



FIRST PRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF First Presbyterian Church

MAY 1, 2023
Old First Church At a Glance

Friday, May 5, 2023

9:45 a.m. - Noon
Second Harvest Bread Boxing

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Food Offering

Friday, May 12, 2023

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Welcome reception for
Lillian Cleveland and Jacob Beychok

Saturday, May 13, 2023

2:00-4:00 p.m.
Home Front Open House

Sunday, May 14, 2023

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Serving Meals at Grace Mission

Sunday, May 21, 2023

9:30 a.m.
Spiritual Formation Volunteer Appreciation
Program and Continental Breakfast



First Presbyterian Church
110 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Phone (850) 222-4504
Fax (850) 222-2215

email: office@oldfirstchurch.org
website: www.oldfirstchurch.org
www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15 a.m.

Adult Church School Meet and
Greet on Zoom & In Person in the
Westminster Room Program starts
at 9:30 a.m.

9:15 a.m.

Nursery open for
infants - two-year-olds.

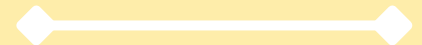
9:30 a.m.

Younger Children's Class
Room 306

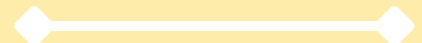
Older Children's Class
Room 301

11:00 a.m.

Worship in the Sanctuary.
Childcare is available for children
younger than kindergarten.



In Person and
Live-Stream Worship
Visit www.oldfirstchurch.org to
download Sunday's bulletin and
view the service. Services are
recorded and available for later
viewing on YouTube
[@FPCTallahassee](https://www.youtube.com/@FPCTallahassee).



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday



Pastor's Message

Rev. Anne H.K. Apple

Last Wednesday, the Westminster Oaks chapel service was a delight. Harriet Chase played the piano, and Chaplain Taylor Phillips reminded the gathered congregation of the power of stories, some that often go untold. Later that evening he was having a book launch for his book, ***Queen of the Clouds***, which tells the story of two women pilots, Jerrie Mock and Joan Merriam Smith, and their epic quest to fly solo around the world.

As the new month begins this week, so does the 6th month of the interim season. Compassionate witnessing has “launched” and the elders have begun that faithful work and a large part of compassionate witnessing is storytelling. This process will begin to roll into the congregation. In addition, the work of many administrative details are going on behind the scenes. Pictures are being taken for a new pictorial directory and if you come by church, there is a new doorbell installed on the left side of the door frame to the education building. Look up! It might seem silly to name a doorbell as an accomplishment, and yet - small things matter - like details in stories.

