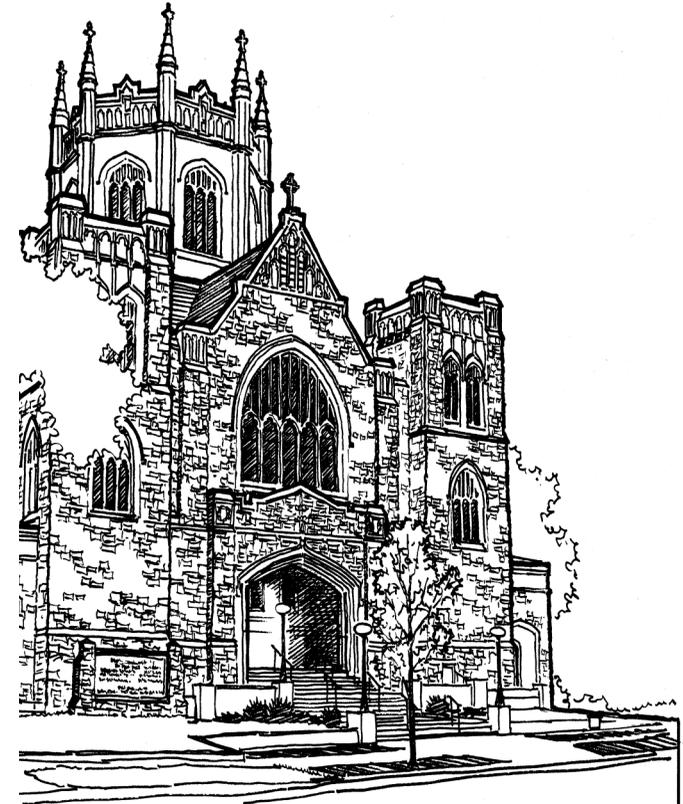


First Presbyterian Church



January 31, 2021
9:30 a.m. In-Person & Live Streaming

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

January 31, 2021	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	9:30 a.m.
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Prelude	<i>Arioso</i>	J. S. Bach
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Greetings

*Call to Worship - excerpt from Psalm 111:1-4, 10

Leader: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

People: Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Leader: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

People: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

Leader: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

All: Let us worship God.

*Prayer of the Day

O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. **Amen.**

*Hymn *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* No. 478

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence
Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

Leader: As God's own people, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you. 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.

Kids Connection (pre-recorded)

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Anthem

O Father, God of Love

J.S. Bach/arr. Tucker

Second Reading

Mark 1:21-28

Sermon

"A New Kind of Teaching"
Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

*Affirmation of Faith - Excerpt from *Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain, and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

Calendar

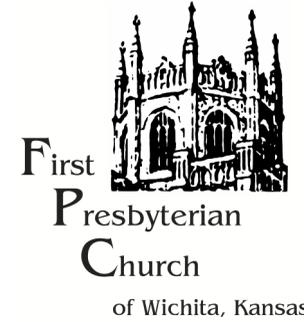
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, January 31</p> <p>9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live</p> <p>10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)</p> <p>10:45 Congregational Mtg (Sanctuary/Zoom)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, February 2</p> <p>2:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (MS Teams)</p> <p>4:00 Camp Comm. Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p>5:30 CE Comm. Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p>5:30 Facilities Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, February 3</p> <p>9:00 Dorcas (Rm C105)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, February 6</p> <p>8:00 Community Breakfast (KIT/ West Parking Lot)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, February 7</p> <p>9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live</p> <p>10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)</p> <p>10:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45 Journey's Class (Zoom)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stewardship Update</p> <p>We are behind our goal for next year's pledges. So far, we have received 96 pledges for a total of \$349,807.00. If you have not turned in your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!</p>
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Update on FPC 150th Cookbook (150 Years, 150 Stories)

The cookbook is progressing very nicely, and we hope to have a finished product sometime this Spring. If you have not sent in your recipes, stories, or photos yet, please send them no later than Monday, February 8. You can send them via e-mail to publications@firstchurchwichita.org or mail them to the church office, Attn: Cookbook.

In addition, we are asking everyone to submit their Epiphany soup recipes for our cookbook's soup section.

**Again, the deadline is Monday, February 8.
Many thanks from the Evangelism &
Hospitality Commission!**



Welcome, Visitors!

We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting First Presbyterian Church this morning. We are glad you are here! If you recently had a change in address, e-mail, or phone number, please feel free to contact the office on Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. so that we may update your information.

Please remember to turn off your cell phone before worship this morning.

