

May 15, 2022



**First Presbyterian
Church**
of Pittsburgh

Touching

It's a word we often say when something stirs deep emotions. It means that something affected us in a profound way.

But why say, "touching?" Why not just say "moving" or "affecting?" How is it that a word that means "having a common border" or "adjacent" came to signify profound feelings?

Well, why did God come into the world *in-person* as the God-man Jesus Christ? And when he came, why did he go out among the crowds of hurting persons?

He didn't sit alone on the top of a hill and expect people to come to him.

He didn't wait until the age of electronic media and make commercials.

He came to touch and be touched. You could hold him and smell him. You could feel the scratch of his beard on your cheek when he kissed you. Why?

It's got to mean that we were created to touch and be touched. And that means, the more isolated we are from others, the more "out of touch" we become, and the less we become our truest and best selves.

Of course, not all touching is healthy.

And a few take advantage of our need for touch to satisfy some perverse impulse.

Matthew 9 tells of a woman who'd been hemorrhaging for twelve years. She told herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I'll be healed."

She was right, and it's still true for us.

We have to let him touch us, through worship, Christian community, prayer, and more. The more he touches us, the more we become who he created us to be.

Jon

Tom's Blog



WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am

We Gather Around the Word

Prelude: "Dialogue"

Benjamin Cornelius-Bates

Ryan Croyle, *Organ*

Time of Welcome

Rev. Dan Turis, *Associate Pastor*

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Leader: To the God who learned how to stand.

People: We stand for you, dear Jesus.

Leader: To the God who loved though touching others.

People: May our worship be touching to you, dear Jesus.

Leader: To the God who learned how to worship through singing.

All: We open our mouths and worship you, dear Jesus.

***Hymn #492: "Come Thou Almighty King"** (located in this bulletin)

Unison Prayer of Confession

Dear Lord, we want to keep you at arms length. We want to keep you for when we need you. We don't cling to you every day of our lives. We don't reach for you every moment. We don't see you as the source of our healing. Our faith is weak. We don't trust you with our hurts. We don't push through the barriers to cling to your hem line. Lord forgive our reluctance, forgive our lack of cling to you. Forgive how we trust in our own way ignore how your way is better. Lord, please forgive us. Restore us and make us whole again Lord. *Amen.*

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen for the Word

Children's Message

Rev. Dan Turis

(Children of ages preschool – 1st grade are invited to attend Children's Worship on the 3rd floor balcony at this time. Children are to be picked up immediately after service in the chapel behind the high pulpit.)

Solo: "Be Thou My Vision",

arr. Tom Trenney

Torey Gricks, *Tenor*
MaryBeth Glasgow Schotting, *Violin*
Ruth Ann Reamer, *Piano*

Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:18-26

¹⁸ While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples. ²⁰ Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. ²¹ She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."

²² Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.” And the woman was healed at that moment.²³ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, ²⁴ he said, “Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep.” But they laughed at him. ²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. ²⁶ News of this spread through all that region.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon - “Touching Jesus”

Camilla Helenkamp, *Student Pastor*

We Respond to the Word

Pastoral Prayer 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

***Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

Rev. Dan Turis

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering



Online giving available through Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement

Anthem: “Hold On”

Twila Paris

*Every little baby comes into the world
Reaching for an anchor, fingers tightly curled
Grasping for a reason without knowing why
We will cling to anything till the day we die*

*Chorus: We can hold on to sorrow, hold on to pain
We can hold on to anger when there is nothing to be gained
We can hold to a thread at the end of a rope
But if we hold on to Jesus we are holding on to hope
Hold on, hold on!*

Choir

Dwayne Dolphin, *Bass*

*This is human nature, this is what He planned
When He put our hearts inside, when He made these hands
We are here to reach for Him, never letting go
This is all we need to have, all we need to know.*

*We can hold on to money, hold on to fame
We can hold on to glory and the honor of a name
We can hold to a thread at the end of a rope
But if we hold on to Jesus we are holding on to...*

*Hold on to hearts, Hold on to wisdom
Hold on to mercy and love, Hold on! (Chorus)*

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Dan Turis

We Follow the Word into the World

***Hymn #184:** *"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"* (located in this bulletin)

***Invitation and
Charge**

***Benediction**

Camilla Helenkamp

Postlude: *"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"*
arr. Healey Willian

Ryan Croyle

**Please stand as you are able*

Come, Thou Almighty King

F Gm C F

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, gird on thy
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

C7 F

name to sing; help us to praise.
 might - y sword; scat - ter thy foes.
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
 prais - es be hence ev - er - more!

