

Additional Liturgy for September 17, 2017

For: David Rowland

Suggested Announcements (please edit as desired):

The **PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY** will resume bimonthly classes on Tuesday, September 19. The Quilt Ministry meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on the second floor of the church. For more information, contact Shirley Pippin at 956-358-0591.

The **CONFESSION OF BELHAR** was recently added to our Book of Confessions. It is a brief but theologically rich and socially bold declaration, and an important witness both to and for the Church. Want to know more about the *Belhar Confession* and the role our PC(USA) creeds and confessions play in the life of the church? A small group study, led by Pastor Kathy, begins today, September 17, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Parlor.

The **FPC YOUTH GROUP** wishes to wholeheartedly thank the congregation for its participation in the youth's "Montreat-or-Bust" bake sale fundraiser last Sunday. Thanks so much for your purchases and generous donations! You helped us raise \$1,248.

The Worship Calling is in need of **VOLUNTEERS FOR USHERS** during Sunday worship services. Normal attrition has left us short-handed. Ushers are organized into teams that rotate from month to month, so scheduling is flexible. Please volunteer by emailing Tom Ball at tomasball@aol.com.

Call to Confession

Jesus Christ overcame evil with good so that all people might be saved from sin. Let us then confess our need for grace, confident of God's forgiveness.

Prayer for Illumination

It's time to hear God's Word read and proclaimed. Let us pray:

Holy God, your Word is strong and leads our feet to your holy dwelling place. Strengthen and guide us with your Word through the power of your Holy Spirit; in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Reading

Amos 5:12-15 (NRSV)

¹² For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.
¹³ Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.
¹⁴ Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
¹⁵ Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Invitation to the Offering

God is unfailing in blessing and love. With thankful hearts, let us offer up to God a portion of what God has given us.

Offertory Prayer

O God, we thank you for these gifts. Multiply them, and enable the work of love and the righteousness of your kingdom to come in the world. We thank and praise you. Amen.