November 17, 2019  23rd Sunday after Pentecost  8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Prelude  Aria  Flor Peeters

**Processional  Griffin Barker

Bell Introit  Praise to the Lord, The Almighty  arr. Patricia Sanders

Greetings

*Call to Worship
Leader: Look up and raise your heads,
People: because our redemption is drawing near.
Leader: Shout aloud and sing for joy,
People: for great in our midst is the Holy One.

*Prayer of the Day
Lord God of all the ages, the One who is, who was, and who is to come, stir up within us a longing for your kingdom, steady our hearts in time of trial, and grant us patient endurance until the sun of justice dawns. We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Hymn  Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above  No. 483

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

*Song of Thanksgiving  
*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.**

First Reading  
Isaiah 65:17-25

Anthem  
Deep River  
Emily Chancellor, Soloist  
arr. Robert Fountain  
Deep river, my home is over Jordan.  
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.  
Oh don’t you want to go to that gospel feast,  
That promised land where all is peace.

Second Reading  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Sermon:  
“Admonition Against Idleness and a Royal Waste of Time”  
The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

*Affirmation of Faith

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer  
Susan Jones and Aimee Wallace

Moment for Grace and Gratitude  
Tom Warner, Sr.

Offertory  
Great is Thy Faithfulness  
arr. Mark Hayes  
No. 276

*Doxology  
No. 592

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn  
Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples  
No. 434

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

**Recessional
*Postlude

Praise to the Lord

H. F. Micheelsen

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

Worship Leaders

Pastor
Liturgist
Director of Music
Organist

Brent Johnston
Russ Davisson
Steve Bixler
Mark Sweeney
**Final Mini Market this Sunday!!**

If you have a hard to buy for person on your Christmas shopping list consider remembering them with a gift from the Alternative Gift Market. The mini market will be held in *The Well* this Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A gift of $1.00 will provide 40 doses of anti-malarial medicine for pregnant women in Burma, $3.00 will purchase two baby chicks for farmers in Egypt, $5.00 will plant 10 trees in Nepal, $6.00 will help care for one Timber elephant in Myanmar. There are 31 other projects that will relieve poverty and suffering that deserve our support. For additional information: [www.alternativegifts.org](http://www.alternativegifts.org).

**HANGING OF THE GREENS!!**

You are invited to join in as we deck out the Sanctuary during the annual "Hanging of the Greens" immediately following the 10:45 a.m. service on Sunday, November 24th. It will be a festive way to kick off the Christmas season and bring some holiday cheer to our beautiful Sanctuary. Thanks in advance from the Worship and Music Commission!

---

**News & Upcoming Activities**

**Matthew 25 Education Film Series Begins**

At the September Session meeting, First Presbyterian Church became a Matthew 25 Church committed to addressing systemic poverty issues, racial issues, and congregational vitality.

Towards that end, the Mission Commission is sponsoring three films on Wednesday night from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on November 20, 27, and December 4, to be shown in *The Well*.

November 20, at 6:00 p.m. we will be showing “Dawo’s Dinner,” what happens to a community when it opens the door to hospitality. November 27, we will be showing a film by KSU Documentary on Refugees and their struggle to put down roots. December 4, we will be watching a webinar on “Healing the Wounds of Privilege.” The Mission Commission hopes you will come to one or more of these films. Discussions will follow.

**PLEDGE CAMPAIGN**

Our “Grace and Gratitude” campaign continues. To date we have received 93 pledges for a total of $381,813.00. The Stewardship Committee thanks you and wants to remind you that if you are still planning to pledge it is not too late. You can find pledge cards on the table outside of the office. Thank you.

**SMALL GROUP STUDIES CONTINUE!**

**JOURNEYS CLASS CONTINUE THROUGH NOV 24.**

**HOW PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDINGS AFFECT YOUR LIFE.**

The purpose of the course

- To help ourselves focus on positive and practical implications of progressive Christianity for enriched and hopeful living.
- What does it mean to be a Christian?

We will look at the traditional way and the progressive way of Christianity and try to see the implications for our lives as we discuss those effects. We will study GOD, JESUS, THE BIBLE, and HOPE each of the Sundays in November. Each participant will receive a guide. Join us in the Parlor each Sunday from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

-Led by Pat Welker

---

**News & Upcoming Activities**

**Share the Flowers!**

Several folks have spoken to me about the possibility of sharing the cost of the Sunday flowers for the Sanctuary, and we have already done this on a couple of occasions. However, if more people are interested, I am very much in favor. The flower ministry is such an important part of our church service each week. It will mean more actual donors, but that can be a good thing.

If you are interested in participating with the shared flower donations, please let me know. I do ask that you contact me by email, msheff1@cox.net, leaving your name and phone number.

As always, we will try to accommodate color and/or specific flower requests and dates, but we can discuss that when we talk. I hope to hear from you, and this will begin in the new year. -Marilyn Heffner
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 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.

Flowers: The Harvest decor in the Sanctuary this Sunday was provided by the Chancellor Guild.

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: John & Judy Weber, Dick & Margaret Wieland, Kristine Blough, Patrick Martin and Brad & Wendy Bowles and family.

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.

---

**Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday, November 17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 Worship (Chapel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 Journeys Class (Parlor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 Deacons’ Mtg (C109)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 Mini Alternative Gift Market (The Well)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 Blood Pressure Check (The Well)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 Refuge Worship (C204)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tuesday, November 19**

| 10:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (Hobbs) |
| 11:00 Staff Mtg (Hobbs) |

**Wednesday, November 20**

| 9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105) |
| 5:30 Wednesday Clubs |
| 6:15 Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) |
| 6:00 Adult Ed Film Series (The Well) |
| 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) |

**Thursday, November 21**

| 1:30 Book Chat (C109) |

**Friday, November 22**

| 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (C109) |

**Saturday, November 23**

| 11:00 Brent’s Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs) |

---

**Sunday, November 24**

**Yellow Bag Sunday**

| 8:30 Worship (Chapel) |
| 9:00 Coffee Fellowship (The Well) |
| 9:30 Journeys Class (Parlor) |
| 10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) |
| 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary) |
| 10:45 Refuge Worship (C204) |
| 11:45 Hanging of the Greens (Sanctuary) |

---

2020 Calendars Needed for Refugees
The Mission Commission is collecting 2020 calendars for the members of the Wichita Refugee Congolese Church. As you start receiving complimentary calendars that you cannot use, please bring them to the church and place them in the basket outside the office marked “items for refugees.”

Poinsettia Orders
Poinsettia trees will once again adorn the Sanctuary for the Advent season. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one, the suggested donation is $12. Please place your order by December 12.