C7 F Gm A Dm

Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 Let thine al - might - y aid our sure de - fense be made,
 Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in ev - ery heart,
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

F Gm C7 F

come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 our souls on thee be stayed; thy won - ders show.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

184 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

C Em F G C

1 Good Chris-tians all, re-joyce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is risen to - day. Sing songs of praise a -
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which

G D G C Em Dm C

of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
 long his way. Let all the world re - joyce and say:
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:

Refrain Am G D G Am G C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
 and sing today with one accord
 the life laid down, the life restored:
Refrain

5 To God the Father, God the Son,
 to God the Spirit, three-in-one,
 we sing for life in us begun:
Refrain

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

Upcoming Performance – May 22 After Worship

Coming up next week after worship, organist **Badyn Woodford** will present a 30-minute recital on our pipe organ. He presented a similar concert just before the pandemic hit in 2020 and is back to commemorate his forthcoming high school graduation with this special performance. We hope you plan to stick around after hospitality hour to listen and enjoy!

Sustainable Solutions for Sacred Sites - May 23 and 24

Our friends at Partners for Sacred Places will be here at First Church on **May 23 and 24**, 1 pm to 5 pm each day, to conduct training in “**Sustainable Solutions for Sacred Sites.**” They want to create a cohort of churches in Pittsburgh who use the Partners model of building up the church by engaging the community. This is some of the same training that they provided after we won the grant from the National Fund. It’s also related to the asset mapping that they did with us last November.

Please contact **Hannah** at hdurant@fpcp.org or 412-471-3436 if you plan on attending. We hope that you can join us for this important event!

Mentors and Other Help Needed for the Foster Care Ministry!

In partnership with Foster Care programs in Pittsburgh, First Presbyterian is developing a mentorship program to help support foster children and families. There are many upcoming events that we have planned for the rest of 2022 that we need your help with! We will be holding a movie night at the church on May 21st at 6:00 pm, and a Pirates Game planned for June 21st at 7:00 pm!

We need your help if you’re interested in becoming a mentor, willing to serve food and help set up and attend events, or even willing to support this effort financially. If you are interested or have questions about this vital ministry, please contact Rev. Dan Turis at dturis@fpcp.org or (412) 471-3436. We hope you can be a part of this new opportunity!

A Note about This Morning’s Music - - by Ryan Croyle

This week we welcome back **MaryBeth Glasgow Schotting** on violin, and **Dwayne Dolphin** on bass guitar. Our anthem this morning, “*Hold On*” by Twila Paris will be a powerful ballad made even more powerful through their musicianship. The motivation for today’s anthem comes from our Matthew 9 scripture reading where the sick woman is literally “holding on” to Jesus to be healed. In addition to our usual anthem, **Torey Gricks** will offer a special performance of Tom Trenney’s arrangement of “*Be Thou My Vision*” with **Ruth Ann Reamer** on piano and **Marybeth Glasgow Schotting** on violin. Torey will be out of town for a few weeks, so consider this a sendoff for a while! We close the service with the hymn “*Good Christian All, Rejoice and Sing*”, a tune from the German tradition written by Melchior Vulpius around 1570. The “Alleluias” at the end of each verse each get their own special treatment. The postlude is a setting of the same hymn tune by Anglo-Canadian composer Healey Willan (1880-1968).

First Church Staff

Church Office: 412-471-3436
320 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
www.fpcp.org – info@fpcp.org

SENIOR PASTOR

Tom Hall
thall@fpcp.org
ext. 222

DIRECTOR OF FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Jana Hall
jhall@fpcp.org

WEDDING COORDINATOR

Megan McFarland
mmcfarland@fpcp.org

PIPER IN RESIDENCE

George Balderose
george@bagpiping.org

OUTREACH PASTOR

Dan Turis
dturis@fpcp.org
ext. 213

OFFICE MANAGER

Cheryl Swartz
cswartz@fpcp.org
ext. 220

MINISTERIAL ASSISTANT

Hannah Durant
hdurant@fpcp.org
ext. 210

STUDENT PASTOR

Camilla Helenkamp
chelenkamp@pts.edu

ACCOUNTANT

Kate Williams
kwilliams@fpcp.org
ext.230

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Ryan Croyle
rcroyle@fpcp.org

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Bill Branning, *supervisor*
bbranning@fpcp.org

Robert DeVere

Louis D. Pack

VOLUNTEER SOUND/ VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Victor Ndinyah
Doug Williams
Dan Conner
Ava Conner
Keith and Amy Burris
David Charlton

Church Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, 412-471-3436, www.fpcp.org.

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get your parking ticket stamped at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). See the person in the payment booth at Mellon Square, Oliver Avenue or Smithfield Street garage to pay \$1 for parking.