



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Sunday worship at Faith Presbyterian Church. If you are new to Faith, thank you for joining us. Would you please consider signing our guest book in the foyer?

Each Sunday we gather in Christian fellowship to glorify and enjoy God. We know that we are gathered here by grace alone. Motivated by His mercy, God sent His Son to die on the cross and rise again from the dead so that all those who trust in Him may be freed from the condemnation of sin and clothed with the righteousness of Jesus. Welcome to Faith Presbyterian Church.

**Please feel free to contact any of the Faith Presbyterian Church
Officers listed below with questions, prayer requests or needs:**

Elders:

John Jones	250.2087	jjones@faithanchorage.org
Bill March	345.2536	bmarch@faithanchorage.org
Mark Sprano	345.8650	msprano@faithanchorage.org
Jim Strong	522.3943	jstrong@faithanchorage.org
Bill Weiss	229.2730	bweiss@faithanchorage.org

Deacons:

Willie Rademaker	952.3511	Jeff Banker	830.5725
Greg Burkel	770.6556	Austin Phelps	980.1234

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN MINISTRIES:

Sunday School Superintendent:	Jay Gardner	222.7967
Volunteer Scheduling (Set-up, Clean-up, Greeter):	Cindy Strong	522.3943
Care Meals:	Colleen Cox	301.4158
Showers:		
Community Newsletter:	Elaine Cox & Ivy Bowler	communitynews@faithanchorage.org
Directory Changes:	Susan Weiss	directory@faithanchorage.org
Missions Committee:	Jackie Bennett	missions@faithanchorage.org

**If you know of a need in one of these areas, or are interested in serving, please contact a deacon, or speak with the ministry area chair.

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CCLI#: 2217486

Prayer for those not prepared to believe:

*God, no human mind could conceive or invent the gospel. Acting in eternal grace, you are both its messenger and its message, lived out on earth through infinite compassion, applying your life to insult, injury, death, that I might be redeemed, ransomed, freed. Glorious Trinity, impress the gospel on my soul, until its virtue diffuses every faculty. Teach me to secure this mighty blessing. Help me to give up every darling lust, to submit heart and life to its command, to have it in my will, controlling my affections, molding my understanding. Take me to the cross to seek glory from its infamy. Strip me of every pleasing pretense of righteousness by my own doings. O gracious Redeemer, I have neglected you too long, often crucified you, crucified you afresh in my impenitence, put you to open shame. I thank you for the patience that has borne with me so long, and for the grace that now makes me willing to be yours. O unite me to yourself with inseparable bonds, that nothing may ever draw me back from you, my Lord, my Savior.
Amen.*

Prayers for the Lord's table

Jesus Christ instituted the Lord's Supper as a meal to be shared by his disciples. At Faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table all who are baptized believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, and are members in good standing of a Christian church. If you are not a professing Christian, or not a member of a church, we respectfully ask that you refrain from taking the bread and the wine. If you have any questions, you should ask Pastor John or one of our elders. You may also email the elders (elder@faithanchorage.org) or visit our website for more information.

Prayer for those not prepared for the Lord's table:

*My Father, I know that with body and soul, in life and death, I am not my own, but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. With his precious blood, He has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil and so preserves me. Without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head and all things must be subservient to my salvation. Therefore, by your Holy Spirit, assure me of eternal life and make me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto you.
Amen.*

Prayer for baptized children not yet admitted to the Lord's table:

My Father, I could never look for happiness in your love, unless you first loved me. Your Spirit has encouraged me, by grace, to seek you. Your Spirit has made known to me your reconciliation in Jesus, has taught me to believe it, has helped me to take you for my God and portion. May your Spirit live in me that I may know my union with Jesus, and enter into constant fellowship with Him. I know but little. Increase my knowledge of your love in Jesus, keep me pressing forward for clearer discoveries of it so that I may find its eternal fullness. Amen.

