

# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JANUARY 10, 2021

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

WWW.FPCOFVICTORIA.ORG | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FPCOFVICTORIA

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
January 10, 2021  
Baptism of the Lord

*For everyone's safety,  
please wear masks and maintain  
social distancing at all times.*

Prelude: Air in D

- Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Opening Sentences

One: Do not fear, for the Lord has spoken:

All: **I have called you by name; you are mine.**

Call to Worship

One: Holy God,  
you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners,  
to seek and save the lost.

All: **May we, who have been baptized in his name,  
never turn away from the world,  
but reach out in love to rescue the wayward;  
by the mercy of Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

God of heaven and earth,  
we gather in the name of Jesus  
to hear your holy Word  
and to be immersed in your Spirit.  
Speak to us with grace and truth  
and pour out your love upon us  
so that this temple may resound  
with joyful shouts of glory;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn (*silently singing*): "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

No. 288

### Litany for the Baptism of the Lord

One: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep,  
and God said: Let there be light.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you.  
I have called you by name; you are mine.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: When Jesus was baptized by John,  
suddenly the heavens were opened.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: And as Jesus had come out of the water and was praying,  
the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: And a voice said: You are my Son, the Beloved;  
with you I am well pleased.

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

### Invitation to Confession

A prophet appeared in the wilderness,  
calling the people to repent, be baptized,  
and prepare the way of the Lord.  
We return to the water to confess our sins,  
giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ,  
the one who has come to save us.

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**God of all glory, you look from heaven  
and see us as we are—  
not worthy to kneel at your feet,  
not ready to welcome your way.  
Forgive us, gracious God.  
In Christ, stoop down to save us;  
loosen the ties that bind us to sin  
and set us free to love and serve you;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### Kyrie Eleison (*silently singing*)

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

### Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news of the gospel:  
As a voice from heaven said to Jesus,  
so God says to each of us:  
You are my beloved child,  
and with you I am well pleased.

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

### Gloria Patri (*silently singing*)

**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

Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—  
tear open the veil of heaven  
and speak to us as beloved children  
so that we may hear and believe  
the good news of your Word made flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### First Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

P. 1 in the Old Testament

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

### Second Scripture Reading: Acts 19:1-7

P. 139 in the New Testament

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

### Sermon: Remembering Our Baptism

Rev. Jim DeMent

Acts 19:6: "When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them . . ."

*Silence and stillness*

### Congregational Hymn (*silently singing*): "Breath on Me, Breath of God"

No. 316

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

We give you thanks, O God,  
for every blessing and spiritual gift  
you have poured out upon us.  
Let the gifts of our lives  
be a source of blessing in your world,  
all to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**Doxology**

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 and the Lord's Prayer**

**Closing Hymn** (*silently singing*): "O God of Earth and Space"

No. 274

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude:** Rustington

- C. Hubert Parry, 1897



We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns selected for this morning's 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). If you are worshiping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. If you are worshiping with us in the Sanctuary, we invite you to contemplate the lyrics as Robert Wyatt, our Choirmaster, plays the melodies. Under our current Health Protocols, we must refrain from singing out loud, but that does prevent us from finding comfort, hope, strength, and courage in these familiar hymns. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1  
Verse 2

Verse 3  
Verse 4

**I Sing the Mighty Power of God**

I sing the mighty power of God  
That made the mountains rise;  
That spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
And all the stars obey.

There's not a plant or flower below  
But makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
By order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee  
Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be,  
Thou, God, are present there.

I sing the goodness of the Lord  
That filled the earth with food;  
He formed the creatures with a word  
And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
Or gaze upon the skies!

**Breathe on Me , Breath of God**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love,  
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Till I am wholly Thine,  
Until this earthly part of me  
Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will,  
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life  
Of Thine eternity.

**O God of Earth and Space**

O God of earth and space,  
 Of sea and fire and air,  
 Your providence surrounds us here  
 And everywhere.  
 In fruit and grain and tree,  
 In shelter from the cold,  
 In cooling breezes, flowing wells,  
 Now as of old.

Where faithfulness is shown,  
 Where love and truth abound,  
 Where beauty graces human life,  
 There You are found.  
 Inspirer of all thought!  
 Creative force of art!  
 The melody on every tongue,  
 In every heart!

Wherever freedom reigns,  
 Where sin is overthrown,  
 Where justice fused with mercy rules,  
 There You are known.  
 Give us the courage clear  
 To make the earth a home  
 For all to live in harmony  
 In Christ's shalom.

Your word commands response  
 And summons us to life.  
 We follow, strengthened by Your grace,  
 In calm or strife.  
 Our ever present help,  
 Our challenge and our prod,  
 We praise You now and to life's end,  
 Eternal God.



**Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests**

<b>Kathryn Amsler</b>	<b>Gloria Aouelle</b>	<b>Leonard “Mac” McCameron</b>	<b>Kathleen McCameron</b>
<b>Roland Merrill</b>	<b>Sarah Waldrop</b>		
<b>Nathan Galvan</b> (Son of Leila Galvan )	<b>Samantha Skaggs</b> (Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild )	<b>John &amp; Jere Swoboda</b> (Prior FPC Members)	<b>Carol Wisdom</b> (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**

**Tuesday, January 12**

6:00 PM Session Meeting

**Sunday, January 17**

10:30 AM Worship Service

*A copy of our  
 “COVID-19 Pandemic  
 Public Health and Safety Protocols  
 for In-Person Gatherings  
 at the Church”  
 can be obtained as you enter the church  
 or at our website:  
[www.fpcofvictoria.org](http://www.fpcofvictoria.org).*

**FPC Victoria Servant Leadership**

**Session Members**

Jim DeMent, Moderator  
 Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session  
 John Horadam  
 Billy Leske  
 Lynn McAuley  
 Dawn Neel  
 Susan Salinas  
 Jim Stokes  
 Gayla Whitaker  
 Bonnie Wilkinson

**Other**

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

**Bulletin Cover**

Our Bulletin Cover is an oil on wood painting by the Venetian artist, Giovanni Bellini (c. 1435 - 1516). Painted as an adornment to the Garzadori altar by Rocco da Vicenza, it is located in the Santa Corona Church, Civic Museum of Vicenza. Vicenza is a colorful Italian town just to the west of Venice and Padua.

Bellini’s sumptuous coloring and fluent, atmospheric landscapes had a profound influence on the Venetian painting school, especially on Bellini’s pupils Giorgione and Titian. Painters during this period of the Renaissance were experimenting with symmetry and depth perception. As to the former, notice the “center line” created by the alignment of the dove’s beak, John’s water bowl, and the body of Christ. As to the latter, notice the hills and mountains in the clearly distant background.

Many contemporary Christians might take issue with this depiction of Christ being baptized by John not by immersion in the Jordan River but by having water poured on his head. The Gospel accounts, however, do not record this detail of Christ’s baptism. What they do record is the much more significant appearance of the Holy Spirit marking the holiness of the occasion (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:33).

**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](mailto:info@fpcofvictoria.org)