



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Ocala



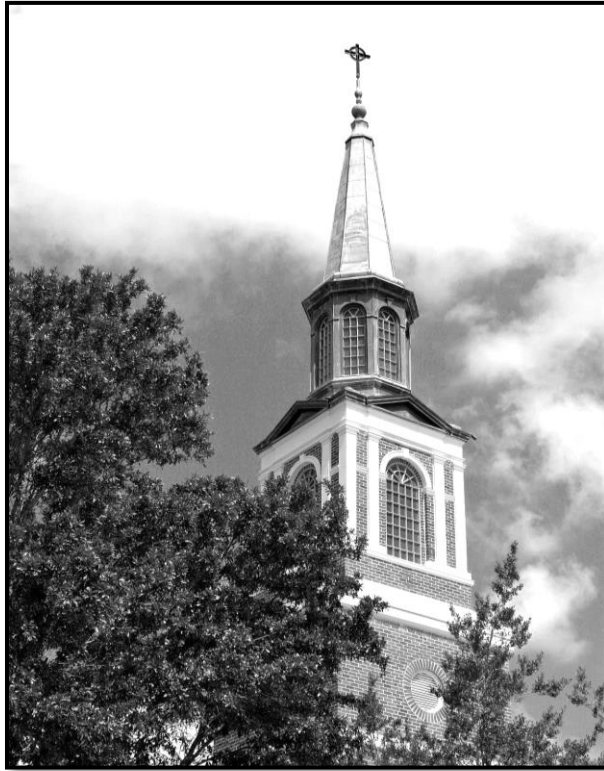
Our Vision

To be a church that shares God's love through Jesus Christ with everyone.

Our Mission

We are an inclusive historic downtown community of Christian faith.

We seek to welcome all people through prayer, meaningful worship, and supportive groups while sharing our talents and resources with those in need.



166 YEARS IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN OCALA

April 21, 2024

Today's Sermon "Houston, We Have A Problem"

Rev. Richard Menzel, guest minister

Rev. Dr. Walk Jones, Transitional Pastor
Phyllis Von Ebers, Choir Director
Dr. Kosumo Morishita, Organist
Leslie Athanason, Vocalist

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 2024

10:00 a.m.

We Gather with Others in God's House

Words of Welcome

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Prelude

"Adagio from Voluntary II"

John Stanley

We Give Praise and Adoration to God

Call to Worship

Dr. Walk Jones, Liturgist

Leader: Why do we come to worship God?

People: We come seeking a blessing from our Lord.

Leader: What is this blessing we seek?

**People: We seek an encounter with our God, who washes us in mercy,
calls us to service, and fills us with love.**

Leader: Let us worship God together.

*Hymn

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

#14

*Confession of Sin

You are love, O God, and you have loved us from the beginning. Forgive us when we do not share your love with the world: when we choose selfishness over compassion; what feels comfortable rather than what is right; when we strive for success instead of faithfulness; when we value independence over community. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short. Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way. (silent prayer)

*Assurance of Pardon

*Passing the Peace

*Gloria Patri

#581

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

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-6, 28-31 (OT Pg1)

Children's Sermon

Song "In the Bulb There is a Flower" #250

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

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

Anthem "Come to Jesus" arr. Mark Hayes
Cindy Andrew and Debbie Atchison, vocal duet

New Testament Reading Colossians 1:15-20 (NT Pg. 244)
John 1:1-5 (NT Pg. 111)

Sermon "Houston, We Have A Problem" Rev. Menzel

Affirmation of Faith Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

We Depart to Live and Love as Christian Disciples

*Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" #307

*Benediction and Offering
(After service, ushers will be standing by the doors with offering plates to receive your tithes and offerings)

Postlude "Postlude in A minor" Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens



The flowers today are given to the Glory of God

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our guest preacher is the Rev. Richard L. (Dick) Menzel who was born on and raised on a farm in northeast Iowa. He taught high school business education and English and driver education for several years. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve—called to active duty during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He went to seminary and served as pastor in Iowa, Illinois, and Ohio. Seven years ago Dick moved to Gainesville. Dick (whose wife died three years ago) has a son, a daughter, and two teenage grand-daughters. He has done woodworking, gardening, and has been privileged to travel to every state, except for one (Oregon), in the United States, and to several countries throughout the world as well.

We Welcome Visitors - Thanks for worshiping with us! Please complete a yellow card and bring it to an usher in the back after worship.

Adult Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. in Room 1 this week is a lesson entitled *I Am In Christ*, where we will study chapter 1. In this opening chapter Paul described the marvelous spiritual blessings that belong to the church in Jesus Christ. All of these blessings are assured to each believer, for they flow from God's grace, wisdom, and eternal purpose. Behind each of these blessings is God's desire that our lives glorify Him.

Children's Sunday School meets in Room 26 during church, after the Children's Sermon.

Middle and High School Youth Group will meet today at 5:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. Youth Group meals are needed. Contact Carter Ullman (863) 651-4863 or sign up on the Meal Train at: www.mealtrain.com/09nwe9

Life Line Screening will be at FPC on Monday, April 29th 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information visit their website: www.lifelinescreening.com

Operation Love Your Neighbor- May 4 - 8:30 a.m. We will be serving our neighbors by performing yardwork and light landscaping for foster families around Ocala. If you would like to participate or would like to contribute yard tools, please reach out to Carter Ullman. carter.ullman@comcast.net or call (863)651-4863.

PRAYER LIST

Pat Bishop

Bill Blackwell (brother of Mary Kauffman)

Tania Blackwell (sister-in-law of Mary Kauffman)

Andy Carlisle

Ella and Ray Charnley

Shirley Cochran

Billy Davis (grandson-in-law of David Demarest,
cancer diagnosis)

Linda Deyton (sister of Annette Pickard)

Mina DiGeronimo

Ruth Fraser

Gabby Gates (friend of Dave Bice)

Joe Glenn (friend of Mary Kauffman)

Dorothy Halliwell (sister-in-law of Pat Interdonato)

Bill and Barbara Harrel

Chris Hasselkus

Andrea Mogg Jacque

Victoria Johnson (great-granddaughter of Christine)

Lloyd Kauffman (husband of Mary)

Lanier Lance (sister of Bill Tucker)

John Koch (brother in law of Debbie Koch)

Gloria Miller

Jodi Miller (daughter-in-law of Ginny Miller)

Bruce Moore (hip surgery recovery)

Annette Morris (friend of Mary Kauffman)

Fritz Rain (friend of Marybeth Olson)

Bo Rainbow (injury from a fall)

Ruthanne and John Reiss

Vicki Roberts (on the death of her husband, Frank)

Michael Rou (cousin of Dr. David Albright)

Kim Scalf (fighting cancer, friend of Julia Wirono)

Rev. Ed Tenhor

Bob and Renee Timmer

Ann VanDenburgh

Robert Webber (brother of Ginny Miller)

William Wright