

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here.

March 26, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.

**Like everything else which is not the involuntary result of
fleeting emotion but the creation of time and will,
any marriage, happy or unhappy, is infinitely more interesting
than any romance, however passionate.
W.H. Auden, Poet, Essayist, Gay Christian**

**The argument that gays threaten to destroy
heterosexual marriage is an assertion only, not an argument.
If anyone destroys marriage, it's married people, not gays.
William Sloan Coffin, Pastor, Riverside Church, NYC**

**It is only with the heart that one can see rightly;
what is essential is invisible to the eye.
Antoine De Saint-Exupéry
The Little Prince**

**Unmasking Marriage
What It Tells You About Relationships, Singleness and God
What God Tells You About Same-Sex Marriage**

Ephesians 5:21-33

First Presbyterian Church

1530 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020-5240

4th Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

Director of Music: Dr. Robert Remek

***Please stand if you are able.**

CCLI #1836693; CRL034941; CVL503735603

WELCOME — Please date, fill out, and pass the red Friendship Register to your neighbor.

PRELUDE – *People Need the Lord* arr. Mark Hayes

***HYMN** – **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling** **# 376**

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS - (IN UNISON) Adapted from Cecil Kerr, 1936-2010
Advocate for Reconciliation in Northern Ireland

**Lord Jesus Christ, you are the way of peace. Come into the brokenness of
our lives and our land with your healing love. Help us to be willing to bow
before you in true repentance, and to bow to one another in real forgiveness.
By the fire of your Holy Spirit, melt our hard hearts and consume the pride
and prejudice which separate us. Fill us, O Lord, with your perfect love
which casts out fear and bind us together in that unity which you share
with the Father and the Holy Spirit. In Your name, Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

A TIME OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***GLORY BE TO THE FATHER (#577)**

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

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY

ANTHEM – *Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You* Jay Althouse

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, Shines on from age to age.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS – Ephesians 5:21-33 (New Testament, Page 194 in pew Bible)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

Unmasking Marriage

What It Tells You About Relationships, Singleness and God

What God Tells You About Same-Sex Marriage

THIS WE BELIEVE (in unison) Mark 7:14-23, NRSV

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. He said to them, “Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) And he said, “It is what comes out of a person that defiles. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT – Holy Spirit, Truth Divine** #321

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in his wonderful face And the things of earth will grow strangely dim In the light of his glory and grace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER - (Debtors version) (front of Hymnal, pg. 16)

Response - Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

(Visitors, in the pew rack you will find a Guest Information card. Please complete the card, then place it in the offering plate.)

Please, no applause

Offertory Anthem – *The Power of Your Love* Geoff Bullock

***THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE – DOXOLOGY (#593)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

***OFFERING OF PRAYER (in unison)** Adapted from Celebrating Common Prayer

God of revelation, your mercy embraces all peoples and nations. Your grace tears down the walls which divide us. Your love breaks open the prisons which hold us. You free us to celebrate your beauty in all the earth. May you use these tithes and gifts we gratefully return to you to bring the good news of your grace and love to our neighbors near and far. Through Jesus, who is our Help, our Salvation and our Lord, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN – O Jesus, I Have Promised** # 388

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Congregational Response:

God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you, With a Shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

***POSTLUDE** – *Christ for the World We Sing* arr. Rex Khoury

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WELCOME VISITORS!

Visitors, following worship, please join us on the patio for juice and coffee.

It is our hope that you will encounter God as you worship with us. First Presbyterian Church is a family of faith committed to families, peacemaking, and mission. There are educational offerings for all ages, as well as fellowship groups for members and friends of the church. All are welcome. (For information, visit us at our web site at: www.fpcOH.org)

CHILD CARE for infants is provided in the nursery, located in the Narthex/Lobby of the church. Children's worship kits are also available for younger children. Please ask an usher for assistance. Our children's Sunday school, Good News Kidz (GNK) gathers at 10am in the sanctuary (September through May,)

FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, in the narthex we have large print hymnals and a limited number of pew cushions available.

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Following worship today, members are encouraged to remain in the sanctuary for the Called Congregation Meeting to elect elders and deacons, as well as the new Nominating Committee.

Lay Reader – Darlene Zackson

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Ted & Donna Beutner in memory of loved ones.

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A Congregational meeting is called for TODAY, immediately following worship for the purposes of:

- 1) Electing officers to serve on the Session and Board of Deacons in the Class of 2020; and
- 2) Electing the 2017 Nominating Committee.

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OPPORTUNITIES

<The bulletin announcements serve as reminders of church activities.

Please check our website: fpcOH.org
for the monthly newsletter and church calendar; and
our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fpcOH/>
Church office e-mail: landerson@fpcOH.org >

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BOARD OF DEACONS —

Share-A-Meal — April 1st, 11:00 a.m., church kitchen

Deacons Fund offering — April 2nd

These gifts will go to help members of our church and community when they face financial distress, or to help folks in need who God places in our path. Please use the envelope provided in next week's bulletin.

Just a reminder, we continue to collect non-perishable food items, hygiene supplies and gently used or new sneakers and blue jeans for the Jubilee Center. You may place these items in the narthex area.