Prayer Requests

- ◆ We pray for those struggling with very serious physical illness: Rosemary (friend of Faith member), Roger (father of Michael Schild, brain tumor), Debbie (enduring chemotherapy treatment), and Laura (her cancer has returned with more vigor); for those currently recovering, including Bonnie, Tanya (friend of Faith member, improving steadily) and James (recovering from heart surgery), and a couple of other friends of Faith in a recovery process; and for Kathleen Robertson and family (Grace OPC), grieving the loss of Ian.
- ◆ We pray for those with unmet earthly needs (financial provision, employment security, difficult decisions, physical health, etc.) and the depression, anxiety, and doubt that can flow from these needs; we thank God for His sufficiency in providing for these needs.
- ◆ We pray for the safety, health, and spiritual nurture of the children, youth, and high school students of our congregation and holiness for those called to instruct them Sunday mornings; we also pray for the growth in grace of our college students locally (Tom, Christine, Ivy, and others) and abroad, including Jacob Sprano (The College of Wooster), Zeb Rademaker (Rose-Hulman), Alexandra Sprano (NYU), and Shane Carver (UAF).
- ◆ We pray for expectant moms, Christine Yeager, Guang Ming Whitley, Greta Palmer, Victoria Sprau.
- ◆ We pray for the advancement of the gospel in our neighborhoods, places of work, city, and state, and for Abraham and Esther and children (Bertie and Isaac) ministering in North India; we also pray for social and political rest in countries hostile to free assembly and gospel-proclamation.
- ◆ We pray for the advancement of the gospel in and through our own relationships with friends and family members who do not rest in Christ for salvation, and for the necessary courage, opportunity, and trust in our gospel proclamation.
- ◆ We pray for those in positions of political and civil authority (local, city, state, and federal), civil servants, and military personnel; those deployed or who may be anticipating deployment.
- ◆ We pray for those currently traveling or away for a season, including the Anderson and Alpert families, Carly Sprano, Jason, the Bankers, and others.
- ◆ We pray for gospel-proclaiming churches in our area; Jack Phelps of Covenant Bible (Chugiak) and Scott Johnson of Grace Orthodox Presbyterian (Wasilla), and others; church plants in our presbytery including All Souls in West Seattle and Ascension in Hillsboro, Oregon; we also pray for the difficulties at Hillcrest Presbyterian (West Seattle); we pray for Reconciliation Church at Evergreen in Beaverton, Oregon, for the leadership (James, Victoria, Anthony, Robert, Denise, Anita, Charlie, Nathan, Glenda, Everett, Benjamin, Sophia), for those struggling with doubt (Noah, Jeff, Alex's dad, Steve, Paul), those who need profound help (Jen, Vanessa, Marna, Clifford, Barbara, Jeff), for those grieving (Max, Jack), and for those enduring tough times of life (Joe, Ted, Stephanie, Robin, Joann, Penny, and her son, Paul).
- ◆ We pray for the love and unity and peace of our congregation; for zeal and Christ-like example in our elders and deacons; for wisdom for the committees, leadership, and teachers of Faith; and for God's guidance to a larger worship facility.

FAITH SUPPORTED MISSIONS

- ◆ Abraham and Esther, New Light and Life Mission in North India. Learn more at faithanchorage.org/mission/india.

*The Lord's Day, December 18, 2011
Morning Worship Service*

Prelude

Announcements

*Silent Prayer
and
Preparation*

Call to Worship

Psalm 66.16-20

Come and hear, all you who fear God;

And I will tell what he has done for my soul.

*I cried to him with my mouth,
and high praise was on my tongue.*

***If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.***

But truly God has listened;

He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God;

***Because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me!***

While by the
Sheep We
Watched at
Night

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1. While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tid-ings brought an
 2. There shall be born, so he did say, in Beth-le-hem a
 3. There shall the child lie in a stall, this child who shall re-
 4. This gift of God we'll cher-ish well, that ev-er joy our

f REFRAIN *p* echo
 an-gel bright.
 child to-day. How great our joy! Great our joy!
 deem us all.
 hearts shall fill.

f *p* echo *f*
 Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in

echo *p*
 heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

German carol
Trans. anon.



JUNGST Irreg.
Traditional German melody
Arr. by Hugo Jungst, ca. 1890

Sermon Notes

Grace for languishing souls
(Jeremiah 31.15-26)

Notes for Little Theologians

When your Little Theologians listen to this morning's sermon, help them be thinking about the **Big Idea!** of the Scripture text. Little ones may want to spend time drawing the **Big Idea!** during the sermon.

