

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY 10:30 AM

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

There will be a congregational potluck lunch as we gather to vote on church officers and a budget for 2024.

**LOOK FOR AN EMAIL WITH THE ANNUAL MEETING REPORT ATTACHED
PAPER COPIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST (50 PAGE DOCUMENT)**

From the Pastor

On Sunday we consider Jesus' first public act of ministry in the Gospel of Mark. Are we ready for this? Jesus performs an exorcism! (Mark 1:21-28) Our Western minds want to turn it into a metaphor, but we often dare to go where others fear to tread. And of all things, a Harvard New Testament scholar will suggest that maybe our western thinking is out of step with the rest of the world ("Having the Spirit of Christ: Spirit Possession and Exorcism in the Early Christ Groups"; Giovanni Bazzana, Harvard Divinity School Professor of New Testament). Alter-Notes provides music; Sandy is liturgist; JJ is afraid.

Come one, Come all, to our FCC COFFEE HOUSE! Last Friday of every month - January 26 - 4 to 6 pm - Perkins Hall - Serving: good conversation, light beverages and snacks, lots of games, music of all kinds, dancing if you want it, and any other creative ideas you can come up with. Please use the Alarcon St door to enter. See you then!

CONTINUING A SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

Beginning Sunday, January 14 -- 9:15-10:15, in the meeting room downstairs, join us to view and discuss selections from the "Living the Questions" video series.

Topics:

January 14 - - the prophetic Jesus (and MLK)

January 21 - - evil and suffering

January 28 - - redemptive violence – the cross

February 4 - - resurrection

February 11- - prejudice in our world

Each session is self-contained, come for one, a few, or all of them!

Questions? and child care needs: Pete Norum at
handle32pan@gmail.com.

VIDEO SERIES

"When Black Female Preachers Speak - Seven Important Discussions with Black Female Theologians" A part of our decentering whiteness efforts
(not to mention patriarchy)

The next gathering will be February 16 at noon in the church office conference room. Bring your own lunch / snack and drink.

When black female preachers speak, we should all listen. The insight and intention provided by black theologians illustrate their ability to bring the history of black culture and religious experience into the life of Christians and the liturgical life of the church. For centuries black mothers have passed on wisdom – in the white world, in the black community, and with men. This wisdom has illustrated how God reveals prophetic word and action for Christian living.

We have brought together some important themes coupled with visionary insights from Rev. Jacqui Lewis, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglass, Rev. Traci Blackmon, Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, and Bishop Yvette Flunder.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FEB. 14 AT NOON

PASS - PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES

PASS, our local women's shelter, serves as a place for women and children experiencing homelessness. The third Wednesday of every month (**February 21**) our church provides dinner for the guests at the shelter. Meal items are brought to the church parking lot at 5:00 pm and then taken by one of our members to the shelter. Carolyn Christians has taken over this role from Patty Gard. We need new members to sign up to help each month. The sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

FCCPRESCOTT.ORG

UNDER THE RESOURCES TAB – PASSWORD PROTECTED

EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR PASSWORD

fccprescott@gmail.com

SATURDAY FAITH FORUM OPEN TO ALL

SATURDAYS AT 10AM ON ZOOM

**A NEW TOPIC EACH WEEK - BIBLE, CURRENT EVENTS,
THEOLOGY, ETC.**

A LIVELY DISCUSSION

EMAIL PASTOR JAY TO BE ADDED TO THE ZOOM INVITE

jayfccprescott@gmail.com

AMAZON SUPPLIES TO PROVIDE FOR JENI AND AUDRA IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Copy and paste this into your browser:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3GNXWTEHGJL87?ref_=wl_share

This QR code will take you to the supplies that can be ordered and provided:



[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

JANUARY MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Happy New Year! January's Mission Outreach project is our local **Prescott Community Cupboard (PCC)**. Through **Prescott Community Cupboard** individuals and families are able to receive nutritionally balanced bags of food packed by volunteers from various churches and organizations in the surrounding areas.

Prescott Community Cupboard "recognizes the innate worth of every human being and accepts people as they are and seeks to assist them in receiving necessary food to support their daily nutritional needs. Our support is designed to provide supplemental food to residents in Yavapai County experiencing food insecurity."

Seven local churches founded the **Prescott Community Cupboard** in 1973 as a temporary food source for the Prescott area. It was designated as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 1981. Six of the original founding churches continue to support Community Cupboard after more than 45 years.

Donation checks can be made payable to the church, with the memo: **PCC**.

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

Mission Outreach Committee members for 2024 are Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, Roxanne Matthews, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820 or beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

LENT AND EASTER ARE EARLY THIS YEAR!

Ash Wednesday	Feb. 14
First Sunday in Lent	Feb. 18
Maundy Thursday	March 28
Easter Sunday	March 31

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11 IS JAZZ SUNDAY, BOY SCOUT SUNDAY, AND SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY – The music gets jazzy as we prepare for Lent; the Boy Scouts join us to express thanks for meeting in our special Scout room; and the children collect donations in soup pans at the door on Super Bowl Sunday – they decide who receives the offering.

ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP COMING IN APRIL-MAY

We did this workshop back in 2016. Participants enjoyed getting to know themselves better and understanding others better. An Enneagram instructor will be leading the workshop. There will be a fee for attending – scholarships will be available if needed.

From The Enneagram Institute:

What is the Enneagram?

Don Riso has defined the Enneagram as “a geometric figure that delineates the nine basic personality types of human nature and their complex interrelationships.” While the Enneagram suggests that there are nine basic personality types of human nature, there are, of course, many subtypes and variations within the nine fundamental categories. Nevertheless, the assertion of Enneagram theory is that these nine adequately map out the territory of “personality types.”

