

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JANUARY 17, 2021

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
January 17, 2021
Second Sunday after the Epiphany

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

Prelude: Arise

- arr. Franklin Ritter, 1990

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Opening Sentences

One: The Lord is about to do a new thing.

All: **Speak, O God, for your servants are listening.**

Call to Worship

One: The one who calls you together this day
yearns for each of you and for all people
to hear and be blessed.

All: **Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

One: Blessed is the One who comes
bringing trustworthy words
for the healing of the world.

All: **Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

You invite us, O God, to live in your ways,
and you give us to each other to know and to love
as we journey in this life.

Show us your will for all creation.

Help us to listen to your urgings with prayerful hearts
so that we may honor what you have made,

in the name of the holy Trinity, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn (*silently singing*): "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above"

No. 476

Invitation to Confession

Assured that the One who calls us to hear and obey
already knows the confessions of our hearts
and is ready to forgive,
let us confess our sin before God and before one another.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Holy God, you see into each of us
and know us fully
as creatures in need of your constant care.
We confess that we have neither heard your word
nor followed your will.
We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends,
and ourselves.
Give us ears to hear your wisdom.
Lead us to honesty and faith
so that we may begin again with renewed strength;
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

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness,
and by grace you have been saved.
Your sins are no more.
You have been made clean.
God strengthens you with freedom
through the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus.
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

By your Holy Spirit, O God, open our ears, our eyes,
our hearts, and our minds to the Holy Word
so that it comes to rule within us for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

P.P. 577-578 in the Old Testament

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

Anthem The Summons

Traditional Scottish Tune, - arr. John Bell

Solo by Becky Richter

Second Scripture Reading: John 1:43-51

P.P. 92-93 in the New Testament

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Sermon: Remembering Jesus' Call

Rev. Jim DeMent

John 1:46: Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn (*silently singing*): "Be Thou My Vision"

No. 339

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

**Bless in every way, O Lord, our gifts given to your glory.
Enrich the ministries of your people
and make us grateful to be able to let go of the things
we do not, finally, own. 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

From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
We trust in God, the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn (*silently singing*): "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

No. 281

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: In You, Lord, I Have Put My Trust

- Sunderreiter's "Himmliche Harfen," 1573

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

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
The chariots of heaven the deep thunderclouds form,
And bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy power hath founded of old;
Hath established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.
Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Nought be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.



Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler

Gloria Aouelle

Leonard “Mac” McCameron

Kathleen McCameron

Roland Merrill

Sarah Waldrop

Trey Miller

(Son of Camille Miller)

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

Sunday, January 24

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.*

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

Today’s picture on the Bulletin cover is the scene in John 1:44-48 when Philip finds Nathanael sitting under an olive tree and tells him to “come and see” Jesus-- the one “about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” The picture is clearly in the public domain, but its origin remains a mystery to your pastor.

Interestingly, the disciple known as “Nathanael” appears only in the Gospel According to John. Popular tradition identifies him with Bartholomew, who does not appear in the Fourth Gospel, although the Synoptic Gospels do include Bartholomew among the Twelve (Matt. 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16). The association is made because in the lists recorded in the Synoptic Gospels, Bartholomew always follows Philip who, according to John, introduced Nathanael to Jesus. While there exist linguist arguments that Bartholomew and Nathaniel may be the same person, there is no historical evidence to support them. The identification of Nathanael and Bartholomew may more logically reflect the tendency of the early church to try to “harmonize” the four Gospels.

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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