

September 24 Sermon Notes

9 and 11:30 a.m. Worship Services

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34 (*New Testament, p. 8*)

Title: The Competition

This week, we begin a new teaching series: “First: Giving God first place in everything”

What we put first in our life matters. If we’ll choose to put God FIRST, in our living and giving, we can touch more lives, connect greater numbers of folks to Christ, and help the Kingdom of God expand. As a church, we’ve experienced God do more things through us this past year than ever before, and we think we are just seeing the beginning of what God is going to do as we allow Him to use us! Let’s keep God FIRST, and see what God can do!

Big Idea: Seeking to put God first in everything will be threatened by competing interests: anxiety, a desire for security, a test of our willingness to trust in the providential love and care of our heavenly Father.

Next Week

9 and 11:30 a.m. Worship Services

Preacher: Rev. Henry Coates

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-6.

Title: World Communion Sunday

Big Idea: No matter where you are, who you are, in Jesus Christ we are one.

Listen to Sunday Sermons on the FPCE website or via the “First Presbyterian Church of Evanston” iTunes podcast. Sermons are usually uploaded by Tuesday evenings.

First Presbyterian Evanston

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Highlights

Next Sunday, October 1, is World Communion Sunday, a day where we celebrate our oneness in Christ with all other believers from different countries and traditions, and remember the Lord’s Supper together. We invite you to wear your native or festive clothing, and to attend a potluck luncheon after the 11:30 am Service in Roy Hall (starting at approximately 12:45 pm). Sign up to bring a dish with Ruby Singh or at the front desk. See an announcement about baking communion bread in the Youth and Families section inside.

First Pres is partnering with LifeTouch Church Directories & Portrait Company to create a new church directory in celebration of 150 Years of God’s grace. There is no charge to have your picture included in the new directory, and sign-up is easy. Visit the FPCE website’s front page, call the church office at 847-864-1472, or sign up in person at the designated table during Fellowship Hour in Roy Hall to sign up today.

“The Power of Habits” will be the topic of Senior Varsity, which will meet on Thursday, October 5. The kick-off event for our fall series will be led by Pastor Ray and Judith Hylton. Habits are the patterns that shape our lives. Come and learn how habits are formed; how some habits create a stuck life, while other habits transform and liberate us for the abundant life in Christ. Registration will begin at 10:30 am, the presentation at 11, and lunch will be served at noon (cost: \$5 for program and \$5 for lunch). Please register by October 3 at the front desk by calling (847) 864-1472. All are welcome, especially seniors.

The next FPCE New Members Class, led by Pastor Ray Hylton, will be held Saturday, October 28, from 9 am to 2:30 pm. Childcare is available with prior registration. Contact Janice at 847-864-1472 or jdobschuetz@firstpresevanston.org.

Worth Noting

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Charyl Parry, on the passing of her father, Charlie Pease, who passed away on September 9. Funeral services are planned for 11 am, Saturday, September 30, at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church in Park Ridge.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Barb Smith for the passing of her mother Wilma Moravek who passed away on September 14 in Mesa, AZ. Funeral services will be held in Flagstaff, AZ.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Janet Gemmell, for the passing of her husband, Dr. Robert Gemmell, who passed away on September 14.

The First Pres Sanctuary has once again been selected as a location for the 2017 Open House Chicago on October 14 and 15, sponsored by the Chicago Architectural Foundation (CAF). Last year nearly 1,000 people toured our beautiful and historic sanctuary. We are looking for volunteers to greet and check visitors into the building in the narthex, as well as to act as docents in the sanctuary. If you are interested in serving, please leave your name at the front desk. Jack Harriff, coordinator, will contact you to schedule a specific time and to provide details.

Weekly volunteers are being sought by the church office. Beginning October 6, FPCE will be in need of volunteers to fold and stuff the Sunday bulletins. The process can take 2-3 hours, depending upon the number of bulletins and the number of inserts for a given week. In the past, volunteers have chosen to come Friday mornings, though any time before 5 pm Friday would be fine. If interested, contact Janice at 847-864-1472 or jdobschuetz@firstpresevanston.org.



Missions

cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org

Pray for Our

Mission Partner

Pray for our mission partners, Interfaith Action of Evanston, from pages 24 and 25 of 52 Weeks of Prayer for Missions. Ask God to grant all those involved with wisdom and guidance as they seek to make decisions about outreach and care opportunities during the Fall and Winter seasons. Ask God to show all the participating faith communities for insight into managing and scheduling the area resources. Pray, also, for the Warming Center, and Overnight Shelters which serve the homeless during the coming cold months.

Come to hear wonderful “Broadway Hits & More” sung by our own W. Stephen Smith, professor of vocal performance at Northwestern University, formerly of the Juilliard School of Music. Carol, Steve’s wife, will accompany him on the piano. Guests will hear great music while contributing to the construction of a new Diboko Primary School and Institute Bulunda Secondary School in Tshikapa, DR Congo. **Join us Saturday, October 21, 7 pm at FPCE.** Tickets: (\$25 for adults and \$10 for students) are available online at firstpresevanston.org/congoconcert, or after church on Oct. 1, 8 and 15 in the Fellowship Hour and first floor hallway.”

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/serve/in-the-world/>

Save the Date

FPCE’s own Gordon Stromberg is exhibiting a collection of his works of art at the Swedish/American Museum, October 2 through November 19. at 5211 N. Clark Street, Chicago, just north of Foster Avenue. Hours are 10 am to 4 pm. A reception for this one-room exhibit on the museum’s Second Floor will be held 6-8 pm, Friday, October 13 (the same evening as the Andersonville Art Fest). All are welcome!

