

Announcements

Welcome. We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us today. If you are a visitor, please feel free to pick up a blue informational folder outside the entrances to the sanctuary to learn more about our church. Also, please fill out a visitor card in the pew racks and place in the offering plate so we can have a record of your visit. Thank you.

Homecoming. Please join us in the fellowship hall immediately following the morning service for our Homecoming Covered Dish meal as we celebrate God's goodness to us as a congregation.

Ladies: Mark your calendar and plan to join us at Panara Bread for dinner at 7 pm. Janice Richardson will do a personal story.

Gideon Sunday. Next Sunday, October 26, Alfred Whitlow will be our guest speaker from Gideons International. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this ministry as they faithfully distribute God's Word throughout the world. **Checks should be made payable to Gideons International.**

Young At Heart. Our next meeting will be October 28th with the meal being a covered dish, due to conflicts with Meals on Wheels for Glenn and Margaret. We will hear from Tammy Honeycutt and Christina Gile from Alamance Pregnancy Services. They will tell us about this vital ministry in our community. Foy Evans will coordinate the meetings for December and January.

First Presbyterian ARP Women's Ministries Retreat. Our very own Dot Hutelmyer will be the speaker. This will be a great time to get away and relax while getting to know each other better. Please plan to join us! If you RSVP we can work on room arrangements and travel together. Please let Jessica Richardson know at 336-437-4388 or richardson.jessica83@gmail.com.

Operation Christmas Child. It's that time again! Please consider filling a shoebox for Samaritan's Purse. These boxes will be shipped to many different countries to bring joy and smiles to underprivileged children around the world. Brochures will be available soon, but it's not too soon to start buying items and preparing the boxes. We need donations too, to help offset the cost of shipping. The cost is \$7.00 per box. Boxes should be turned in by November 9th.

Upcoming Business Items. Please submit your nominations for church officers, which includes elders, deacons, trustees, treasurer and congregational chairperson to one of the elders. Please pray as we consider the upcoming events of Officer Elections and Budget Approval. The dates will be announced soon.

Handbell and Choir Rehearsal. Please join us at 4 pm for Handbell rehearsal and 5 pm for choir rehearsal. New members are welcome!

Upcoming Preaching Schedule:
Today - Tim Robinson
October 26 - Gideon Sunday - Alfred Whitlow

Ministry Information

Nursery
Today: Chelle Spencer and Donna Wolff
Next Week: Karen Jones and TBA

Counter:
Today: Glenn Owens
Next Week: Jim Knox

Deacon on Duty
Today: Glenn Owens
Next Week: David Newton

Tithes and Offerings for October 12:
General Fund \$1,771.33

The Session

Vice Moderator: Gene Parks
Clerk: Jim Knox

2015: Jim Knox, Gene Parks
2017: Bill Haynes

The Diaconate

Chairman: Glenn Owens
Vice Chairman: Mark Vestal
Secretary: Doug Glass

2014: Glenn Owens, Mark Vestal
2015: Doug Glass
2016: David Newton, Tim Bessette

Congregational Officers

Trustees: Jim Knox, Steve Kyaw, Gene Parks
Congregational Chairperson: Dot Hutelmyer
Congregational Treasurer: Laurene Howington
Congregational Secretary: Jim Knox

Women's Ministries

Women's Ministries Coordinator: Jessica Richardson
Morning Bible Study Leader: Lillian Fuller
Evening Bible Study Leader: Dot Hutelmyer

Church Staff

Pastor:

Music Director / Organist: Ed Limon
limonfam6@hotmail.com

Pianist: Julie Snow
jsnowmagic@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Gloria Hendry
gloria@firstarpburlington.org

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First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2014

Preparation

Silent Meditation

Worshiping Christ Jesus week in and week out ought to fill us with even greater reverence and awe. Why? Because when we gather together on the Lord's Day, we breathlessly behold the True Son of David, Prophet, Priest, and King! How do we recover a sense of awe in our worship? By focusing on Jesus Christ, one greater than Solomon, our King of kings and Lord of lords. You see, when He meets with us in Word, Sacrament, and Prayer, He's guaranteed to take our collective breath away!

-Robert D. Cathcart, Jr.

Prelude

Julie Snow

Welcome, Announcements, Greeting, and Memorials

Call to Worship—(Responsive) Psalm 57:9-11

I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;
I will sing of you among the peoples.

**For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
let your glory be over all the earth.**

* Hymns of Preparation

21 Stand Up and Bless the Lord

St. Thomas

134 Emmanuel

Emmanuel

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.

Adoration

* Invocation

* Hymn of Adoration

66 To God Be the Glory

To God Be The Glory

* Congregation Standing

Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Father in heaven, we thank you for the freedom you have given us through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. But we confess today that we often live like slaves. Instead of living like you delight in us, we avoid you in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving your favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of accepting your freedom, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our short-sighted agendas. Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. Free us to live for your glory. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon - Hebrews 9:14

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Proclamation

Old Testament Reading - 2 Chronicles 33:1-20

¹ Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years. ² He did evil in the eyes of the Lord, following the detestable practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before the Israelites. ³ He rebuilt the high places his father Hezekiah had demolished; he also erected altars to the Baals and made Asherah poles. He bowed down to all the starry hosts and worshiped them. ⁴ He built altars in the temple of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, “My Name will remain in Jerusalem forever.” ⁵ In both courts of the temple of the Lord, he built altars to all the starry hosts. ⁶ He sacrificed his children in the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, practiced divination and witchcraft, sought omens, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the Lord, arousing his anger. ⁷ He took the image he had made and put it in God’s temple, of which God had said to David and to his son Solomon, “In this temple and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my Name forever. ⁸ I will not again make the feet of the Israelites leave the land I assigned to your ancestors, if only they will be careful to do everything I commanded them concerning all the laws, decrees and regulations given through Moses.” ⁹ But Manasseh led Judah and the people of Jerusalem astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the Lord had destroyed before the Israelites. ¹⁰ The Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. ¹¹ So the Lord brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon. ¹² In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. ¹³ And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God. ¹⁴ Afterward he rebuilt the outer wall of the City of David, west of the Gihon spring in the valley, as far as the entrance of the Fish Gate and encircling the hill of Ophel; he also made it much higher. He stationed military commanders in all the fortified cities in Judah. ¹⁵ He got rid of the foreign gods and removed the image from the temple of the Lord, as well as all the altars he had built on the temple hill and in Jerusalem; and he threw them out of the city. ¹⁶ Then he restored the altar of the Lord and sacrificed fellowship offerings and thank offerings on it, and told Judah to serve the Lord, the God of Israel. ¹⁷ The people, however, continued

to sacrifice at the high places, but only to the Lord their God. ¹⁸ The other events of Manasseh’s reign, including his prayer to his God and the words the seers spoke to him in the name of the Lord, the God of Israel, are written in the annals of the kings of Israel. ¹⁹ His prayer and how God was moved by his entreaty, as well as all his sins and unfaithfulness, and the sites where he built high places and set up Asherah poles and idols before he humbled himself—all these are written in the records of the seers. ²⁰ Manasseh rested with his ancestors and was buried in his palace. And Amon his son succeeded him as king.

Minister The Word of the Lord
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Anthem

For where Love Is, There is God

Choir

New Testament Reading - Ephesians 3

¹ For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—
² Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. ¹³ I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory. ¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Freedom In Christ

Rev. Tim Robinson

Dedication

* Hymn of Response
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My Hope Is In the Lord

Wakefield

Affirmation of Faith — The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession and Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

David Newton

* Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude