

# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



AUGUST 23, 2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
August 23, 2020  
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Proper 16

**Prelude:** Prelude in C Major

*J.S. Bach*

### Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

One: We give thanks to God with our whole heart.

All: **We give thanks for God's steadfast love  
and faithfulness!**

One: Though high above all things, God sees the lowly.

All: **Even when we are in deep trouble,  
God makes us live again.  
The love of God lasts forever!**

**Opening Hymn:** "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

No. 446

### Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Gracious God,  
though you are known by many names  
and depicted in many ways,  
we know you most fully  
in Jesus Christ,  
our Messiah, your Son.  
We thank you for forming us  
into the church,  
the body of Christ in the world.  
Help us to live as he taught us:  
loving you,  
loving neighbor,  
unified in Christ,  
using our varied gifts and skills  
in the service of ministry,  
until all things are transformed  
into what is good and acceptable and perfect.  
In Christ's name, we ask it. Amen.

### Invitation to Confession

Brothers and sisters,  
with hope in the mercies of God,  
we confess our sins before God and one another

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

Merciful God,  
we confess we have conformed our lives  
to the ways of the world  
and not the ways of your kingdom.  
We think of ourselves too highly  
and regard others as lowly.  
We exalt possessions and power,  
when you alone are to be exalted.  
We let conflicts prevail over grace  
and divisions over harmony.  
Have mercy upon us, we pray.  
Forgive and transform us,  
that we may be holy and acceptable to you,  
discerning and doing your will.  
Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

**Kyrie Eleison** (*singing in unison*)

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Assurance of Pardon**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ends.  
When we call out to God, God answers.  
God saves us with a strong and outstretched hand.  
Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Gloria Patri** (*singing in unison*)

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.

**Prayer of Illumination**

Lord our God,  
your name and your word  
are exalted above everything.  
We are listening for your word;  
we are looking for your light.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
renew our minds and hearts  
so we may discern your will  
and respond in faith.  
We pray in the name of your Son, our Savior. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 51:1-6

P. 681 in the Old Testament

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.  
For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.  
Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.  
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

**Congregational Hymn:** “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

No. 379

**Second Scripture Reading:** Matthew 16:13-20

P. 18 in the New Testament

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

**Sermon:** The Question

Matthew 16:15: He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

*Silence and stillness*

**Congregational Hymn:** “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:** (*unison*)

Gracious God,  
we thank you for the measure of faith  
you have given to each of us.  
Increase in us  
generosity,  
compassion,  
and prophetic courage  
so we may continue to be your body  
in and for the world.  
With thanksgiving,  
we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

**Doxology** (*singing in unison*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures her below;  
Praise Him above, all heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**Affirmation of Faith**

This is the good news which we have received,  
in which we stand,  
and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast:  
that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,  
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,  
that he appeared first to the women,  
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,  
and then to many faithful witnesses.  
We believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of the living God.  
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end;  
he is our Lord and our God. Amen

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude:** Toccata in G minor

Rev. Jim DeMent

*Genevan Psalter, 1551*

*From Scripture*

*Pachelbel*

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns that Robert Wyatt will be playing for this “Virtual Worship Service.” All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990). We encourage you to read and sing along at home, as Robert plays the hymns he has selected with comfort, hope, strength, and courage in, now, the Season after Pentecost. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1  
Verse 2

Verse 3  
Verse 4

**Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken**

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
God, whose word cannot be broken,  
Formed thee for a blest abode.  
On the rock of ages founded,  
What can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

Round each habitation hovering,  
See the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a covering,  
Showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner  
Light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna  
Which he gives them when they pray.

See, the streams of living waters,  
Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply thy sons and daughters,  
And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver,  
Never fails from age to age.

**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

His oath, His covenant, His blood  
Support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found,  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

**Refrain:**

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,

## Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From Thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure,  
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labor of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone,  
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress,  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When my eyelids shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.



First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas  
welcomes  
Ms. Muriel Margaret Cotman  
as she assists us in our  
Ministry of Music.

Muriel is now a sophomore at Victoria College, Texas,  
where she has been awarded an academic scholarship to study music.

A young woman after our own heart,  
Muriel is a student member of the  
American Guild of Organists,  
the Presbyterian Association of Musicians,  
as well as of the National College of Musicians Piano Guild and  
a collegiate member of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

## Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler  
Leonard “Mac” McCameron

Gloria Aouelle  
Roland Merrill

Ruth Ann Barnard  
Rickey Ramseur

Roxanna Hauschild  
Sarah Waldrop

Nathan Galvan  
(Son of Leila Galvan)

Angie Longoria  
(Kids for Christ Parent)

Julianna Longoria  
(Kids for Christ Disciple)

Samantha Skaggs  
(Niece of Roxanna and Henry  
Hauschild)

Billy Ruddock  
(Prior FPC Member)

John & Jere Swoboda  
(Prior FPC Members)

Eugenia (Jean) Whitaker  
(Mother of Robert Whitaker)

Carol Wisdom  
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)

### FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

**All activities suspended,  
pending further notice,  
due to public health concerns.**

### FPC Victoria Servant Leadership Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator  
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session  
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds  
Dawn Neel, Christian Education  
Linda Patterson, Worship  
Marsha Ricottilli, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach  
Susan Salinas, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Jim Stokes, Finance  
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Bill Wilkinson, Personnel

#### Other

Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women  
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School  
Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez,  
Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School

### Pastor's Notes

The sculpture on our Bulletin cover is entitled, *Consigning the Keys to Peter*, which was created in 1612 by Ambrogio Buonvicino (c. 1552-1622). If you sense you may have seen it “somewhere” before, you might be right. The sculpture adorns the outer wall of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, just above the “Benediction Loggia.” The Benediction Loggia is the balcony on which the Roman Catholic Pope appears on only three occasions (Easter, Christmas, and after his election) to deliver his blessing *Urbi e Orbi* (to the City and to the World).

A beloved tradition of the Roman Catholic church is that Peter was the first “Pope” and that any subsequent Pope (currently, Francis) can trace his office in direct succession from Peter. Protestants do not necessarily affirm this particular interpretation of Matthew 16:19, but all Christians can agree that the authority Jesus gives to Peter is central to our understanding of Jesus' continuing presence in his imperfect earthly institution, the global church, which aspires to be the body of Christ acting in the world today on his behalf and in testimony to his promise of salvation and life everlasting.

### Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor  
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster  
Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator

### Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
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