The **Big Idea!** is often so big that it encompasses several Scripture passages. Therefore, each sermon has main points that always lead the listener from the **Big Idea!** to two important components of the sermon: our **Fallenness**  and our **Treasure** . Every passage in the Bible tells us something about our need as

weak sinners (2 Timothy 3.16) and our one Treasure, Jesus the Redeemer (Luke 24.27). Little Theologians should listen for these! At the conclusion of each sermon your Little Theologian should listen for the Holy Response in which the Scripture tells us how to walk.

Jeremiah 31.15-26

The Big Idea!

Jeremiah awakes from a sweet slumber (literally) and pens the words of our passage this morning. Verse 26 leaves us no doubt about this. But why was Jeremiah's sleep so pleasant? He is overcome by God's grace!

Even though Jeremiah has known His heavenly Father for many years, he continues to be ravishingly surprised by his Father's great grace. As we look for a thematic verse for the passage, we can do no better than verse 25: God says, "I will satisfy, ... I will replenish." Jeremiah understands every soul to be a weary and languishing soul and, consequently, every soul is in need of a deep grace that only God can provide.

Nothing will satisfy a languishing soul but the grace of God in Christ.

A. The marks of a languishing soul:

1. A languishing soul cries for help (15-17).
2. A languishing soul confesses sin (18-20).



B. The marks of God's great grace: He hears, comforts, promises, and satisfies



C. Is my soul a languishing soul?



Isaiah 53.1-3

*Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*

Isaiah 53.4-5

*Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.*

*Prayer of
Confession*

*Word of
Assurance*

Lo, How a
Rose E'er
Blooming

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1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der
 2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I
 3. The shep - herds heard the sto - ry, pro - claimed by
 4. This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness
 5. O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our

stem hath sprung, of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing,
 have in mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it,
 • an - gels bright, how Christ, the Lord of glo - ry,
 fills the air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor
 hu - man woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry,

as men of old have sung. It came, a flow'r - et bright,
 the vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right
 • was born on earth this night. To Beth - le - hem they sped
 the dark - ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God;
 who dost our weak - ness know, bring us at length, we pray,

HOUSE TO HOUSE MINISTRY SCHEDULE

House to House is a ministry of Faith Presbyterian Church elders. In the history of the church, it has been the habit of elders to minister from "house to house (Acts 20.20-21 and James 5.14)." The Bible teaches that elders are a gift to the church (Ephesians 4.11-12) who are called to "pay careful attention to the flock," (Acts 20.28) . . . not just on Sunday and not just in the sanctuary.

Each visit lasts one hour and is intended for the entire family. There is no need to prepare. After opening with a short rationale for the ministry, followed by a devotion, we encourage one another's growth in grace and pray together.

As is within your power to do so, could you please schedule this time? If you must reschedule, you may swap with another family, or contact the church office as soon as possible.

Tuesday, January 10	Hilde (6:30 pm)	Goertzen (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, January 17	Larson (6:30 pm)	Lieno (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, January 24	Stephens (6:30 pm)	R. Rademaker (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, January 31	Whitley (6:30 pm)	Potter (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, February 21	Sprau (6:30 pm)	Reed (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, February 28	Yeager (6:30 pm)	H. March (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, March 20	Banker (6:30 pm)	Peters (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, March 27	Schild (6:30 pm)	Weiss (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, April 17	I. Vreeman (6:30 pm)	C. Cox (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, April 24	Behnen (6:30 pm)	Burkel (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, May 1	J. Johnson (6:30 pm)	Becker (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, May 15	W. Rademaker (6:30 pm)	E. Cox (7:45 pm)
Tuesday, May 22	Cryder (6:30 pm)	Dickerson (7:45 pm)

Faith Volunteer Schedule – Winter 2011

If possible, please arrange ahead if you are unable to serve during your scheduled time. If you are interested in serving the church by volunteering, please speak with Cindy Strong.

