



WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

Our Scripture readings for next Sunday, November 22, 2020, Christ the King Sunday, are: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; and Matthew 25:31-46. The sermon title is "Living in Love," and the Bulletin is available here: <u>https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-11-22-Bulletin-PDF.pdf</u>

Weekly Newsletter



INTERNET GREMLINS!

After successfully live-streaming our worship services for three Sundays in a row, we suddenly experienced a degradation in the quality of our transmissions to the point where they were inaudible and unviewable.

Sadly, this first happened as we tried to live-stream our Celebration of Life Service in remembrance of Friench Tarkington on Friday, November 13, 2020. It happened again when we tried to live-stream our worship service on Sunday, November 15, 2020.

This week, however, we have been working to correct our broadcasting problems, and we hope to be able to have everything back in working order in time for our worship service this Sunday, November 22, 2020.

Meanwhile, we want the members and friends of FPC to know that, *as a backup*, we have been able to post both Friench's Celebration of Life Service and last Sunday's worship service on the FPC website and Facebook page. In the event of future problems, we will also be able to upload forthcoming worship services. The problem, which we hope to solve soon, is limited to our capability to live-stream from our Sanctuary. Even if we cannot live-stream, we are still able to record and post our services within 48 hours at the most.

To find any past worship service on our website (including the one for Friench Tarkington), go to <u>www.fpcofvictoria.org</u>. On the homepage, place your mouse over the tab marked "Worship Services," and then click on the words "Past Messages." Look for the service you missed and, again, click on it in order to watch it. If you

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prefer Facebook, go to <u>www.facebook.com/fpcofvictoria</u>, review the videos that are there, and click on the one you want to watch. On both our website and Facebook page, the more recent services are the ones you will see first.



Traditional Hanging of the Greens

This Advent Season will be especially joyful since, now that we have cautiously resumed in-person worship services, we will have the opportunity to decorate our lovely Sanctuary with greenery and other decorations appropriate to the celebration of the birth of our Lord.

After our worship service on **November 22, 2019**, specifically, the Sunday *before* Thanksgiving, we will remain to decorate the Sanctuary while we wear our masks, maintain social distancing, and use plenty of hand-sanitizer.

Even though our decorations will be somewhat subdued during the current pandemic, if you love to decorate for Christmas, here is a wonderful, joyus opportunity to do so.



UPDATE ON VANDALISM AT THE CHURCH

Surprisingly, the vandalism to our beautiful stained glass windows received a great deal of coverage in the local press. The local television station did a news report on the damage, complete with lovely views of the interior of our Sanctuary and even an on-camera interview with your Pastor. One of the local radio stations is reported to have also done a feature about the incident, but I do not have any details about when the story was carried or which station carried it.

As an update to the congregation, I can report that the broken windows have been temporarily sealed, and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, led by Billy Leske, has engaged a local craftsman to repair them. The craftsman, whose bid was both reasonable and manageable (and substantially lower than our insurance deductible), has already taken the necessary measurements and ordered the needed replacement glass. Hopefully, the repairs will be completed by Christmas Eve, but no promises have been made.

Interestingly, some members of the community who have a great affinity for our church but who are not members of FPC have sent us contributions to be used for the repair of our windows. In contrast to those in our community who commit random acts of vandalism, we find others who commit random acts of kindness. May God save and bless them all!



A REPEATED CALL FOR HELP FROM CHRIST'S KITCHEN

Christ's Kitchen has again been overwhelmed by an increase in the number of homeless who look to that organization for likely their only meal of the day. At the same time, the customary suppliers who assist Christ's Kitchen in providing desserts for the meals prepared by the volunteers at Christ's Kitchen once again cannot keep up with the demand. *Therefore, Christ's Kitchen volunteers from First Presbyterian Church once more need the congregation's help.*

Here is a reminder, from Frances Miller and Billy Leske, concerning how each of us can donate desserts to feed the homeless on Tuesday, the day that FPC's dedicated volunteers prepare to-go lunch boxes for over 900 needy people:

1. If you are able to donate store-bought or homemade cakes, cookies, brownies, etc., you can bring them to the church office on Monday or to Christ's Kitchen (611 Warren Ave.) by 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday mornings.

2. Individual desserts such as cookies, brownies, lemon bars, etc., should be put in small ziploc storage bags before being delivered. Typical servings per storage bag are 3 to 4 cookies or 2 to 3 donuts, brownies, lemon bars, etc. Cakes or pies should be delivered in disposable, non-returnable containers.

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim

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