

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



February 7, 2021

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

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

Prelude “Lift Thine Eyes”

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: Have we not known? Have we not heard?

All: **Has it not been told to us since the beginning?**

One: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;

All: **they shall mount up with wings like eagles;**

One: they shall run and not be weary;

All: **they shall walk and not faint.**

Prayer of the Day *unison*

Faithful God,
you have appointed us as your witnesses,
to be light that shines in the world.
Let us not hide the bright hope you have given us,
but tell everyone your love,
revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Opening Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

No. 260

Invitation to Confession

We fool ourselves if we think
that our ways are hidden from God.
Therefore let us confess our sin,
trusting in the mercy of God our Maker.

Prayer of Confession *unison*

God, you are everlasting,
the creator of all that is.
Your understanding is beyond measure.
We confess to you that we have
sinned against you and our neighbors.
In your compassion, forgive us,
for we place our hope in your steadfast love.

Kyrie Eleison

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

Assurance of Pardon

Praise the Lord!
Our God heals the brokenhearted
and binds up our wounds.
God takes pleasure in those
who place their trust in God's grace.
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

Holy God, speak to us
what has been told from the beginning,
your Word that is the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 147:1-11, 20

P. 582 in the Old Testament

Praise the LORD!
How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
He heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.
He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.

(Continued on next page)

First Scripture Reading: *(Continued)*

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.
The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.
Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.
He covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.
He gives to the animals their food,
and to the young ravens when they cry.
His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;
but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.
He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know his ordinances.
Praise the LORD!

Anthem: "On Eagle's Wings"

Michael Joncas, 1979/arr. Douglas E Wagner, 1993

Second Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

P. 668 in the Old Testament

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?

(Continued on next page)

Second Scripture Reading: *(Continued)*

He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Sermon: Theological Amnesia

Isaiah 40:21, 28: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

No. 210

Prayer of Thanksgiving *unison*

**We sing to you, God, with thanksgiving,
making melody to you with our praise.
Use these gifts to spread your gospel near and far,
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. 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

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

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 Christ's baptism, suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, and made a new covenant with us by water and the Spirit.

Remembering your gracious acts in 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
and 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.

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

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: Merciful God, we give thanks that you have invited us to this Table.
All: **We give thanks that you have received us as members of the body of Christ
and have affirmed us as a community of faith.**
One: Lead us to live as faithful and dedicated disciples in service to all the world;
All: **in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

No. 429

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: Linstead

Jamaican Melody/ arr, Doreen Potter, 1975

