First Pres Page

7 SACRED ACTIONS IN THE PROTESTANT CHURCH
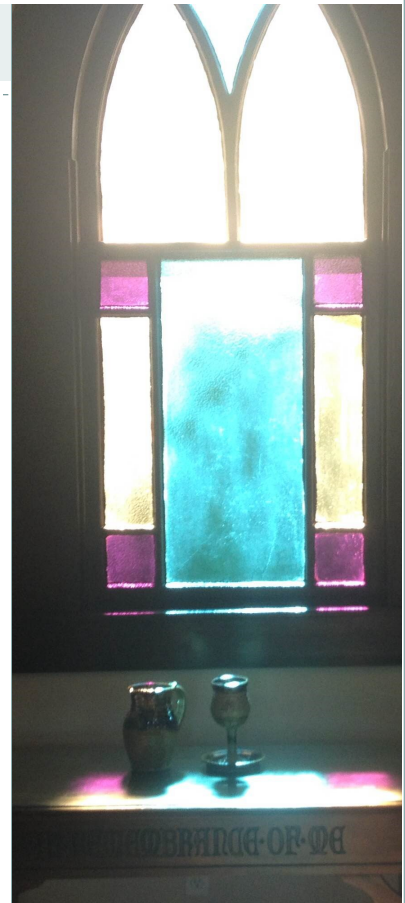
Dear Members and Friends of First Pres,

It is with great joy that I return to the church after maternity leave. These three months have been a wonderful time of getting to know my daughter, Abigail, even if it has meant not a lot of sleep! I have missed this church family and am looking forward to catching up with everyone.

During my time away from the church, I had a few conversations with people about the decline of the Christian Church in America. This reality seems to be on people's minds and is in the news a lot lately. This led me to reflect on why it is I love being in the church. I got to thinking about the history of our tradition and the amazing story of our faith. This thought process led me back to the basics: the sacred actions that create a framework for the church. These actions originate in the seven sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church, the tradition from which our Protestant Church came from. We Protestants only kept two of the sacraments, baptism and communion, but the remaining five still hold significance to us.

This train of thought launched my mind and heart on an idea for a sermon series that will take place for the remainder of the summer. We will explore our two sacraments, baptism and communion, as well as the other five actions, confirmation, confession, anointing of the sick, holy orders and marriage. I hope you all will enjoy hearing about these sacred actions and what they mean for the church!

Grace and Peace to you,

Rev. Becca Weaver Longino

PREACHING SCHEDULE

JUNE-AUGUST

6.21.... "BACK TO THE BASICS"

6.28............................BAPTISM

7.5.....................COMMUNION
7.12.................CONFIRMATION

7.19.....................CONFESSION

7.26...............ANNOINTING OF
THE SICK

8.2....................HOLY ORDERS

8.9.............PRAYER STATIONS

8.16.......................MARRIAGE

8.23.....................REFLECTION

8.30.......................HYMN SING

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