

Cover: Let My People Go © 2023 Timothy R. Botts | Eyekons

THIRD SUNDAY after EPIPHANY

January 21, 2024 • 9:30 a.m.

* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol, and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude: REPTON

Graham Twist

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

In all beginnings, endings, and all times in between, Christ is behind us, before us, and among us.

Through God, we are consecrated before we are born, to share God's love in ways big and small.

However we come to worship today-in fear, in excitement, in uncertainty-in all of it,

let us dwell in God's love together.

* HYMN 432

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who calls, you give each of us purpose. In many different ways, you call us to use our gifts to share your love with the world. However, we don't always feel ready to do what you've called us to do. Often, we feel unprepared, unworthy, and unclear about what following you might entail. In these moments, Lord, help us trust the Holy Spirit, the one who's been preparing us to follow you since the very beginning. Help us trust your oversight, so that we might approach your work with bravery and boldness....

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PROCLAIMING the WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:4-9

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Please join in singing as the children come forward.

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 3:7-17, 4:13-16

The grass withers, the flower fades;
The word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

RESPONDING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Walking with God Paul Basler
Chancel Choir and Jordan Smith, Flute

O! for a closer walk with God, a calm and a heavenly frame; A light to shine upon the road, that leads me to the Lamb! Where is the blessedness I knew, when first I saw the Lord? Where is the soul refreshing view, of Jesus and his word? What peaceful hours I once enjoyed! How sweet their memory still! But they have left an aching void, the world can never fill.

Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest; I hate the sins that made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast. The dearest idol I have known, whatever that idol be; Help me to tear it from thy throne, and worship only thee. So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame; So purer light shall mark the road, that leads me to the Lamb.

* DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

Introduction of the Candidates

ELDERS

Kurt Boeve Dan Mitas
Mary Jane Chase Lilly Rego
Jeff Colton Dianne Santinga

Ankie Schuitema John Voorhorst Elementary-age children may attend Faith Formation classes on the Third Level following the Conversations with Young Disciples. Children are dismissed from their classrooms at the end of worship.

Ways to give: Cash/Check

Place in the offering plate or in the mail

Text-to-Give

Text the amount you would like to give to 855-904-1523

Online

https://bit.ly/FP-Cvanco

Vanco Mobile App



Paul Basler is Professor of Music at the University of Florida where he has been on the faculty since 1993. Prior to his appointment at UF, he served as the Fulbright Senior Lecturer in Music at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, taught at Western Carolina University and was the North Carolina Visiting Artist in Residence at Caldwell Community College.

Ruling elders are called to ministry in partnership with teaching elders. Within this calling, ruling elders have responsibilities in several areas of the life of the church including exercise in leadership, governance, spiritual discernment, and discipline.

Deacons are ordained officers of the church who have a ministry of service, witness, and care to the congregation. **DEACONS**

Anne Andrus Chris Hayes Linda Koos
Karla Olson Bellfi Ellery Hendrix Chris Larson
Lisa Danielson Keanu Heydari Jenna Mares
William Erben Ellen Johnson Mike McQueen
Marilyn Goodsman Cathy King Angie Miller

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept these people as elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead and serve in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they and the entire Session guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

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; and 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.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

SENDING

* HYMN 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE, I AM

* LITANY OF SERVICE

Siblings in Christ, God's Spirit calls.

Bring hope to the broken-hearted,

companion the sick, bear one another's burdens.

Work to feed people hungry for compassion and care.

With open hearts, doors, and arms, welcome everyone home.

Let us make God's love visible.

Here I am, send me!

Faithful people have heard that call.

Elders and Deacons for 200 years have answered with energy, intelligence, creativity, and love.

Shaping and strengthening First Pres for generations.

Let us listen for Christ's call to us.

Here I am, send me!

Christ calls some to preach the Word, celebrate the Sacraments, and order the life of the Church. Empowered to equip God's people,

to unify us in our worship and witness, they have special gifts.

Let us respond to the ministry of Christ through them. Here I am, send me!

Over his lifetime of ministry, Pastor Jay has led and fed us, teaching us to listen well, counseling us to be curious, inviting us to the Table to feast together in Christ.

Death and illness have not come on schedule.

The truth has not always been easy to preach.

Through his unending compassion, tireless service and unbounded love, our love and faithfulness have grown.

Well done, thou good and faithful servant, for you said: Here I am, send me!

With humility and wonder, we see God's power to do great things through us.
We humbly offer ourselves in service to Christ.
Let us be true to our calling:
praise God, love and serve the people,
with extraordinary faith and unconditional love.
Here we are, send us!

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

4 4 4

The chancel flowers are given by the congregation and staff to the glory of God and in gratitude of Rev. Jay Sanderford's 40 years of ministry.