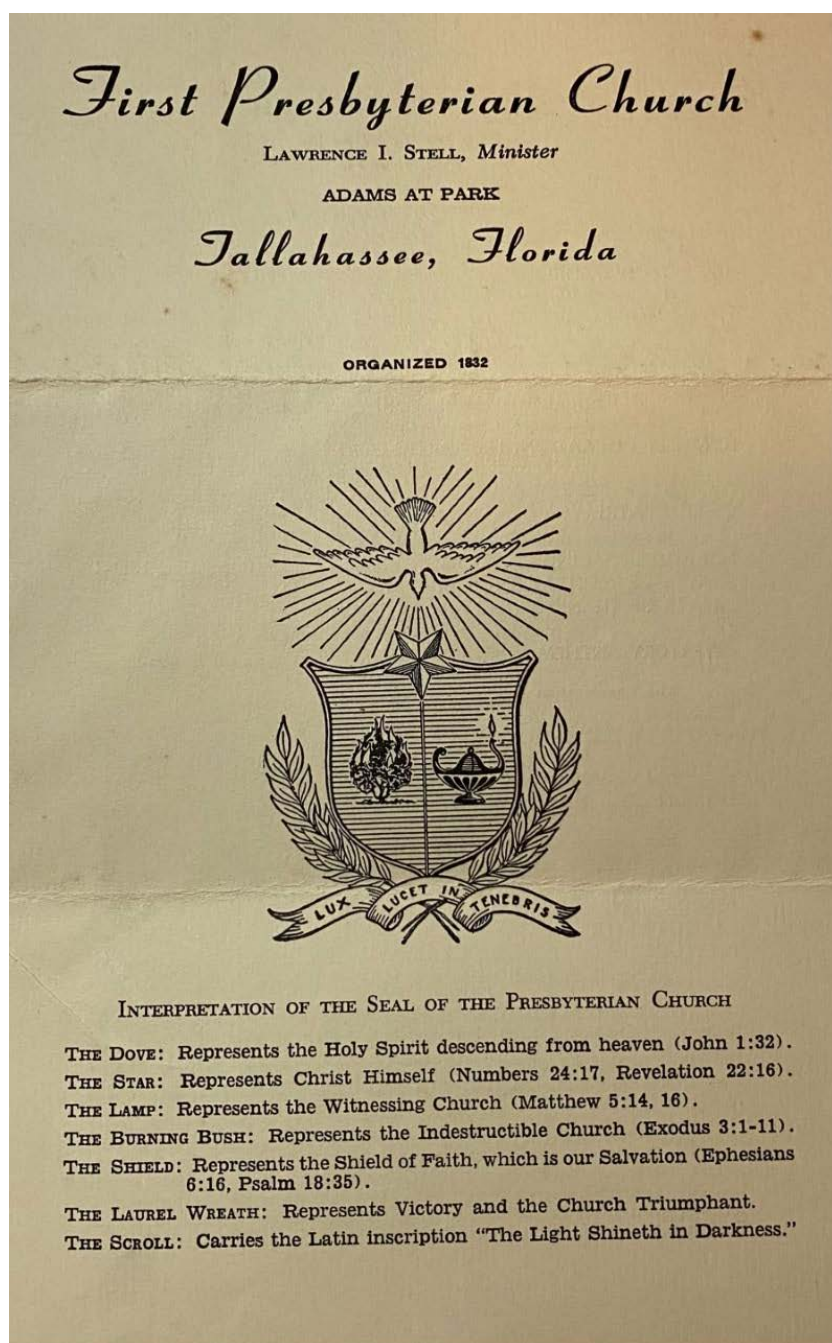
After worship at Westminster Oaks, Wayne Largent introduced himself and said, “I have a story for you!” Never having met Wayne before, I wasn’t sure where the connection would be made. He pulled out an envelope, a card, and a church bulletin from May 6, 1951. Seventy two years ago this week! Lawrence I. Stell was the minister. Hotel Duval was constructed that year in 188 days and opened in advance of the legislature convening. These were the years right before the Tallahassee Bus Boycott.



At that time, post WWII, there were two morning services and an evening service. The church had a bi-cameral form of leadership - a board of deacons and a Session. And, both groups were all male. The PC(USA) didn't even exist. First Presbyterian was part of the Southern Presbyterian Church. The stories. Oh, the stories about the church, her people, and how change unfolds across time. On Sunday, I shared Rachel Held Evans words, "The church is not a group of people who believe all the same things; the church is a group of people caught up in the same story, with Jesus at the center."

Thanks be to God for our story together with Jesus at the center!

God's peace,
God's presence.
Anne



Transportation to Worship



The Care and Outreach Committee would like to identify those who would like to attend church but may have transportation challenges.

If you or someone you know fit this category, please email Ann DelRossi at adelrossi@fsu.edu with your name, address and phone number. Also, please email Ann if you could be a (potential) transportation provider!

The Care and Outreach Committee is not guaranteeing that we can fill the transportation needs – we are at the initial phase of identifying those who may need help.



You're Invited



The families of
Lillian Cleveland and Jacob Beychok
invite you, the First Presbyterian Church family,
to greet and congratulate the couple at a
Welcome Event on
Friday, May 12th, 7pm-9pm
at the church. There will be cake and lemonade
and outdoor games.
We look forward to being able to share in the joy!

Children's Church School

MAY 7, 2023

Younger Children's Class

9:30am Room 306

Pre-K - 3rd grade

This week, the Younger Children will follow the lectionary, in a lesson titled:
A Letter to People of the Way

Older Children's Class

9:30am Room 301

4th-8th grade

This week, the Older Children will continue their journey through the New Testament:
Saul/Paul

Adult Church School

Sunday, May 7, 2023

9:30 a.m. start time
(9:15 a.m. meet and greet)

Join us in the
Westminster Room
or on Zoom.

We continue our "Fear Not" curriculum, taking us on a deep dive into our societal understanding of violence in our communities, particularly gun violence. It is designed to facilitate reflection and conversation around ideas of safety in the face of violence and how that relates to faithfulness as followers of Jesus Christ.

Be on the lookout for a Thursday afternoon e-mail from Emily with more details.



Nursery and Preschool Childcare

9:15 a.m. – the end of worship

Infants and children up to three years old – main floor nursery
Three – Pre-K children – third floor preschool classroom

The Twinkle Toes Agency staffs both rooms. All our sitters are CPR/First Aid trained and have had a full background screening. There are two sitters in each room. Please don't hesitate to contact Eleanor Cleveland at eleanor@oldfirstchurch.org about childcare.

