the same old puzzles?** Then box them up and participate in FPC's Puzzle Swap organized by Congregational Care Committee. The puzzles will be available in the Indoor Patio Friday, February 12, thru Friday, March 12. Bring in one puzzle, take one. Bring in two puzzles, take two.

**Just want to clean out old puzzles? We'll take them!** BRING IN COMPLETE PUZZLE SETS (No missing pieces, please). Remember, children like to work puzzles, too. (NOTE: Donated puzzles will not be returned.)

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**Visit us on the web!** [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org)

for the newsletter, announcements, worship bulletins, updates, etc.

**Check us out on Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/FPCBryan](http://www.facebook.com/FPCBryan)

**NEW!!! on Instagram** [www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com)

Search for and follow **fpcbryantx1867** and/or **fpcbryan\_youth**

**BE THE FIRST TO KNOW** when **WORSHIP** and **ACTIVITY** videos are uploaded to our YouTube channel!

Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), search for First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, Texas, then click **SUBSCRIBE**

**Share prayer needs and church group news with fellow FPC participants on Church Updates!**

is FPC-Bryan's online tool for YOU to post church-related announcements, ways to serve, and your current prayer needs. While users receive a weekly reminder email on Thursdays to view new posts, this online tool is "REAL TIME."

Contact Karen in the church office, 979.823.8073 or [office@fpcbryan.org](mailto:office@fpcbryan.org) to set up your account.

Then, login at <https://fpcbtx.churchupdates.org/login> to create your password-protected account.

## ELEVATOR SPEECH

Adam Espinoza  
February 7, 2021

First Presbyterian Church  
Bryan, Texas

When I was in my early years of elementary school, my mom and dad were looking for a church in order to try and not only meet with people but to also to try and get closer to God. Originally, my mom was Jewish, so for something to change her way of belief, it had to have been something extreme or things built up overtime. In this case, it was a case of extreme change in life.

During April of my kindergarten year of school, I had gone on a flight to LA to “visit my family.” Well, that’s what I was told, at least. The real reason as to why I went was because it was my grandfather during his final hours. I was never told that because my mom didn’t want me to worry or to be scared. My mom’s beliefs were cleared up during his last few minutes on this earth.

When my grandfather was on his deathbed and the rabbi was giving him their equivalent to our last rites, they mentioned that “When the messiah comes...” my mom chimes in to say, “Hasn’t he already?” and from then on, she denounced Judaism and accepted Christianity. When we returned home, we started to search for a church and ended up here at First Presbyterian and have been a part of this little community, so why am I here?

Why am I still here? Is it because I come here out of obligation? Do I believe in God because I’m told to? If it was the case, then I would’ve done whatever I could to stay away from here, and I wouldn’t come to help out with whatever needs help at church, so why do I still come to church and believe in God?

Why I’m still here and do believe in God is a bit of a mess, but I’ve been able to see through all of that mess. I found that the first time I had an interaction with God was after us moving houses back in 5th grade. I knew we were going to move houses for the entirety of the 2nd semester of my 5th grade year, but it hurt nonetheless. Then not much long after moving into our 2nd house in Bryan, my mom goes on a flight to Idaho to visit her brother for the same reason.

Unlike before, I was at the age where I understood the concept of death. The entire time I was scared wondering what was going to happen and what was wrong fearing he would leave this world like Grandpa Don did. Little did I know that would be the case.

I was told of his passing a few days later when my mom returned. I would then, at the time, do something I’d never thought I would ever do. I prayed. I prayed to God asking him to be kind to Uncle Rick on his journey on up and to make sure Grandpa Don and the rest of the family were there to greet him. I then asked him what his plans were for me and for the rest of my family. Well, a few months later we get our answer Noah and the Ark style with our house getting flooded. We moved out and back in with my grandparents on my dad’s side. Guess He said to us to go and not worry about what’ll come next, but enjoy what you have around you.