All persons must sign in upon entry of the building at this time for safety reasons due to COVID-19.

Children's Information-Children are welcome in worship. We do not mind a little fidgeting and fussing in the pew. 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 without an adult escort. In addition, all children and group activities including children in the Nursery must be supervised by a minimum of 2 authorized staff or volunteers.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sunday Kids Connection-Kids Connection is prerecorded as part of the live stream worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you have questions on how to find the group, please call Liz at (316) 214-4318.

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: Adriana & Walter Mau, Joan & Doug Aldrich, Jerry Devins, Herb Bevan, and Carol & Kenny Wright.

Upcoming Events & News

Journeys Classes

CAN LISTENING TO VOICES OF OTHER RELIGIONS AND FAITH COMMUNITIES LEAD US TO A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING AND PRACTICE OF OUR FAITH TRADITION?

Over 5 Sundays we will study and discuss other faiths and our own with a new lens seeking to understand other traditions and deepening our own faith traditions. Facilitated by Pat Welker. For questions, please call Pat at (720) 273-2124.

Due to the Congregational Annual Meeting on January 31, the final class has been rescheduled for February 7, 2021. ALL SESSIONS WILL BE ON ZOOM.

The week before Jan. 3 an invitation to the congregation was sent by Pastor Brent with the code to enter the Zoom meeting. Class will begin at 10:45 a.m. and conclude at 11:45. **(Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, and Feb 7).** You may enter the meeting at 10:40 and all meetings will begin right on time. We are covering 7 weeks of material in 5 weeks, so time is critical.

An email attachment packet of information will accompany the invitation so you may have information about the class and a syllabus. Each week you will receive a reminder link to enter the class that week. Please obtain a copy of Barbara Brown Taylor's book "HOLY ENVY." available on Amazon.

CHURCH SESSION MOTIONS APPROVED

There will only be one Worship service each week at 9:30 a.m. both in-person and live streaming through May 2021.

(In order to maintain social distancing during worship, please do not sit in the pews that are roped off.)

- The Session voted to suspend all meetings and on-site activities, except for Sunday Worship and the Community Breakfast (as limited below).
 - The volunteers who make the Community Breakfast possible will be allowed to operate inside the building.
 - The Community Breakfast guests will continue to be served outside of the building.
- Member key cards will be active only during office hours from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you need access at some other time, please call or text our Facilities Manager, Roy Yarbrough at 516-4772.
- Sunday worship services continue to require the following protocols be adhered to: face masks are required, maintain social distancing, the west entrance is the only open entrance to the building, temperatures of all participants will be taken, the collection plates will NOT be passed but instead will be placed at the doors, and there will be no congregational singing during services.

Upcoming Classes

REGISTERING FOR KLC'S YOUR LEADERSHIP EDGE

2021 Virtual Session Dates

(Registration closes two weeks prior to each program.)

February 3-4, March 3-4, April 14-15, May 5-6, June 2-3, July 7-8, August 4-5, September 1-2, October 6-7, November 3-4

1. Go to the Kansas Leadership Center Website www.kansasleadershipcenter.org. You can also go directly to the information page for the Your Leadership Edge course by pointing your browser to (www.kansasleadershipcenter.org/yourleadershipedge)
2. You will be required to create an account so that you can receive the training agenda and other course materials. Look for a blue box that says, "Create Account Here to Register" and click on that box to start your registration, then select the option to create your account.
3. The first part of creating your account will be to enter your name, email address and to create and confirm a password.
4. Once your account has been created, you can proceed with the course registration. (NOTE: There is a section that says Headshot/Bio that appears to be mandatory. Although KLC would like to have a photo of you, this is not necessary.)
 - a. If you do opt to upload a photo, note that this is a two-step process. The participants will have to "choose file" and select a picture and then "upload" the picture onto the registration as well. If you have trouble it may be because you clicked the "choose file" and haven't also clicked the "upload" button to make the picture stick. The other possible issue is that the picture file you are may be too large.
 - b. You will need to enter some information in the bio section, but this does not have to be an extensive personal resume. Something as simple as "I am participating as a member of First Presbyterian Church" will suffice.
5. Toward the end of the registration, there will be an option to enter a promo code. Be sure to enter FirstPrez2020 which should remove the registration fee in its entirety.
6. If you successfully complete your registration, you should receive an email confirmation shortly thereafter. If you do not, be sure to check your SPAM folder. If you do not believe you have it after about 24 hours, let me know and I will have the KLC staff check the class list to see if they can find and resend your confirmation.