First Presbyterian Church of Naples

In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God: we worship, we love, we grow, we serve



Following Jesus, by Gary Bunt

April 30, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter 8:30 and 10:15 a.m. The Prelude Psalm XIX BENEDETTO MARCELLO

THE TIME OF GATHERING

Welcome and Life Together Rev. Craig Goodrich

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made. **People:** We will rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: Jesus commands Peter, "Follow me!" **People:** With Peter we will follow Jesus.

All: Let us worship God!

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

St. Kevin

- 1. Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness! God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness, loosed from Pharoah's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters; led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
- 2. 'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen. All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
- 3. Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection!
- 4. Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal hold you as a mortal: but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.

Call to Confession Rev. Rex Childs

Prayer of Confession

Eternally patient God, we ask again and again, "What should we do?" And again and again, you tell us, "Follow me." Yet we have not changed our ways. We fall into old habits, cling to our own ways, and take for granted the grace you have given us. Once again, we ask you for forgiveness. Show us the way forward and help us return, once again, to you.

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! God's steadfast love endures forever. Through the risen Christ, this day and every day, we are forgiven. Receive God's forgiveness and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri

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!

Children's Time (10:15 A.M.)

REV. REX CHILDS

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

8:30 A.M. DEBORAH MEESON-VIGÉ 10:15 A.M. YANCEY BRAME

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

PEW BIBLE PAGE 886

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea; day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me." Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

Second Reading

John 21:15-25

PEW BIBLE PAGE 884

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me." ²⁰Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" ²¹When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" ²²Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!" ²³So the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?" ²⁴This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down. I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Following Jesus

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

*Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith—PCUSA 1983)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve...We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal... With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and The 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

God and God Alone

PHIL MCHUGH ARR. TOM FETTKE

God and God alone created all these things we call our own; from the mighty to the small, the glory in them all is God's and God's alone. God and God alone reveals the truth of all we call unknown; and all the best and worst of man can't change the master plan; it's God's and God's alone! God and God alone is fit to take the universe's throne. Let everything that lives reserve its truest praise for God and God alone. God and God alone will be the joy of our eternal home. He will be our one desire, our hearts will never tire of God and God alone. Amen.

*The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH

*Hymn of Commitment #726 (vs. 1,2,5)

KELVINGROVE

Will You Come and Follow Me

- 1. "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
 Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
 Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known; will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
- 2. "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"
- 5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Toccata on "Hyfrydol"

Postlude EDWARD L. GOOD

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Flower Dedication

The Chancel flowers are given by Gay and Tim Stover in memory of Gay's father, Albert Thomas Watson, Jr.

Greeters

8:30 a.m. Cheryl and Mike Del Campo

10:15 a.m. Heather Cartwright, Nancy Mowry, Ali Norris, Gay and Tim Stover

Prayer List

In an effort to keep the prayer list current, names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks, unless we are notified otherwise. If you wish for a name to be included, please contact the church office.

*Howard Anker	Bonnie James	Patricia Perrin	Missionary-Honduras
Daryl Berhardy	Samantha Knott	Sean Pratt	Dorie Hjalmarson
Joe M. Brady	*Jim Ledinsky	Sharon Pyle	•
*Juanita Bunker	*Eileen Malstrom	Julia Schoettle	Medical Missionary-
*Marjorie Cashion	*Marge Martin	Mary Sherlock	Guatemala
Kerin Clark	*Gene McCree	Kristin Wharton	*Dr. Mark Speake
*Norma Dallessandro	Brenda McKinney		•
Todd Fisher	Riley Miskell	*church member	Central Presbyterian
Patricio Gilchrist	Leslie Moore		Reformed Church
*Margaret Green	Kent Morse	The U.S. Military	Matanzas, Cuba
*Larry Hibbett	Nicholas Machinga	Stephen Ministers/care	
-	G	receivers	

Hospital Ministry

Will you be hospitalized or know of someone in the congregation who is? Please contact our Assistant for Caring Ministries, Susan Pratt at susanp@fpcnaples.org. Also, please remember to let the hospital know that you are a member of First Presbyterian Church of Naples.

News & Events

Guests and Visitors Welcome

We are so glad you joined us in worship this morning. Please visit our Welcome Table in Spencer Hall for a gift and join us for refreshments served by the Presbyterian Women.

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held this morning following the 10:15 a.m. worship service. The purposes of the meeting are 1) to receive the 2022 Annual Report, 2) to receive the report of the Nominating Committee that Don Grandi be elected as elder in the class of 2023 and Sue Shenk as deacon in the class of 2025, and 3) to elect the Nominating Committee for 2023-2024.

The Palms Society

Family Love Letter, is an informal session that will be led by Linda Gadkowski, Certified Financial Planner™ Professional, and Amy Manley, Certified Financial Planner™ Professional, Financial Advisor. No one wants to be a burden on their loved ones. Join us to find out how to be organized and ready for the unexpected. We will also talk about how to be prepared to handle the hurdles of the first year of being a widow/widower or being alone. The session will be held this morning following the 8:30 and 10:15 a.m. services. Please e-mail or call Amy Manley to register, aag34@icloud.com or 239.272.6821.

Wednesday Morning Men: Faith and Fellowship

The next gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3 at 8 a.m. to be followed with another session on Wednesday, May 17. The presentations are a continuation of the topic "The Aging Process: Are We Prepared?" and looking at the roles of friends and family. We begin with coffee and pastry and some informal social/sharing time. Participants will then have an opportunity to share their thoughts and responses to questions. Contact Bill Kearney at skearney239@comcast.net if you have a comment or questions. You may also join us online via Zoom.