Nursery Volunteers

- December 18 - The Fox Family
- December 25 - Karen & Linnea Jones
- January 1 - Barbara Strong & Ivy Bowler
- January 8 - Alicia Beattie & Andrea Pelenato
- January 15 - Jennifer & Hannah Cryder
- January 22 - Bernadette March & Hannah Vreeman
- January 29 - Barb Burkel & Naomi Cryder
- February 5 - Beth & Tommy Rademaker
- February 12 - Ron & Christine Yeager
- February 19 - Shiloh Vreeman & Guang Ming Whitley

Set-Up Volunteers

- December - Beattie & Becker
- January - Schneider & Reed
- February - Rademaker

Clean-Up Volunteers

- December - Gardner
- January - Strong
- February - Cryder

Greeters

- December - B. Strong
- January - Burkel
- February - March

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LUNCH AND SOCIAL: Following the worship service, Kyle and Amber Jaasma are opening their home for our high school students to come for lunch and fellowship. Even if time is limited, please stop by for a quick meal right after worship to meet other Faith students. Chat with John or Kyle for more details

THE ANNUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be held this evening at 6 pm. Please bring cookies and plan to join us for a cookie social immediately following. Also, please note that there is no Sunday School on December 25 and January 1.

FAITH HAS A MISSIONS COMMITTEE THAT SERVES the bridge between our church and the missions that we financially support. There are many things to do and the Committee is always looking for more people who are excited about missions. Meetings are held monthly, typically on a Tuesday. If anyone would like to participate on the Committee please contact Jackie Bennett (you can find her contact information on the inside cover of the bulletin).

DO YOU HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE IN THE BULLETIN? Send it to bstrong@faithanchorage.org by 5:00 pm, Wednesday evening.

German hymn, ca. 1500
 St. 1-2 tr. by Theodore Baker, 1894
 St. 3-4 tr. by Harriett R. Spaeth, 1875
 St. 5 tr. by John C. Mattes, 1914

ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
 German melody, 15th cent.
 Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1609; alt.

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who is 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.*

Prayers of the People

Luke 2.22-39

Lesson from the New Testament

Gentle Mary
Laid Her
Child

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1. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child low - ly in a man - ger;
2. An - gels sang a - bout his birth, wise men sought and found him;
3. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child low - ly in a man - ger;

there he lay, the Un - de - filed, to the world a strang - er.
heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, glo - ry all a - round him.
he is still the Un - de - filed, but no more a strang - er.

Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;

Ask the saved of all the race who have found his fa - vor.
all the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ring - ing.
praise his name in all the earth, hail the King of glo - ry!

Joseph Simpson Cook, 1919

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM 7.6.7.6.D.
Piae Cantiones, 1582
Arr. by Ernest MacMillan, 1930

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CALENDAR

For up to date calendar events, check out our online calendar at www.faithanchorage.org.

This Week, December 19-25:

Tuesday

9:30 am—Ladies' Prayer Meeting at Tanglewood - Contact Bernadette March (345.2536)

Wednesday

7:00 pm—Choir Practice at the Whitley Home - Contact Joel or Guang Ming (830.0311)

Thursday

6:00-7:00 am—Men's Prayer Meeting at the Yeager Home—Contact Ron Yeager (223.2828)

7:00 pm—Roman's Bible Study at the Jones Home—Contact John Jones (250.2087)

Sunday

9:00 am— R.C. Sproul on the Radio - Radio Broadcast Supported by Faith PCA - Tune into to KATB-FM 89.3

11:00 am—Morning Worship Service

Future Events:

2nd Sunday of Each Month—Celebration of the Lord's Supper

2nd Sunday of Each Month—Fellowship Meal—Please join us for fellowship meal immediately following the morning worship service

Sunday, January 1—No Sunday School

January 27-29—Winter Theology Conference with guest Rob Rayburn

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures

here be - low: al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -

bove, ye heav'n-ly host, praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Jeremiah 31.15-26

Grace for languishing souls

Scripture

Sermon

Prayer of
Application

Heidelberg Catechism, 32

Believers, why are you called, a "Christian?"

**Because I am a member of Christ by faith,
and thus am partaker of his anointing;
that so I may confess his name,
and present myself a living sacrifice of thankfulness to him:
and also that with a free and good conscience
I may fight against sin and Satan in this life**

and afterwards I reign with him eternally, over all creatures.

Confession of
Faith

Thomas Ken, 1709; alt.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M.al.
Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623

God Rest
You Merry,
Gentlemen

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1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,
2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came;
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
4. The shep - herds at those tid - ings re - joic - ed much in mind,

re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,
and left their flocks a - feed - ing, in tem - pest, storm, and wind:

to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
and went to Beth - le - hem straight - way, the Son of God to find.

REFRAIN
O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,

O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

English carol, 18th cent.

GOD REST YOU MERRY 8.6.8.6.8.6.ref.
English melody, 18th cent.