Join us following worship in the Social Hall for a special reception to honor Jay and Beth Sanderford.

Today we celebrate the remarkable ministry of the Reverend Jay Sanderford, who has faithfully served as our Associate Pastor for the past 10 years and is retiring after 40 years of ministry.

WELCOME

We Are Glad You Are Here!

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us.

While you are with us today, we would love for you to do two things:

- **1. Sign the Friendship Pad.** The pads are located at the end of each pew. Sign it then pass it down to others.
- **2. Join us following worship for Social Hour.** There will be cookies and coffee and lots of friendly faces.

Children in Worship

Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship.

Parking

Additional parking is located at the Forest Avenue parking structure located on South Forest Avenue between South University and Willard. The structure is only a three minute walk from the church, and parking is free on Sundays. To get to the church from the structure, cross Forest Avenue and walk down Forest Court to the end of the block.

Worship Leaders

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers Hillegonds Chapel
Rev. Tommy Langejans Prayer Partner
Rev. Hannah Lundberg Nancy Fox
Rev. Mark Mares Ushers

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers Greta Krapohl, captain

Musicians

Chancel Choir

Organist

David Hufford

Hugh Daly

Aidan Majorprice

Holly Majorprice

David Prentice-Hyers

David Hufford

Minister of Music & Fine Arts

David VanderMeer

David VanderMeer

David Prenti
Carol Smith
Paul Smith
Angela Yang

Lay Reader Sandy Pollock

SUNDAY OFFERINGS Contemplative 8:30 AM Communion Service Monteith Hall Worship 9:30 AM Sanctuary & Livestream Children & 9:30 AM Youth Faith Formation Classrooms Reception for 10:30 AM Sanderfords Social Hall Lemon Chapel 10:45 AM Singers (K-8th) Lemon Chapel **Adult Faith** 11:15 AM **Formation** Classrooms Worship 11:15 AM Monteith Hall Farewell 5:00 PM Party for the Sanderfords Social Hall

Thank You

We recognize, thank, and welcome today the members who are being ordained as new Deacons and Elders and those who are being installed to continue another term. Our deep appreciation and gratitude also goes to those outgoing Deacons and Elders who have completed their service in 2023:

Deacons

Betty Anderson Jennifer Edwards Catherine Kendall Nancy Tena Kim Byers-Granito Pam Ehrhart Nelly Petrock Felicity Williams Sharon Dort Kathy Hillig Brad Taylor

Elders

Jennifer Day Kate Kraft Keith Molin Jean Song
Nancy Fox Stephen McKenny Leonard Rezmierski Deanne Woodruff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT FORMATION

Classes meet at 11:15 a.m. today.

The Exploring the Faith class will not meet today.

BIBLE AT 11 O'CLOCK

New Testament: Epistles of Peter

French Room & Zoom Host: Ed Koster

FIRST FRIENDS

Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies While Striving For God's Justice

Curtis Room & Zoom

MISSION

January Food Collection

Each month we collect food donations and special financial contributions to support a local hunger ministry partner. This month our partner is Food Gatherers. Non-perishable food may be placed in the baskets provided in the Welcome Center on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon. Financial gifts may be made by check or online.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Grief Conversations

Beginning on February 19

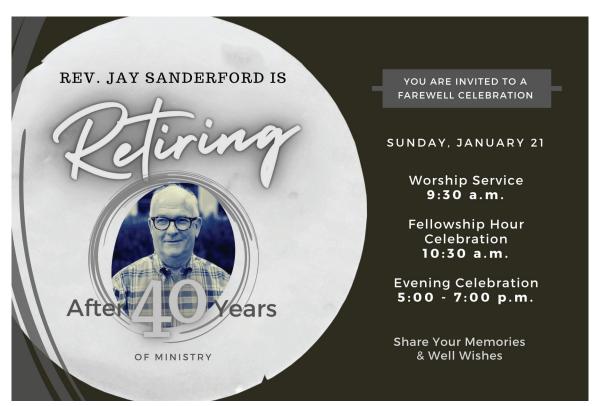
Grief Conversations will return the third Monday of each month from 12 – 1 online. Join Rev. Rogers for a support group and network of those who grieve, supporting one another and learning to share the burdens. Learn about grief and remember your loved ones in the process. Join us at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5502657984.

MUSIC & FINE ARTS

Summer Camp

Hey, kids! Join us for a week of non-stop fun this summer learning the musical drama based on the Exodus story, "Moses and the Freedom Fanatics." We'll have lots of other activities, such as handbells, crafts, games, Bible stories, and more. The cost is \$75 per camper, and the camp will run from July 29 to August 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with a performance on Sunday, August 4. Register online at firstpresbyterian.org.



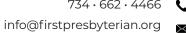
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