The Enneagram is also a symbol that maps out the ways in which the nine types are related to each other. This is the aspect of the Enneagram most people are familiar with because it offers them a framework for understanding themselves and everyone they deal with. As a psychospiritual typology, the Enneagram helps people to recognize and understand an overall pattern in human behavior. External behaviors, underlying attitudes, one’s characteristic sense of self, conscious and unconscious motivations, emotional reactions, defense mechanisms, object relations, what we pay attention to, our spiritual potentials and much more—are all parts of a complex pattern that forms each personality type. Therapists, business counselors, human resource directors, and spiritual seekers from around the world are all finding the Enneagram to be immensely useful for self-understanding and personal growth. Always remember however, that the Enneagram does not put you in a box; it shows you the box you are in and the way out!

What use is the Enneagram? How can it help me?

The Enneagram can be extremely useful to everyone as a source of self-knowledge because it acts as a kind of “mirror” to reveal features of our personality that normally are invisible to us. Most of the time, people function habitually, as if on “automatic pilot,” according to the pattern of their basic personality type. Usually this allows people to get along well enough in their lives, but when their normal routines break down or the stresses of their lives increase too much, their normal way of coping also tends to break down or become dysfunctional. Seeing clearly what our habitual patterns are—seeing what we are doing and why we are doing it, and at what cost to ourselves and others—holds the key to our liberation. By knowing your type correctly, you are able to see yourself—to “catch yourself in the act”—as you move throughout the day. With this increased self-awareness, you are also able to avoid reacting in negative and potentially dangerous ways.

Once real balance has been restored to the personality structure, the Enneagram can help us to orient ourselves to the higher spiritual and psychological qualities that each type has in abundance. Thus, at its highest, the Enneagram invites us to look deeply into the mystery of our true identity. It reveals that we are not our personality, but something more—a spiritual being who has lost contact with his or her true nature. Living out of this realization shifts completely how we see ourselves, others, and the world, bringing liberation, freedom, and joy. (See pages 27-48 in *The Wisdom of the Enneagram* or pages 11-17 of *Understanding the Enneagram (Revised Edition)* for more about the psychological and spiritual context of the Enneagram.)

FACEBOOK UPDATE

"We have a new Facebook group, First Congregational Church Prescott FCC - which you can join. We will be posting events, and meetup information for the community, as well as exploring ways to bring back our outreach partners; the LGBTQ community youth, AA, etc. and other groups who have used the church pre-Covid for meeting spaces. Please join the group, and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, you can email Brit and Mike Flores at bafwriter@gmail.com, our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at FCCprescott@gmail.com.

SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 28, 2018

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude:

Mark Achuff

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gathering Song: “This Little Light of Mine”

Alter-Notes

A Time for Children of All Ages - JJ & Ziggy

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children’s time)

Call to Worship

Sandy Znetko

L: Friends in Christ, what hopes do you bring to worship?

P: We bring hope for health and wholeness.

L: What afflictions do you bring to worship? Physical pain from illness and injury? Emotional pain from sad and scary life situations? Mental pain from dis-ease of many kinds?

P: With all these afflictions, it’s a miracle that any of us have made it to worship this morning!

L: But where else would we be? We yearn to know God’s powerful love and to know that wholeness is possible. In today’s gospel, a person with an “afflicting spirit” interrupts Jesus. And Jesus sets the person free.

All: And where does the miracle of this story and our stories begin? When we bring all of who we are--hopeful, afflicted, bold—into relationship with the Divine. So, come, let us enter this sanctuary with our whole selves--hopeful, afflicted and bold--come, let us worship!

*Hymn: “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

New Century Hymnal #547

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Confession

Sandy Znetko

O Divine Healer, we confess that sometimes we yearn for you to wave a magic wand on our wounded lives to remove our pain, illness, and suffering. We hear the gospel story of the one seeking healing from Jesus and assume you will perform a similar miracle for all of us – if we just pray hard enough! And we do pray! Open our eyes to recognize the teachings and tools you have given us with which to seek healing of our afflictions and dis-eases.

You whisper to us that wholeness requires self-care and rest;

You nudge us toward caregivers who can support and advise us;

You breathe into us energy to move and stretch and reach toward health;

You place in us an urgency to seek justice so that all may enjoy adequate health care; Renew our spirits as we deal with our dis-eases and afflicting spirits. Transform us, Holy One, for the health of your creation. Amen.

Assurance of Blessing

Sandy Znetko

In the midst of struggle, dis-ease and affliction, know that you are made in God’s image

and God sees you as whole and good. So, may you celebrate God in your midst through opportunities of wholeness and justice.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28

Sandy Znetko

Sermon: "A New Teaching – With Authority!"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "Let Your Light Shine" Mary McDonald.

Alter-Notes

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory:

*Epiphany Doxology

Praise God the source of life and breath;

Praise Christ, now born to conquer death;

Praise Holy Spirit's mystery:

One God, pure grace, who sets us free. Amen. (*Tune: Old Hundreth*)

*Prayer of Dedication

Sandy Znetko

Holy God, we give you today what is already yours. You provide so much for us, blessings pressed down, shaken together, running over. Thank you for giving us the ability to give, and cheerful hearts to do it. Amen.

*Hymn: "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

New Century Hymnal #553

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude:

Mark Achuff

TREASURER REPORT FOR YEAR-END 2023

The total income for 2023 was \$184,880 and the expenses total \$190,806. Expenses exceeded income by \$5,926.



Because of You our church changes lives.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO PROVIDED ESTIMATES OF
GIVING FOR 2024!**

SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page - You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.

Use your credit card and get some points!

Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street,
Prescott, AZ 86301

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