An exhibit by FPCE’s Verna Todd entitled “Leafing Out” features photographs of leaves while incorporating word play meant to stir the imagination, nostalgia, and even surprise. The opening reception is Saturday, October 7, 5-7 pm, and the artists’ conversation (with a fellow exhibitor) is at 7 pm, Thursday, October 19. The gallery is at 1310^{1/2} Chicago Ave., Evanston. Hours are Thursdays through Saturdays Noon-6 pm, and Sundays Noon to 5 pm. Sales of Verna Todd’s pieces go to Bright Stars of Bethlehem, an FPCE mission partner.

Children and Families

kmuller@firstpresevanston.org

Fall registration is underway for Children’s Ministry!

If your family will be attending any Sunday children’s programs, please fill out a pink sheet at the Children’s Ministry table, or online through a web link at <http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/children/>.

Join our Children’s Choir this fall! Children in Pre-K (4 yrs) through 5th grade are invited to sing together from 4-5 pm on Thursday afternoons at First Pres. We’ve started rehearsals, but children are invited to join us as we prepare music for the Christmas Pageant in December. If your child would like to be a part of the Pageant choir, rehearsals begin on October 5. Our choir will sing in worship once a month as well, so there will be opportunities to sing even if your family isn’t in town for Christmas. Register children through the First Pres website (under events registration), or contact Kristin Mueller for more information.

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve with children? Each week, our childcare rooms are supervised by a staff member and a congregational volunteer. If you would like to hold babies in the Crib Room or draw pictures and play Legos in the Blue Room, contact Kristin Mueller. We’d love to get to know you and then incorporate you into our sign-up schedule!

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/children/>

Prayer in the Parlor

The Parlor on the second floor is open each Wednesday for prayer and meditation from 9 am to 9 pm. All are welcome to come and spend time in prayer and praise in the space set aside for a holy time with God.

Book Club

The Book Club will meet Tuesday, October 10, from 1:30-3 pm in the Parlor. Our new selection is *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See. According to Amazon it is “a moving story about tradition, tea farming, and the enduring connection between mothers and daughters”. All are welcome!

Youth and Families

lribeiro@firstpresevanston.org

Baking Communion Bread for World Communion Sunday - All Youth are invited to join Pastor Henry on Saturday, September 30 from 10 am to 12 pm to bake bread to be used the next morning for World Communion Sunday. Lunch will be provided! Contact Liz Ribeiro with questions or for more info.

Calling mentors and leaders: The youth ministry needs you! The youth ministry is seeking spiritually mature adults to invest in and guide our students. If you are interested in serving as a NUBS or PYGs leader, or confirmation mentor please reach out to Liz Ribeiro.

Volunteers are needed Saturday, September 30, for the Women’s Ministry Tea event! Youth are needed to volunteer to help with prep work and as greeters from Noon to 2 pm. All who volunteer are welcomed with free admission to the event. The tea runs from 2 to 5pm, where there will be encouraging speakers and yummy food! Contact Liz Ribeiro to sign up.

The next youth dance rehearsal is at 6 pm, September 28. Band and dance meet on alternating Thursdays. All skill levels are welcomed to join as we grow together. Please RSVP to Liz Ribeiro for planning purposes.

NUBS meets each Friday, from 7-9 pm, in the NUBS lounge. Students from grades 6-8 are invited.

PYGS meets from 4-6 pm each Sunday afternoon. Dinner is served and a \$5 donation is requested to cover costs. All high school students are welcome.

Parent Small Group – A parent small group will be held on Sunday evenings from 4-6 pm during the high school PYGS youth group time. Focus of the scripture teaching will mirror the youth devotionals to help keep in step as a family. Please email leaders Alison Velasco alsvelasco@gmail.com and Susan Hood susan_hood@comcast.net to join. All parents are welcomed. If you are interested in joining or leading a small group on Friday nights during the NUBS youth group please email Liz at lribeiro@firstpresevanston.org. Training for leaders will be provided by the small group ministry team.

More details about Youth events can be found in our weekly email. Text YOUTHGROUP to 42828 to subscribe!

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/students/>

Young Adults and Families

hcoates@firstpresevanston.org

First Pres’ 20/30’s small group will be starting Sunday, September 24 at 6 pm! If you’re a younger adult in your twenties or thirties, married or single, graduate or college student, kids or no, you are invited to join the 20/30s small group! Join us for good food and drink and even better conversation at Pastor Henry’s condo in Evanston twice a month. Together we will seek to know one another and Christ more fully! If interested, send Pastor Henry an email.

First Pres’ Young Family Small Group will be meeting once a month starting this fall. Our first gathering will be on Sunday, October 1, at 4 pm. Food and childcare will be provided. Through fellowship and study we will grow closer as families to Jesus. If you and your family would like to participate, please send either Pastor Henry or Kristin Mueller an email by **Monday, September 25.**

Family Open Gym

Thursdays, 4-7 pm, Roy Hall

Open for parents and their children to come run around, shoot some baskets, play some games. No need to RSVP; just show up and have a great time!

Like Trivia? Come on out and join Pastor Henry and other Young Adults for Trivia Night at Bar Louie, every Thursday night at 8!

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/adults/young-adults/>

Stewardship

Following is the giving revenue received through August 20:



Thank you for your support. Please contact our Business Manager, Melody Henrie, if unforeseen circumstances will prevent you from meeting your 2017 pledge commitment.