

WELCOME ALL
TO
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE



OCTOBER 4, 2020

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
October 4, 2020
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proper 22

Prelude: "God So Loved the World"

Sir John Stainer, 1840-1901

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Whatever gains I had,
these I have come to regard as loss
because of Christ.

All: **I regard everything as loss
because of the surpassing value
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**

One: As the Scriptures promise:
the stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

All: **This is the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes.**

Opening Hymn: "All Creatures of Our God and King"

No. 455

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy God, Maker of heaven and earth,
out of your great love for the world
you sent us your beloved Son—
but we sent him to his death.
Have mercy on us, O Lord;
forgive us, renew us, restore us
so that we may be the people of your vineyard
and bear good fruit for your holy realm;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Invitation to Confession

Whatever good we may have done
is nothing
compared to the righteousness of Christ.

(continued on next page)

Invitation to Confession *(continued)*

Whatever wrong we may have done
is nothing
compared to the grace of God.
With faith in Christ's righteousness
and confidence in God's grace,
let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

**Loving God, you have planted us
like a vineyard on a fertile hill.
You cleared away the stones,
planted us with choice vines,
and kept watch over us by night and day.
But we have not yielded the good fruit
that you expected or desired.
We are overgrown with sin,
choked with violence and injustice.
Forgive us, we pray.
Uproot our evil, prune away our sin,
and shower upon us the gift of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison *(singing in unison)*

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

Assurance of Pardon

Our salvation does not depend
on anything we have done,
but comes from the grace of God alone
through faith in Jesus Christ.

Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

**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 for Illumination

God of all wisdom,
give us your Word
and send us your Spirit
so that we may know Christ. **Amen**

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

P. 634 in the Old Testament

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:33-46

P. 24 in the New Testament

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:
“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?”

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Sermon: “The Wicked Tenants”

Rev. Jim DeMent

Matthew 21:41 : “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: “When I Survey the Wonderous Cross”

No. 101

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

**We give you thanks and praise, O God,
for all your good gifts, and above all,
for the gift of knowing Christ our Savior.
Strengthen us as we continue to strive
for the heavenly prize that you offer:
eternal and abundant life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Doxology (*singing in unison*)

Genevan Psalter, 1551

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

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)

**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 Ghost, 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 sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just to give you thanks
in every time and in every place, almighty God.

We give you thanks for the gift of creation
and especially for the gift of our life.
We are grateful that you have made us in your image
and that you pardon us when we act
as though you have no authority over our lives.
We are grateful that you sustain us in your great love.

And so, with all your people,
with angels, archangels,
and with all the company of heaven
we praise and magnify your glorious name,
joining our voices in the eternal hymn:

SANCTUS (UNISON):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ,
who was born of Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of the life that we know.
You anointed Jesus Christ with your Spirit
to preach good news to the poor,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
to give sight to the blind,
and to liberate the oppressed,
proclaiming the year of the Lord's favor.
In his baptism, suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, and made a new covenant with us
by water and the Spirit.

Remembering the grace of your Son Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine,
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming,
proclaiming the mystery of faith:

GREAT IS THE MYSTERY OF FAITH (UNISON):

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your people
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
so that the bread we share and the cup we bless
will be for us the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ
that we may be one with all who share this feast,
united in ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

(continued on next page)

Make us one with Christ,
one with our neighbors,
and one in service to all the world.

Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: Holy and astounding God,
at this table, in this meal,
we have been met by Christ—
the reflection of your glory,
the imprint of your being.

All: **As we go from this place
may our lives be a joyful song,
proclaiming the good news
of your righteousness and peace
for all the world. Amen**

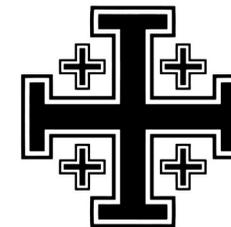
Closing Hymn: "I Come with Joy"

No. 507

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"

Johann Cruger, 1653/harm . J.S. Bach



Lyrics from *The Presbyterian Hymnal*
(Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990)

Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest us both warmth and light,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fertile earth, that day by day
Unfoldest blessings on your way,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them God's glory also show!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

I Come with Joy

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall
His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
And strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known:
We see and praise Him here,
We see and praise Him here.



[Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests](#)

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Leonard “Mac” McCameron	Kathleen McCameron
Roland Merrill	Sarah Waldrop		
Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)	Samantha Skaggs (Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)	John & Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Members)	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

[Choirmaster’s Notes](#)

The lyrics to our Opening Hymn, “All Creatures of Our God and King,” are from the poetry of Giovanni Bernardone (1182-1226), better known as Saint Francis of Assisi. Francis was a medieval monk who, after his embrace of Christianity, spent his lifetime as an itinerant evangelist, preaching and helping the poor people of Italy. Francis is remembered as a great lover of nature, seeing the hand of God in all creation. Many representations of Francis in paintings and sculptures depict him feeding the birds or other of God’s creatures.

The lyrics of Francis’ hymn were translated into English by William H. Draper (1855-1933), a village rector in England. Sometime between 1899 and 1919, Rev. Draper prepared the lyrics we use today to be sung at a local children’s choir festival. The tune accompanying the lyrics, “Lasst Uns Erfreuen” (let us be happy), is a German melody which first appeared in a Roman Catholic hymnal in Cologne, Germany in 1623. The tune was revived in the early Twentieth Century when it appeared in its current form in the *English Hymnal*, published in 1906.

[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
361.575.2441
info@fpcofvictoria.org