Presbyterian Women's May Gathering

Make your reservations today in Spencer Hall for the Presbyterian Women's Gathering on Wednesday, May 3 at noon. We will enjoy lunch (\$10) followed by a program that will pull together both the PW Circle Study and the WOW study on "Sabbath." Participation in either of these two groups is not needed to attend this program. All women are welcome to join us for lunch, fellowship, and a time to glean some tips regarding Sabbath practices. Questions? Contact Carolyn Bennett at cjosmith341@gmail.com.

Cuba Ministry

Do you have any large suitcases you'd like to donate? We are heading to Cuba in May and will be taking many items for our partner church with us in suitcases that will stay in Cuba. If you would like to send your unwanted, large suitcase on a one-way trip adventure, contact Pat Nordbrock at patnordbrock@gmail.com with details, and we'll see if we can take it off your hands!

Heading North?

If you are heading up north for the summer, please be sure to let us know by checking the box on the Friendship Pad, sending an e-mail (fpc@fpcnaples.org), or calling the office (239.262.1311). We want to stay in touch during the summer months! And remember to follow us on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel. Thank you for spending your winter months with us. We wish you safe travels and an enjoyable summer. See you next season.

Weekly Bible Studies

Women's Ministry Bible Study

All women are welcome to join us each Monday at 1 p.m. in the Parlor. Please bring your Bible as we study the Book of Acts. For more information, please contact Janeen McClure at jrmc@airmcclure.com.

HUDDLE - A Men's Bible Discussion Group

All men are invited and encouraged to gather in Spencer Hall each Thursday at noon. If unable to attend in person, you are welcome to join the meeting via Zoom. Please contact David Fister at davidf@fpcnaples.org for Zoom instructions and a link to the meeting.

Giving Opportunities

Narthex Renovation and Summer Projects Campaign

We are thrilled to announce that we have received \$164,525 in commitments and payments from a total of 32 families. These projects are outside the scope of our annual operating budget, so if you have pledged for 2023, we hope that your heart will be stirred to consider this additional campaign and to make an additional gift. Please contact Debbie Savage, Director of Finance, debbies@fpcnaples.org, with any questions.

144 Fundraiser for Montreat

This summer seven youth and four adults will travel to Montreat, NC to join others for a life-changing, week -long conference. We continue the 144 Fundraiser in Spencer Hall to help fund this trip. There are 27 of the original 144 envelopes remaining! We ask you to choose one or more envelopes and by doing so, you agree to contribute the amount on the envelope. Please prayerfully consider being part of this opportunity to support our youth and young adults. If you prefer, donations may be made online at www.fpcnaples.org/give. Please select "Youth-Montreat" fund.

Growing Together Joyfully

A huge thank you to all of you who have joined us in 'Growing Together Joyfully' and who have turned in your pledges. To date, we have received 240 pledges totaling \$1,251,842. We are truly excited to watch God at work through First Presbyterian Church of Naples!

We are still accepting pledges, so it's not too late to turn one in by placing the card in the offering plate, bringing or mailing it to the church office, or filling in the card online through our website. Please feel free to contact Debbie Savage, Director of Finance, debbies@fpcnaples.org, should you have any questions.

Staff Recognition Sunday Anniversary Celebration Sunday, May 7

Join us during worship as we recognize our wonderful, dedicated staff.

Celebrating their 5 year anniversary:



Rev. Rex Childs



Nancy Van Fleet



Lisa Ethier



Eduardo Martinez

We hope you will be a part of honoring these tenures of service to First Presbyterian Church of Naples.

Staff Staff				
<u>Name</u>	Phone: 239.262.1311	Ext.	E-mail	
	odrich, Senior Pastor s, Associate Pastor	2035 2027	craigg@fpcnaples.org rexc@fpcnaples.org	
David Fister, A	sic ch, Director of Music Ministries udio-Video Technician c, Sound and Video Operator	2039 2044	briceg@fpcnaples.org davidf@fpcnaples.org	
Audrey Gordon Ashley Hancoc	cation , Kidz Lab Teacher , Childcare Provider k, Christian Education Assistant et, Director of Children and Youth	2012 2029	ashley.hancock@fpcnaples.org nancyv@fpcnaples.org	
Kathleen Law, Sharman Pfaus Susan Pratt, As	Office Assistant/Receptionist Director of Publications and Social Media s, Executive Office Manager ssistant for Caring Ministries , Director of Finance	2000 2013 2036 2037 2042	sandyk@fpcnaples.org kathleenl@fpcnaples.org sharmanp@fpcnaples.org susanp@fpcnaples.org debbies@fpcnaples.org	
	stodian ez, Maintenance Director of Facilities	2016 2014 2028	lisae@fpcnaples.org eduardom@fpcnaples.org sandyp@fpcnaples.org	
	reschool Director Preschool Assistant Director	2009 2038	ashleyh@fpcnaples.org lindsayc@fpcnaples.org	

On the cover:

Gary Bunt is one of the most beloved artists working in Britain today. There is an abounding sense of peace and calm to the artist's work – recalling a world now largely lost – but the greatest sentiment is without doubt the unbridled joy that shines out from his canvases.

Faith plays a pivotal role for Bunt, and his visionary religious approach – reminiscent of that of the great Stanley Spencer – is visible in much of his work. In some he reimagines scenes from the Bible unfolding in his local surroundings, Jesus appearing amongst the rolling Sussex hills.

From garybundtart.com



