

First Presbyterian Church



**March 24, 2019
8:30 & 10:45 a.m.**

**525 North Broadway • Wichita, Kansas 67214 • (316) 263-0248
www.firstchurchwichita.org**

March 24, 2019

3rd Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Prelude

Aria

Flor Peeters

**Processional
Greetings

Katelyn Young

*Call to Worship

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

People: The Lord God said: I will give you a new heart and a new mind. I will take away your stubborn heart of stone and give you an obedient heart.

Leader: Let us worship God.

*Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*Hymn

My Song is Love Unknown

No. 76

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Silence

Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

**Song of Thanksgiving

Gratitude Attitude

Youth Choir

Song of Thanksgiving

Gloria Patri

No. 579

*The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.



Welcome, Visitors!

We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting First Presbyterian Church this morning. We are glad you are here! **Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from an usher. Transistor hearing aids are also available for your use.** Please ask any usher for one and feel free to sit wherever you wish in the Sanctuary while using one. All persons are encouraged to sign the Ritual of Friendship Pads as they are passed to you in the pews. Please include your address, email address, and telephone number. **Please remember to turn off your cell phone before worship this morning.**

Children's Information-Children are welcome in worship. We do not mind a little fidgeting and fussing in the pew. We offer children's worship bags with various quiet activities in cloth bags located just outside the Sanctuary doors. But if you feel that your child is having a difficult time sitting through church, you are welcome to worship in *The Well*. Remember, quiet play in *The Well* is appropriate so as not to disturb others who are trying to worship. Also, the McComb room is available as a Cry room. And, finally, we encourage you to consider the Nursery, which is located in the South end of the Case Building, where we have trained Staff to look after and engage your child from Birth to Kindergarten. If we need to contact you during worship, just give us your cell number and we will text you. You and your child's (spiritual, emotional, and social) needs are important to us. (Liz Norris—Director of Children's Ministry)

A quick reminder: Under the Child Protection Policy **children are not allowed to leave the Sanctuary or *The Well* without an adult escort.** Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sympathy- We extend our Christian sympathies to Bob Heaton over the loss of his sister Nancy Anne Schneck.

Flowers-The flowers for our services this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor and celebration of the wedding of Judy Conners and Phil Michel.

Praying for the Church Family-As a congregation we weekly focus our personal and corporate prayers upon a selection of church members and friends. Let us remember in prayer this week the following: Eric & Tammi Schulte and family, Megan Cabrales, Betty Brodersen, Pat Mah, Susan Urban and Cleo Richards.

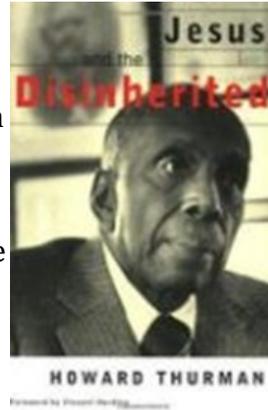
If you need a Stephen Minister, or would like more information about the Stephen Ministry, please contact Dr. Brent Johnston at 263-0248 or Louise Farmer at lfarmer4164@gmail.com.

Activities & Announcements

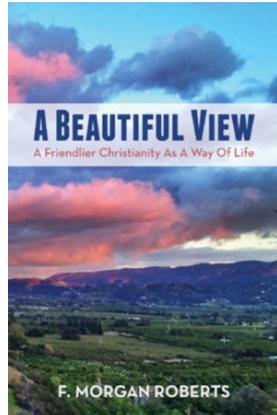
NEWS FROM THE JOURNEYS CLASS

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR LENTEN STUDY GROUPS

For Lent we will be studying Howard Thurman's classic, *Jesus and the Disinherited*. It is a little book, but it is filled with insight about what the Gospel might say to those "who stand with their backs against the wall." Thurman believed this was the situation that Jesus lived in when confronting the powers-at-be calling for repentance and it is certainly speaking to the African American experience. But it also speaks to anyone or any group that feels helpless against the forces that are lined up against them. All are welcome! **(No reading is required, but if you want the book, it is available in the church office for \$16.) Sign-up sheets are located in *The Well*. (See times and locations in the insert)**



Lenten Wednesday Night Adult Book Study



This past year at age ninety Presbyterian Church ((USA) pastor, the Reverend F. Morgan Roberts wrote a summary of his view of Christianity in the endearing book, *A Beautiful View: A Friendlier Christianity As A Way Of Life*. Tom Church will facilitate the study and conversation of this book at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor for the Wednesdays of Lent, beginning March 10. The book provides a regenerative spirit with which to view and practice faith. A review of the book as published in a recent issue of *The Presbyterian Outlook* is posted on the bulletin board adjacent the office. **Books are available in the church office for \$15.00 or you may purchase a copy at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Come join us!**

2019 is the 70th Anniversary *One Great Hour of Sharing*

The offering received on Palm Sunday, April 14, will support:

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Presbyterian Hunger Program
- Self-Development of People

*Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* No. 298

*Charge and Benediction
 Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

**Recessional

*Postlude *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* David Johnson

*signifies congregation standing (for those able)
 **signifies 10:45 service only

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor	Brent O. Johnston
Liturgist	Jeff Van Sickle and Ann Eastwood
Director of Music	Steve Bixler
Organist	Mark Sweeney

News & Upcoming Activities

C.R.E.W. Christians Ready Equipped and Willing

The youth group is doing Sunday school differently. The youth will meet in *The Well* at 10:30 a.m., then sit together in the Sanctuary for worship. The scripture readings and sermon will be our subject for discussion each Sunday. Our new time together will be called C.R.E.W. We hope this will be a meaningful way for our young people to think about and unpack God's word. Following the discussion, the youth will have time for fellowship.

"Be Well" Seminar on Saturday April 13

The Parish Nurse and the Evangelism/Hospitality Commission are sponsoring a "Be Well" (in body, mind, & relationships) Seminar, one session only, on Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in *The Well*. The session is FREE, limited to 20 individuals with lunch and materials provided. To register, sign up with Joan Aldrich (409-7249) or Mary Knecht (942-8068) by noon, Sunday, April 7. If you make a reservation and are not able to attend, please call to cancel to make room for someone else.

"Be Well" is presented by Rev. Dave Fulton. He received a grant from the Kansas Health Foundation and has been leading "Be Well" Seminars with great success for the last year. He is offering this program to members of FPC, their family and friends. If this session proves popular others will be scheduled.

Deep Spiritual Wellness (DSW) is our natural vitality and source of wellness. Spirit is the inner energy which makes us well. Spiritual practices such as meditation (mind), yoga (body), and spiritual conversation (relationships) open us to deep spiritual wellness. Stress in body, mind and relations take us out of DSW. Living in Deep Spiritual Wellness empowers vitality!
 For Deep Spiritual Wellness sign up to "Be Well" in body, mind, and relationships!

Thank You!

Your mission dollars fed Wichita school children. Each year, Partners for Wichita's "Filling the Gap Lunches for Kids" program feeds over 800 children a day during Spring Break and the last two weeks of summer vacation during times when no other lunch programs are available to them. The Mission Commission sent \$1,000 to help cover the cost of lunches during the last week of March for Spring Break 2019. Some of Wichita's most vulnerable children face the risk of hunger during vacations. Partners for Wichita, Kansas Food Bank, First Presbyterian Church and many other caring people are partners in meeting this hunger need. This is a great example of "doing together what we cannot do alone!"

Calendar

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, March 24</p> <p>8:30 Worship (Chapel) 9:15 Coffee Fellowship (<i>The Well</i>) 9:30 Journeys Class (WDR) 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 10:30 Youth C.R.E.W. (<i>The Well</i>) 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) 10:45 Refugee Worship (C201 & C204) 12:00 Melodrama Rehearsal (EDR)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, March 26</p> <p>5:30 Session Meeting (Parlor)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, March 27</p> <p>9:00 Dorcas (C105) 5:30 Wednesday Clubs 5:30 Wednesday Worship (Sanctuary) 6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary) 6:30 Adult Bible Study (Parlor) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday, March 29</p> <p>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, March 30</p> <p>11:00 Brent's Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, March 31</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Yellow Bag Sunday</i></p> <p>9:15 Coffee Fellowship (<i>The Well</i>) 9:30 Journeys Class (WDR) 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 10:30 Youth C.R.E.W. (<i>The Well</i>) 10:45 Worship—Soloist Anthony Brown with Hesston College Bel Canto Singers (Sanctuary) 10:45 Refugee Worship (C201 & C204) 12:00 Melodrama Rehearsal (EDR) 3:00 Durfee 360 Concert at Mark Arts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Week Is Yellow Bag Sunday!</p> <p>Many of our refugee families are finding it hard to purchase all the household and hygiene items one needs when the bread-winner of the family makes only \$9.75/hour. This is when our yellow bags become blessing bags when we bring laundry detergent, soap, toothpaste, bathroom and facial tissue (and other hygiene items) to give to our new neighbors. Although the yellow bags will be collected next Sunday, you can bring items any time during the week and place them in the blue basket outside the church office.</p>
--	---

First Reading Hebrews 11:1-6

Anthem G. F. Handel
He Trusted in God (from Messiah)
He trusted in God that he would deliver him: if he delight in him.

Second Reading John 5:39-47

Sermon Series: "The Questions of Existence and Meaning"
 Week 7: "Why Can't Truth Be Black and White? Faith as certainty or trust?"
 The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

*Affirmation of Faith Excerpt from *Confession of 1967*

Leader: The Bible is to be interpreted in the light of its witness to God's work of reconciliation in Christ. The Scriptures, given under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are nevertheless the words of men, conditioned by the language, thought forms, and literary fashions of the places and times at which they were written. They reflect views of life, history, and the cosmos which were then current. The church, therefore, has an obligation to approach the Scriptures with literary and historical understanding. As God has spoken his word in diverse cultural situations, the church is confident, that he will continue to speak through the Scriptures in a changing world and in every form of human culture.

All: God's word is spoken to his church today where the Scriptures are faithfully preached and attentively read in dependence on the illumination of the Holy Spirit and with readiness to receive their truth and direction.

Call to Stewardship

Offertory Michael Joncas
On Eagle's Wings
 Emily Chancellor, Alto; Steve Bixler, Guitar
*...And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
 Bear you on the breath of dawn,
 Make you to shine like the sun,
 And hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*Doxology No. 592

*Prayer of Dedication