

First Presbyterian Church of Inverness, Florida
November 17, 2024
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 28



PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT

SPIRIT SONG

NANCY ANDERSEN

OPENING SENTENCES

DONNA DUBLO, DEACON

Whether we are sure of God's work in the world or still waiting for a sign,

let us worship the Lord, encouraging one another in hope.

Whether we are confident in what the future will bring or carry more questions than answers,


let us worship the Lord, strengthening one another in faith.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

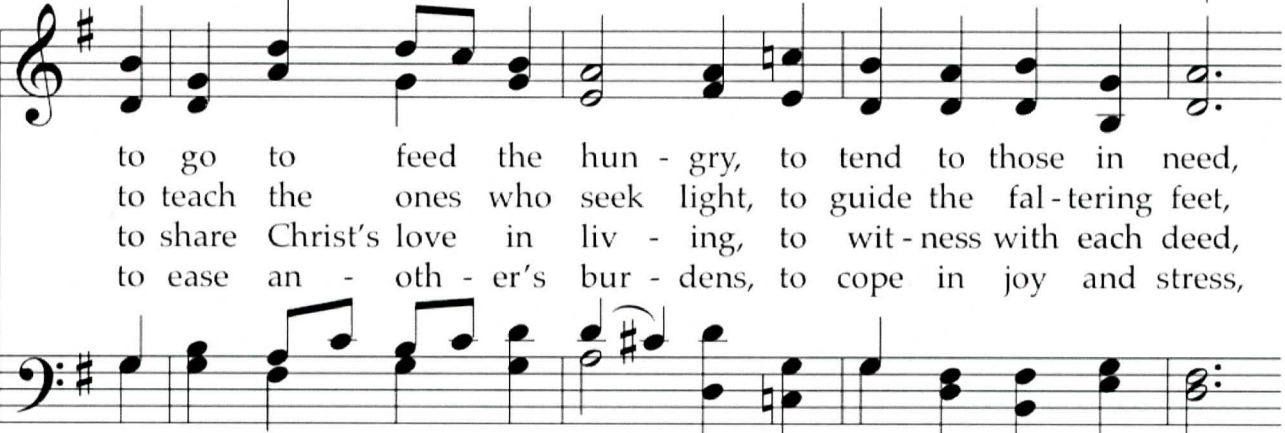
Caring God, you are always with us, but sometimes that can be hard to remember. When it feels like we are praying alone, grant us confidence that you are with us. In times when our spirits feel more settled, help us to share that peace with neighbors who need it. Amen.



1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship



who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap-pears,
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:



to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal-tering feet,
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,



to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

***CONFESSION AND PARDON**

You are the God of all people, O Lord, the creator of all things good. Forgive us when we fail to see the good. Forgive us when we refuse to see the “all.” We are searching for your presence and grasping for your grace, unable to believe that we cannot be separated from your love. Forgive us, God of mercy, and through Christ our redeemer, free us to try again. (silent confession) Let all God’s children say, **Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***PASSING CHRIST’S PEACE**

***GLORIA**

HALLE, HALLE, HALLE

CHILDREN’S SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Let your will be done, **on earth as in heaven.**

ANTHEM

WHOLE HEART

NANCY ANDERSEN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 10:11–25

Gospel Lesson

Mark 13:1–8

Old Testament Lesson

1 Samuel 1:4–20

SERMON

HOLD TIGHTLY TO FAITH

REV. LOU ELLEN HARTLEY

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people.

His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being.

His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need.

His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice.

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong.

The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action.
So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

*INVITATION TO OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY #607

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #691

LORD, WHEN I CAME INTO THIS LIFE

1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
on the earth, my sights set high on you.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Church Staff and Contact Information

Church Office 352-637-0770, fpcinoffice@gmail.com

Lou Ellen Hartley, Pastor – revhartley1000@gmail.com

Lori Wolford, Dir. of Outreach & Christian Education, dcelori.fpc@gmail.com

Lesa Shelton, Music Director

Marina Veiler, Organist

Danny Birstler, Sound Booth Coordinator

Vicki Oorbeck, Child Care Attendant

Laura Morrow, Office Administrator

Bruce Cook, Prayer Warrior

Danny Sullivan, Facilities Manager

Gary Oorbeck, Grounds |Maintenance |Security

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott, Parrish Associate for Visitation

Treasurer Email: fpcinvFinance@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Closed on Friday

Our Elders

Class of 2024: Caryl Birstler (clerk), Alicia Downing, George Schumacher, Carolyn Smith

Class of 2025: Barbara Dee Cawley, Jerry Reynolds, Leah Robinson

Class of 2026: Barbara Caudill, Bruce Cook, Lesa Shelton, John Morrison

Our Deacons

Class of 2024: Wilma Abel, Ron Shafer, Mary Beth Smith

Class of 2025: Toni Scott, Phoebe Schumacher, Amanda Morrison

Class of 2026: Ray Birstler, Donna Dublo, Adele Wardrup

WORSHIP FLOWERS

Worship Flowers are given by Karen Medrano in honor of Raise the Roof Festival Singers and Susan Hendrick

Nursery and Sunday School for All Ages

Infants and Pre-K

CE Hall, Room 2

Ms. Vicki

Elementary (K-5)

CE Hall, Room 4

Ms. Mary Beth

Men's Bible Study

CE Hall, Room 5

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott

Adult Sunday School

Library

Barbara Caudill

Secondary/Youth Group (6-12)

CE Hall, Room 5

Ms. Lori, Mr. Ron &

6:00 p.m.

Miss Krys

GOD CALLING?

Is God calling you to get more involved in our church leadership? This is the time of year when we consider new candidates who may feel called to serve as an Elder or a Deacon for our congregation. Please speak to Ray Birstler, Bruce Cook, Bev King or Pastor Lou Ellen for more information.

CHRISTMAS ANGELS

Believe it or not, Christmas is just around the corner! The Christian Education Committee and Session has decided to sponsor 10 children from the Family Resource Center. We have one name available on the tree. All gifts must be returned by **Sunday, November 24th** in order to be delivered to the Family Resource Center before November 30th. If you have any questions, please see Lori Wolford or Krys D'Aquino.

Please **DO NOT** wrap the Angel Tree gifts.

Please **DO** attach the angel with the child's name to the gift.

THANK YOU!!!

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

It is time to update our church directory! If your address, phone numbers, or email address, have changed, please send an email to the church office so we have current information (fpcinovoffice@gmail.com). Or, complete a Church Data Profile Changes & Corrections form, which is at the Sign-Up Station. You may place the completed form in the offering plate, or at the church office. The deadline is **Sunday, November 24**.

ROCK OF AGERS GAME DAY

The Rock of Agers Game Day is **cancelled for November** since it falls on the day before Thanksgiving.

THE COUNTDOWN

Christmas is coming! Our Operation Christmas Child shoebox mission project has **only 7 more days!** Your filled shoebox is **due next Sunday, November 24th**, at our morning worship service. A few shoeboxes are still available in the narthex for those who still want to participate. This is our 21st year to be part of this ministry of Samaritan's Purse that delivers shoeboxes to needy children in over 130 countries - all in the name of Jesus! What will be our total for 2024? Watch the bulletin! Merry Christmas!

THEOLOGY & WINE

December Theology & Wine will meet at Angelo's in downtown Inverness on **Thursday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m.** Any 21-year-old (or older) is welcome to join us for fun, fellowship, and conversation as we seek to understand our faith in a deeper way. Please join us! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

A THURSDAY TRADITION

Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m., a Bible study group gathers in our church library or in Fellowship Hall. The group is currently exploring the I, II & III Books of the Apostle John. Just bring your Bible and a desire to “dig deep.” And those homemade cookie and goodies are a bonus! Welcome to all.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

“It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protestor to burn the flag.”
Father Denis Edward O’Brien, USMC

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Join us in the Parlor at **9:00 a.m. on Sundays** as we study the book, “Twelve Ordinary Men” by John MacArthur.

PARADE OF TREES

The Gulf to Lakes Pilot Club is holding their holiday Parade of Trees event in our Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, November 21, and Friday, November 22, from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Each year, the Gulf to Lake Pilot Club showcases more than 20 fully decorated Christmas trees at their annual Parade of Trees event, each one with its own theme and personality.

Trees will be delivered to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday afternoon, November 17, and the tree decorators will be setting up and decorating for the event from 9:00 – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Wednesday. Therefore, FPCI will not have any meetings or events in the Fellowship Hall for the week of November 17th.

Gulf to Lakes Pilot Club is an international volunteer service organization that raises funds for organizations and businesses within Citrus County that align with their mission, which is to educate children and adults about brain health and safety, to prepare youth for a life of service, and to support those who care for others.

If you would like to support the organization and save time by having them decorate a tree for you, the Boy Scouts will deliver the tree you purchase right to your home!

SINGLES EATING TOGETHER

Singles Eating Together will meet on December 4th at 3:00 p.m. at The Cover, 1242 S Cove Camp Point, Inverness. Please note the new time.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, November 17, 2024

- 9:00 Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:00 Men's Bible Discussion-Parlor
- 9:30 Special Called Session Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School-Children – CE Wing
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 1:00 Anchored Youth Group – Ice Cream at Liberty Park
- 3:00 Raise the Roof Festival Singers Concert

Monday, November 18, 2024

- 9:00-6:00 Parade of Trees Set-up in FH
- 5:30 Boy Scouts

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

- *9:00 Blessings
- *9:00 – 6:00 Parade of Trees Set-up in FH
- 10:00 Prayer Gathering – Parlor
- 11:00 Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 5:00 Christian Education Committee - Library

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

- *9:00 Blessings
- *9:00 – 6:00 Parade of Trees Set-up in FH
- 9:00 Staff Meeting
- 5:30 Finance Committee - Library

Thursday, November 21, 2024

- *9:00 – 12:00 Pastor in CPM Meeting
- 10:00 Thursday Bible Study – FH
- 11:00 Inverness Rotary Board – Library
- *4:00 – 8:00 Parade of Trees - FH

Friday, November 22, 2024

- *4:00 – 8:00 Parade of Trees - FH

Saturday, November 23, 2024

- *10:00 – 11:30 CCCC Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Sunday, November 24, 2024

- 9:00 Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:00 Men's Bible Discussion-Parlor
- 10:00 Sunday School-Children – CE Wing
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 6:00 Anchored Youth Group

*Outside Groups
FH = Fellowship Hall

A SPECIAL

Thank You

TO THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ushers

Frank & Donna Dublo

Ask Me Desk



GULF TO LAKES
PILOT CLUB OF CITRUS COUNTY

Come join us for the
Gulf to Lakes Pilot Club's annual

PARADE OF TREES

NOVEMBER 21ST & 22ND, 2024

Time: 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church
of Inverness, Church Hall
Washington Avenue, Inverness

Admission is FREE
with donation of an unwrapped
toy or non-perishable food items
to benefit CUB (Citrus United
Basket)

Raffle Baskets, Share the
Wealth and Refreshment
Tickets available for
purchase.

Santa and Mrs. Claus for
the children.

Fully decorated trees
and wreaths for sale!

For information call Gidget @
(352)476-6337