BOLD JUSTICE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY –

Monday, March 27th, at **St. David's Church** 3900 South University Dr., Davie
Registration: 6:45 p.m., Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH —

Boy Scout Troop 420, March 28th, 7:00 p.m., 2nd floor of Education Building

Learning Center chapel — March 29th, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary

Early Learning Center chapel — March 29th, 11:00 a.m., West Wing

After Care chapel — March 31st, 4:00 p.m., sanctuary

Senior High Youth Group — April 2nd, 5:00 p.m. at Starbucks on Young Circle

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP —

Breakfast and the Bible — Sundays, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m., chapel – A study focusing on the scripture of the day.

A Time of Prayer, in the chapel

Monday, March 27th: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Friday, March 31st: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

WEEKLY CALENDAR

LENTEN FILM SERIES —

March 29th – Lenten film series, 7:00 p.m., in the chapel

The Way – March 29th

Directed by Emilio Estevez and starring his father, Martin Sheen

“Funny, moving, hip and transcendent.” *Ann Hornaday, Washington Post*

MEETING —

Staff meeting – March 27th, Noon, church office

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY —

The Heart Strings Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Tuesday, March 28th at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel. Please call Alice at 954-929-5434 with questions and/or requests for shawls.

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LOOKING AHEAD:

April 2nd – Waumba Worship, followed by an Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt

Spring break: April 10-14

April 13th – Maundy Thursday worship service

April 14th – Good Friday worship service

April 16th – Easter

Don't forget flowers for the Flower Cross!

April 19th - 1st Communion orientation

April 22nd, - EARTH DAY - Blessing of the Animals

April 23rd - Hollywood Healing Haiti concert

Sunday, March 26 – Lent 4

- Breakfast and the Bible – Chapel 9:00 a.m.
- Worship – Sanctuary 10:00 a.m.
- Good News Kidz (GNK) - Sanctuary/ Education Building 10:00 a.m.
- Called Congregation Meeting – Sanctuary immediately following worship
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Monday, March 27

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- Staff meeting – Church Office Noon

Tuesday, March 28

- Prayer Shawl Ministry – Chapel 2:30 p.m.
- Boy Scout Troop 420 - 2nd floor of Education Building 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29

- Learning Center Chapel - Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
- Early Learning Center Chapel - West Wing 11:00 a.m.
- Lenten Series – Chapel 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 30

- Westminster Choir 5:15 p.m.
- Westminster Ringers Bell Choir 6:30 p.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Friday, March 31

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- After Care Chapel - Sanctuary 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 1

- Christ Jesus College and Seminary – Sanctuary & Chapel 7:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- Share-A-Meal – Church Kitchen 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 2 – Lent 5

- Breakfast and the Bible – Chapel 9:00 a.m.
- Waumba Worship – Communion - Sanctuary 10:00 a.m.
- Good News Kidz (GNK) - Sanctuary/ Education Building 10:00 a.m.
- Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt – The Patch immediately following worship
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Senior High Youth Group - Starbucks on Young Circle 5:00 p.m.

A WORD FROM KENNEDY:

THE POWER OF SHOWING UP

This past Monday, I had the opportunity to lead a meeting with our Broward Sheriff Scott Israel, that went extremely well. The Sheriff made a number of important commitments to improving life here in our county. But none of that would have happened if it had just been me. It happened because around that table were 15 other leaders, folks from Catholic Churches, Methodist Churches, Baptist Churches, Lutheran Churches, and the list could go on. In that meeting, most of those folks did nothing more than introduce themselves; but their presence spoke louder than any words they could have said. Their presence showed that I was not alone, that as people of faith, we were standing together on the important issues that we had come to address, and that standing together gave a weight to my words that nothing else could have. It garnered the Sheriff's respect.

Even more crucially for that same reason, we need you to show up tomorrow night for the **Bold Justice Annual Assembly at St. David's Church in Davie**. In our work with our sister churches to help make our county a better place, no meeting carries more weight than this one. It is why we have committed to bring at least **50 people** to join with our sister churches that night. If you attend nothing else related to our partnership with Bold Justice, please join with us on **March 27th**. If you come, prepare to be inspired and encouraged by what great things God can do when people of faith come together to help make our county all that God would dream for it to be. I hope to see you there!

And speaking of showing up, please stay for a few minutes after worship today to help us elect our church's nominees for elders and deacons. Let's show our support for these folks answering the call to service by giving them our votes today!

THANKS ALSO TO THOSE OF YOU WHO SHOWED UP THIS PAST WEDNESDAY FOR OUR FIRST WAUMBA STYLE WORSHIP. AS I WRITE THIS, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT NUMBERS WE WILL HAVE AT THIS EVENT; BUT WHAT I CAN CELEBRATE IS THAT WE ARE REACHING OUT, AND TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO SHARE WITH OUR LEARNING CENTER FAMILIES THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S LOVE.

DROP BY FOR COFFEE OR TEA WITH KENNEDY THIS WEEK

Here are the unscheduled times this week where I am available for y'all to come by for a visit!

Sunday

(No availability today due to a family event, the Lantern Festival in Boca Raton)

Monday – 10 AM to 11:30 and 2 PM to 3:30 PM

(Meetings and Bold Justice Assembly take up the remaining time.)

Tuesday – 11:00 to 12:00 and 1:30 to 3:30

(Rotary and a trip to the airport take up the remaining time)

Wednesday – 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM

(Learning Center Chapels and Lenten film series take up the remaining time)

Friday – 9:30 AM to 3 PM

(chapel and end of the week duties take up the remaining time.)

Please try to call beforehand so I can put the kettle on, and to make sure that the schedule hasn't unexpectedly changed for a hospital visit or some other concern.