HOME FRONT ICE CREAM SOCIAL



On Saturday afternoon May 13, First Pres will have an ice cream social at Home Front, a residential unit for formerly homeless veterans. Families are encouraged to come to enjoy home-made ice cream, music, games and an opportunity to talk with the residents. Members can also see the new rec room at Home Front refurbished and furnished by First Pres members. The time is 2-4 pm; the place, 1602 Stuckey Ave. If you have an ice cream maker and/or would like to help set-up and serve, please contact Carol Weissert, Debbie Gibson or Gary Niblack.





Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty

The State of Florida plans to execute Darryl Barwick on Wednesday, May 3, at 6 pm. We have one week to do everything we can to stop this execution. Urge Governor DeSantis and the Florida Board of Executive Clemency to stay the execution – sign and share the petition. Help us reach 10,000 signatures for Darryl.

The non-unanimity bill, SB 450, is now headed to Governor DeSantis to be signed into law. There is still time to stop the most extreme death penalty bill in the country from becoming law. Take action now. Contact Governor DeSantis and urge him to VETO SB 450.

We encourage everyone, not just Florida residents, to take this action for Darryl and for SB 450. The Governor is paying attention to what the nation thinks about his ability to lead. Help us show him the death penalty is bad policy and only creates more harm.

SAVE THE DATE



23 | May | 2023

6:00 - 7:30 pm

548 W. Park Ave. Tallahassee, FL 32301



If you need reserved parking,
please call Lori at 222-4504,
or email
office@oldfirstchurch.org.



The Choir meets at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and we are open to all singers.

Contact Ethan Murphy or the church office for more information.

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of
First
Presbyterian
Church

The newsletter is prepared on Mondays, including those Mondays that fall on holidays.

Please submit items for publication to:
newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org
no later than noon on production
Mondays; or, if possible, earlier the
previous week.

Presbytery of Florida



**produces a monthly electronic news-
letter that you may access using this link:**

[Panhandle Presbyterian](#)



SECOND HARVEST BREAD BOXING

Friday May 5 from 9:45 - Noon

If you are interested in joining your First Pres family in helping provide food for the hungry in May, you can sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849AAA72DAB9-second>

or

contact Debbie Gibson at gibsond1207@mail.com or 850-656-3659.

We hope you can join us some time soon.



Food Offering for Elder Care Services and Second Harvest of the Big Bend



OUR FOOD GIFTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of our First Sunday Food Collection efforts! Your food donations are brought alternately to Second Harvest and to Elder Care Services (ECS), and have provided hundreds of meals for our hungry and food insecure neighbors. So please mark your calendars now for our next food collection date on

Sunday, May 7, 2023.

Please consider including in your grocery list some items for those food-insecure neighbors around us. For questions, please contact Jan Bush. A list of the most-needed items is provided here for your convenience.

Cereal - Peanut Butter - Canned: Fruits, Vegetables, Meats, and Hearty Soup/Stew



SERVING MEALS AT GRACE MISSION

First Pres has volunteered to help serve Sunday dinner at Grace Mission on the second Sunday of every month. The next date is **Sunday, May 14**; we meet at 4 pm and are finished by 6 pm.

If you are interested in helping in this worthwhile effort, please contact Carol Weissert at cweissert@fsu.edu or go to the Sign Up Genius page directly at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-grace1>

Hope you can join us.



Sunday Festival Readings

**MAY 1, 2023
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

ACT 7:55-60
&
PSALM 31:1-5, 15-15
OR
PROVERBS 4:10-18
&
PSALM 119:9-32
1 PETER 2:2-10
JOHN 14:1-14



Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

We acknowledge the long history of systemic racism that, through violence, laws, policies, and their implementation, was intended to exclude persons who are not Caucasian from benefits and opportunities - from the first European settlers who considered themselves entitled to land and violently displaced indigenous people from their homes, to the equally long history of slavery which built the wealth of this country, to Jim Crow laws to current instances of police brutality and the overwhelming mass incarceration of people of color.

We declare ourselves utterly opposed to all forms of systemic racism. We are committed to standing with those who find themselves on the receiving end of any form of racism. We will seek out opportunities to oppose all forms of systematic racism and to ensure that black lives matter, as do those of indigenous, Asian, and Latinx people and persons of all colors or countries of origin. Our faith tells us that we can do no less, if we truly affirm that all human beings are made in god's image.

We dream of a day in which all persons are treated as bearers of that image.



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR

MAY 1-15, 2023

Monday, May 1

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Jer. 30:1-9
Col. 1:1-14
Luke 6:1-11

Tuesday, May 2

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Jer. 30:10-17
Col. 1:15-23
Luke 6:12-26

Wednesday, May 3

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Jer. 30:18-22
Col. 1:24-2:7
Luke 6:27-38

Thursday, May 4

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Jer. 31:1-1
Col. 2:8-23
Luke 6:39-49

Friday, May 5

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Jer. 31:15-22
Col. 3:1-1
Luke 7:1-17

Saturday, May 6

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Jer. 31:23-2
Col. 3:12-1
Luke 7:18-28 (29-30) 31-35

Sunday, May 7

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 15
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Isa. 32:1-8
2 Thess. 2:13-17
Matt. 7:7-14

Monday, May 8

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Jer. 32:1-1
Col. 3:18-4:1
Luke 7:36-5

Tuesday, May 9

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Jer. 32:16-25
Rom. 12:1-21
Luke 8:1-1

Wednesday, May 10

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Jer. 32:36-44
Rom. 13:1-14
Luke 8:16-25

Thursday, May 11

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Jer. 33:1-13
Rom. 14:1-12
Luke 8:26-3

Friday, May 12

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 13
Deut. 31:30-32:14
Rom. 14:13-23
Luke 8:40-56

Saturday, May 13

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Deut. 32:34-41 (42) 43
Rom. 15:1-13
Luke 9:1-17

Sunday, May 14

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Deut. 15:1-1
1 Tim. 3:14-4:
Matt. 13:24-34a

Monday, May 15

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Deut. 8:1-10 or
Deut. 18:9-14
James 1:1-15
Luke 9:18-27

If you wish to read these
on your computer you
will find them on the
PCUSA website [here](#).



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR

MAY 16-31, 2023

Tuesday, May 16

Morning: Pss. 98; 146

Evening: Pss. 66; 116

Deut. 8:11-20 or

Deut. 18:15-2

James 1:16-27

Luke 11:1-13

Wednesday, May 17

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 9; 118

Deut. 19:1-7

James 5:13-18

Luke 12:22-31

Thursday, May 18

Ascension of the Lord

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 68; 113

Ezek. 1:1-14, 24-28b

Heb. 2:5-18

Matt. 28:16-20

Friday, May 19

Morning: Pss. 96; 148

Evening: Pss. 49; 138

Ezek. 1:28-3:3

Heb. 4:14-5:6

Luke 9:28-36

Saturday, May 20

Morning: Pss. 92; 149

Evening: Pss. 23; 114

Ezek. 3:4-17

Heb. 5:7-14

Luke 9:37-50

Saturday, May 21

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Morning: Pss. 93; 150

Evening: Pss. 136; 117

Ezek. 3:16-27

Eph. 2:1-10

Matt. 10:24-33, 40-42

Monday, May 22

Morning: Pss. 97; 145

Evening: Pss. 124; 115

Ezek. 4:1-17

Heb. 6:1-12

Luke 9:51-62

Tuesday, May 23

Morning: Pss. 98; 146

Evening: Pss. 66; 116

Ezek. 7:10-15, 23b-27

Heb. 6:13-20

Luke 10:1-17

Wednesday, May 24

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 9; 118

Ezek. 11:14-25

Heb. 7:1-17

Luke 10:17-24

Thursday, May 25

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 68; 11

Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32

Heb. 7:18-28

Luke 10:25-37

Friday, May 26

Morning: Pss. 96; 148

Evening: Pss. 49; 138

Ezek. 34:17-31

Heb. 8:1-13

Luke 10:38-42

Saturday, May 27

Morning: Pss. 92; 149

Evening: Pss. 23; 114

Ezek. 43:1-12

Heb. 9:1-14

Luke 11:14-23

Sunday, May 28

Day of Pentecost

Morning: Pss. 104; 150

Evening: Pss. 29; 33

Isa. 11:1-9

1 Cor. 2:1-13

John 14:21-29

Monday, May 29

Morning: Pss. 135; 145

Evening: Pss. 97; 112

Deut. 4:9-1

2 Cor. 1:1-11

Luke 14:25-35

Tuesday, May 30

Morning: Pss. 123; 146

Evening: Pss. 30; 86

Deut. 4:15-24

2 Cor. 1:12-22

Luke 15:1-10

Wednesday, May 31

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 48; 4

Deut. 4:25-31

2 Cor. 1:23-2:1

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

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